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منظمة  
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# COMMITTEE ON FISHERIES

## Thirty-second Session

Rome, 11-15 July 2016

### MULTI-YEAR PROGRAMME OF WORK (MYPOW) OF THE COMMITTEE ON FISHERIES: PROGRESS REPORT OF MYPOW 2014-2017 AND A DRAFT MYPOW 2016-2019

#### Executive Summary

This document provides the progress report of the COFI Multi-year Programme of Work (MYPOW) 2014-2017 and the draft COFI MYPOW 2016-2019, prepared by the Secretariat in consultation with the Bureau of COFI.

#### Suggested action by the Committee

The Committee is invited to:

- examine this Progress Report, in accordance with its overall objectives and mandate and proposed results, work planning and methods, outlined in the approved MYPOW 2014-2017; and
- approve the proposed MYPOW 2016-2019, as set out in the Appendix.

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## **BACKGROUND**

1. At its 31st Session in June 2014, the Committee approved the progress report on the MYPOW 2012-2015 and draft MYPOW for 2014-2017. The Committee suggested further improvement of the MYPOW, inter alia, by identifying quantifiable targets and indicators, and the actors to implement the decisions. It was also proposed to mention clearly the importance and usefulness of side events.

### **PROGRESS REPORT ON THE MULTI-YEAR PROGRAMME OF WORK 2014-2017**

#### **A. RESULTS FOR 2014–2017**

2. Review of the World Situation in Fisheries and Aquaculture

The State of World Fisheries and Aquaculture (SOFIA) 2016 is presented at the 32nd Session of COFI and provides a solid basis for its guidance and decisions

The intersessional work by the Bureau, supported by the Secretariat, successfully identified topics of significance for agenda setting.

3. Strategy and Priority Setting, and Budget Planning

The decisions and recommendations by the 31st Session of COFI provided a solid basis for the strategy, priority setting and budget planning, which was reported and reviewed by the 150th Session of Council as well as the 39th Session of Conference.

In particular by introducing the electronic system, the rate of responses by Members and Observers of the Committee to the FAO Questionnaire on the Implementation of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries has been drastically improved.

Liaison with the Sub-Committees on Fish Trade and Aquaculture are further improved, in particular among Bureaus in the intersessional period.

4. Advise on Global Policy and Regulatory Matters

The Voluntary Guidelines for Flag State Performance were endorsed by the 31st Session of COFI.

The Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication were endorsed by the 31st Session of COFI.

Ratification, acceptance or approval of the 2009 FAO Agreement on Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing was further encouraged by the 31st Session of COFI and the Agreement is expected to enter into force before long.

#### **B. EFFECTIVE WORK PLANNING OF COFI**

5. The focused deliberations at the 31st Session of COFI had enabled the formulation of a concise report, embodying specific action-oriented recommendations to be presented to the FAO Council and Conference.

6. The MYPOW 2014-2017 was approved by the 31st Session of COFI.

7. The Progress Report of MYPOW 2012-2015 was endorsed by the 31st Session of COFI and the Progress report of MYPOW 2014-2017 is submitted to the 153rd Session of the FAO Council and the 32nd Session of COFI for its review and further recommendation.

8. The MYPOW 2016-2019 is proposed to the 32nd Session of COFI for its review and approval.

9. The agenda for the 32nd Session of COFI has been elaborated by the Bureau in close consultation with COFI Members and the Secretariat.

10. Liaison with other Technical Committees, in particular with the Committee on Forestry (COFO) and the Committee on Agriculture (COAG) through the Secretariat is also enhanced. In order to discuss how to strengthen coordination and cooperation between FAO global technical committees in the reviewed Strategic Framework, a joint COFO, COAG, and COFI Bureaux meeting was held on 12 June 2015. Several recommendations were made including the identification of a common agenda item to be discussed by each Committee looking at its own areas of competence.

### **C. WORKING METHODS**

11. In keeping with the MYPOW for 2014-2017, regular inter-sessional consultations have been facilitated by the Chairperson and the Bureau with the support of the Secretary. Eight meetings of the COFI 32 Bureau, as well as three Informal Meetings with COFI Members, have been organized by the Chairperson for follow-up and implementation of recommendations arising from the Committee's last session, as well as for preparation for the current session.

## APPENDIX

**DRAFT MULTI-YEAR PROGRAMME OF WORK (MYPOW) OF THE  
COMMITTEE ON FISHERIES 2016–2019****I. OVERALL OBJECTIVES FOR THE COMMITTEE**

1. The Committee on Fisheries (COFI) reviews the Organization's work programme in the field of fisheries and aquaculture, oversees the implementation of such programmes and is mandated to review specific issues pertaining to fisheries and aquaculture that have been referred to the Committee by either the FAO Council, the Director-General, or pursuant to the request of a Member State(s) periodically.

**II. RESULTS FOR 2016-2019****A. Strategy and Priority Setting, and Budget Planning**

2. Result:

- The Committee's recommendations provide a solid basis for Council's guidance and decisions on strategy, priorities, programmes and budget for the Organization.

