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	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	Продовольственная и сельскохозяйственная организация Объединенных Наций	Organización de las Naciones Unidas para la Alimentación y la Agricultura
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ASIA-PACIFIC FISHERY COMMISSION

Executive Committee

Seventy-sixth Session

Manila, Philippines, 21-23 February 2017

ROAD MAP TO DEVELOP THE 2018-2023 APFIC STRATEGIC PLAN

1. Since 2006, APFIC has adopted a strategic planning approach to improve the effectiveness and focus of its work in support of its members. The initial plan was developed in part as a response to reviews of the performance of regional fisheries bodies in general but also in recognition of the changing context within which APFIC operated. In 2003, a review of the role of APFIC as a Regional Consultative Forum was carried out¹ which resulted in the recommendation for it to adopt its current approach.

2. The first APFIC strategic plan (2006-2012) was developed prior to 2006 and endorsed by members at the 30th Session of APFIC (EXCO/17/INF/10). This first plan covered the following sections:

- The role of FAO Article XIV fisheries bodies;
- The APFIC geographic area;
- The function of APFIC;
- An APFIC strategic plan and workplan for 2006 – 2012 (including a regional consultative forum, scheduled activities under the 2007-2008 workplan, APFIC's coordination role with other regional organizations and capacity building in responsible fisheries and aquaculture);
- Facilitating the emergence of regional agreements and arrangements; and,
- The work of the APFIC Secretariat.

3. The second APFIC updated strategic plan 2012-2018 (EXCO/17/INF/4-b) was approved during the 73rd session of APFIC. This updated plan included new areas which responded to the changing needs of the member states and partners. The additional sections included:

¹ APFIC 2003. Review of the role of the Asia-Pacific Fishery Commission as a Regional Consultative Forum. P. Gardiner. APFIC ad-hoc publication.

- The APFIC website;
 - Monitoring of status and trends in fisheries and aquaculture;
 - Marine fisheries areas (China Sea and East Asian Seas, Sulu-Celebes (Sulawesi) Sea, Arafura-Timor Sea and the Natuna Sea);
 - Inland fisheries throughout the APFIC region;
 - Aquaculture throughout the APFIC region; and,
 - APFIC's coordination role with other regional organizations (including NGO's s
4. The current strategic plan (2012-2018), which has provided general guidance for the work of the commission is now approaching its end and it is appropriate that a new one be developed for endorsement by APFIC members at the 35th APFIC Session in 2018.
5. Options for the preparation of the new plan may range from a limited review and update of the existing strategic plan (similar to the 2012-2018 review and update) to a deeper full scale strategic analysis of the performance and objectives of the Commission could be an option should the Committee request this. However, the Secretariat will has financial constraint to effectively conduct such review.
6. This new strategic plan will, in any case, need to take into account recent changes in FAO work planning and budgetary processes, the FAO Strategic Framework and the evolving context of Asian fisheries and aquaculture.

THE CHANGING CONTEXT OF APFIC: CONSIDERATIONS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE 2018-2023 PLAN.

7. The review of the Strategic plan might consider the following contextual information:
- Review of the existing strategic plan (limited analysis of the history of APFIC and how the organization has changed and developed over the years in response to the needs of its members).
 - Evaluation of the APFIC advisory products, the process for their development and their use by members.
 - Description of key existing and emerging fishery and aquaculture issues that are facing the sector in APFIC member countries and discussed during recent APFIC RCFM and Sessions, such as:
 - Blue Growth
 - Sustainable intensification of Aquaculture in Asia
 - Implementation of EAFM
 - Combatting IUU fishing and capacity building in Port State Measures
 - The recently adopted SDGs and SDG 14 and 15 in particular
 - Linkages between water and inland fisheries development
 - Climate change and resilience
 - Small-scale Fisheries Guidelines
 - Markets and Trade
 - The institutional environment within of APFIC should be reviewed. FAO as the host of the APFIC Secretariat has undergone considerable institutional changes since the last review, such as:
 - The development of FAO's Strategic Framework²;

² FAO 2013. Reviewed Strategic Framework (www.fao.org/docrep/meeting/027/mg015e.pdf).

- Changed planning process and programme of work under thematic areas (i.e the setting of a Commission work programme and FAOs work programme priorities have no specific linkages);
- The loss of dedicated support to regional technical bodies and possible alternative funding options;
- Changing mechanism for setting of work priorities and outputs within the organization.

8. Noting the limited resources allocated within FAO/APFIC for this review, the APFIC secretariat proposes the following process to develop the 2018-2023 strategic plan:

- Desk review of existing APFIC planning process and plans, and how the 2012-2018 one was implemented;
- Identification of current and future needs and priorities of member countries (including specific technical priorities) and regional partners;
- Preparation of a draft strategic plan for consultation and endorsement with APFIC members and partners during the 35th APFIC Session in 2018;
- Publication of the final strategy.

SUGGESTED ACTION BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

9. The Executive Committee is invited to advise the Secretariat on the development of the APFIC strategic plan for 2018-2023 and what to be included in the strategic plan.