3. Indicators and targets:

- The Committee further promotes the FAO's Questionnaire on Implementation of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (the Code) to solicit responses and reduce obstacles impeding responses.
- Members respond to the FAO Questionnaire on the implementation of the Code, including the Questionnaire regarding the Implementation of Article 11, Post-harvest Practices and Trade as well as the Questionnaire regarding the Implementation of Article 9, Aquaculture Development and provide the FAO with statistics and other information in fisheries and aquaculture via the Committee, its Sub-Committees and the regional fisheries bodies.
- Clear and specific recommendations are made by the Committee to the Council regarding the strategies, priorities, programmes and budget in fisheries and aquaculture.
- The Committee's recommendations made on the pertinent aspects of the Strategic Framework, the Medium Term Plan and the Programme of Work and Budget are reflected in the Council Report.

4. Outputs:

- Report of the Committee that provides clear, precise and consensual recommendations for the Council on sectoral strategies, priorities, programmes and budgets.

5. Activities:

- Review decisions and recommendations from the Sub-Committee on Fish Trade and the Sub-Committee on Aquaculture, statutory bodies and other relevant organs or institutions.
- Review advice from the Regional Conferences in the field of fisheries and aquaculture.
- Review the implementation of the Programme of Work and Budget in fisheries and aquaculture.

- Formulate recommendations on the strategies, priorities, programmes and budget in fisheries and aquaculture.
6. Working methods:
- Close collaboration with the relevant FAO Departments through the Chairperson and the Bureau.
  - Liaise with Sub-Committees on Fish Trade and Aquaculture and other statutory bodies.
  - Liaise with the Finance Committee on financial and budgetary matters.
  - Liaise with the Programme Committee on strategy and priority matters.
  - Report the outcome of the Committee on the programme and budgetary matters to the Council appropriately.

### **B. Review of the World Situation in Fisheries and Aquaculture**

7. Result:
- The Council, the Conference and the international community at large are provided with updated information and specific advice on the world situation in fisheries and aquaculture and in relation to the specific issues of significance addressed during the scheduled sessions.
8. Indicators and targets:
- Clear, precise and consensual recommendations that are based on updated information of the State of world situation in fisheries and aquaculture are presented to the Council and the Conference as a solid basis for its guidance and decision.
9. Output:
- Clear, precise and consensual recommendations are favourably considered by the Council and the Conference and provide a solid basis for its guidance and decision.
10. Activities:
- The Committee undertakes general discussions on the current world situation in fisheries and aquaculture.
  - Specific issues of topical significance are addressed during the scheduled sessions.
11. Working methods:
- Chairperson liaises with the Secretariat.
  - Intersessional work by the Bureau, supported by the Secretariat, to identify topics of significance for agenda setting.

### **C. Advise on Global Policy and Regulatory Matters**

12. Results
- The Committee recommendations provide a sound basis for decisions by the Conference on global policy and regulatory matters.
13. Indicators and targets:
- Member Nations obtain value from the deliberations of the Committee, using the advice and recommendations to guide domestic actions and policies as reported by FAO.

- Clear and specific recommendations made in a timely manner by the Committee to the Conference regarding global policy and regulatory matters in its areas of mandate.
- The Committee's recommendations made on global policy and regulatory matters are reflected in the Conference Report.

14. Output:

- The Committee provides clear, precise and consensual recommendations for Conference on policy and regulatory frameworks or instruments.
- Members of the Committee undertake all necessary action in order to:
  - Facilitate further the implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication;
  - Facilitate further the implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines for Flag State Performance;
  - Facilitate the implementation of the Port States Measures Agreement once it has entered into force.

15. Activities:

- Review the status of relevant international instruments in areas of competence for the Committee.
- Consider possible solutions with a view to support concerted action by Members themselves or collectively through FAO and other relevant bodies in areas of competence for the Committee.
- Report the outcome of the Committee on global policy and regulatory matters to the Conference appropriately.

### III. EFFECTIVE WORK PLANNING OF COFI

16. Result:

- The Committee works effectively and efficiently, in an action-oriented, inclusive way.

17. Indicators and targets:

- The Committee's agendas are focused and reports are concise and containing specific action-oriented recommendations to both the Council and the Conference.
- Evaluation of results and implementation of MYPOW for the Committee.

18. Outputs:

- Progress report on MYPOW 2014-2017 is endorsed in 2016.
- Multi-Year Programme of Work 2016-2019 for the Committee adopted in 2016.

19. Activities:

- Review the Committee's practices and rules of procedure, if necessary.
- Consider ways to improve the conduct of sessions, including more efficient use of the time available.
- Recognizing the importance and usefulness of side events, facilitate more focusing and coordination of the side events in line with key issues addressed in the main sessions.

- Facilitate further coordination and collaboration with the Sub-Committees and other Technical Committees.
- Pay continued attention to effective arrangements for the formulation of agendas and drafting of the final report.

#### **IV. WORKING METHODS**

20. The Committee collaborates with statutory and other bodies under FAO auspices, liaises with the Programme Committee on strategy and priority matters, and with the Finance Committee on financial and budgetary matters as well as other relevant FAO Governing Bodies.

21. It liaises with other international organizations active in the areas of Fisheries and Aquaculture.

22. The Committee undertakes regular intersessional activities facilitated by the Chairperson and the Bureau with support from the Secretariat. Liaison amongst the Bureaus of the Committee and the Sub-Committees is also further strengthened.

23. It encourages and facilitates participation of observers including civil society's organizations .

24. The Chairperson liaises with FAO through the Fisheries and Aquaculture Department.