

REPORT  
of the  
third session of the  
INDIAN OCEAN FISHERY COMMISSION  
Executive Committee for the Implementation  
of the International Indian Ocean Fishery  
Survey and Development Programme  
Colombo, Sri Lanka, 7-9 October 1972

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Rome, October 1972

PREPARATION OF THIS REPORT

This is the final version of the Report as approved by the Third Session of the Indian Ocean Fishery Commission Executive Committee for the Implementation of the International Indian Ocean Fishery Survey and Development Programme and accepted by the Indian Ocean Fishery Commission.

Distribution:

FAO Department of Fisheries  
FAO Regional Fishery Officers  
Members of the Executive Committee  
Members of the Indian Ocean Fishery  
Commission  
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## THE SESSION

1. The Indian Ocean Fishery Commission Executive Committee for the Implementation of the International Indian Ocean Fishery Survey and Development Programme held its Third Session on 7 and 9 October 1972 in Colombo, Sri Lanka. Fourteen nations participated in the Session, including seven nations that are members of the Committee. A list of participants is given in Appendix A to this report.

2. In the absence of Mr. J.J. Kambona, Tanzania, on the first day, the Session was chaired by Mr. E.G. Goonewardene, Sri Lanka.

## ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE SESSION

3. The Committee adopted the agenda given in Appendix B to this report and considered the documents listed in Appendix C.

## INTERNATIONAL INDIAN OCEAN FISHERY SURVEY AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

### (a) Progress report

4. The Committee was informed by the Programme Leader of the progress made since its last session (September 1971) in the development of the Programme.

5. The Committee noted that of the 26 governments listed in the Project Document (Phase II) of the programme proposal, 24 governments have endorsed the Project and two have not yet endorsed it. The Committee took note that Phase II of the Project is on the Agenda of the UNDP Governing Council Session to be held in January 1973.

6. The Committee was informed that it has been possible to add two new staff members (L.I.J. Silva, Sri Lanka, and P. Bromiley, New Zealand) to the staff of the Programme as Senior Fishery Officers. It is expected that the professional staff of the Programme will be brought to the full strength of six members during 1973.

7. The Committee was also informed of current and future programme activities including those taken from "A Plan for Fishery Development in the Indian Ocean", those otherwise developed by the Programme, and those resulting from requests made to the Programme by Governments and institutions.

8. The Committee noted with approval that the Programme was investigating other funding avenues including the IBRD, Asian Development Bank and the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development.

### (b) Programme reports

9. The Committee heard from members of the staff of the Programme and from the secretariat brief introductions of programme reports (IOFC:X/72/5,6,7,8,9,10).

10. The Committee noted the study, Fishery Economics (IOFC:X/72/5). It also took note of an Economic Feasibility Study of a Trawl Fishery in the Gulf lying between Iran and the Arabian Peninsula (IOFC:X/72/6) prepared by the Programme staff. The Committee recognized the importance of the study in assisting the Gulf states in developing a common policy for the exploitation of the resources of the area.

11. The Committee heard a progress report on a joint venture study and welcomed the offer made by the delegation of Australia to provide information on the Australian experience in joint ventures (IOFC:X/72/7 refers).

12. The Committee noted with approval the study, Marketing of Red Sea Demersal Fish (IOFC:X/72/8).

13. In considering shrimp management (IOFC:X/72/9) the Committee agreed that a special approach to management was needed, owing to the tendency toward rapid over-capitalization and the lack of conventional data upon which to base management measures. It also agreed that special attention should be given to the problem of trash fish caught by shrimp nets. The Committee was informed by the observer from Norway that the use of savings trawls in the shrimp fishery off northern Norway reduced the amount of trash fish caught during shrimp fishing operations and improved the quality of the shrimp caught.

14. The Committee reviewed the document containing summaries of activities in 23 UNDP/FAO fishery projects in the Indian Ocean region currently in operation or recently terminated (IOFC:X/72/10). It emphasized the importance of complementing this review with an analysis of successful and unsuccessful projects, with the objective of determining the reasons for successes and failures. If these reasons could be generalized, they would be very useful tools with respect to the formulation and conduct of future projects.

(c) Plans for a pelagic fish assessment survey, northwestern Arabian Sea

15. The Committee heard from the observer of Norway a detailed description of the Plan of the Acoustic Survey of the Pelagic Fishery Resources of the Northwestern Arabian Sea (IOFC:X/72/11). It noted with satisfaction that one of the two vessels required to carry out the survey will be made available to the project for a period of two years by FAO. This vessel is being contributed to FAO by Norway. It is hoped that the other needed vessels (vessel time) may be provided by the Republic of Korea, Japan and U.S.A., as well as UNDP/FAO projects in the area. The Committee agreed that the area of the survey should be expanded to include the west coast of Sri Lanka.

(d) Cooperative Fishery Survey Project in the Gulf lying between Iran and the Arabian Peninsula and in the Gulf of Oman

16. The Committee heard from the delegate of Qatar a description of the project and noted that it had been adopted by the countries concerned at a meeting held in Doha in July 1972. In considering the request made by that meeting, for the establishment of a subsidiary body of the Commission to deal with problems of fishery development management in the Gulfs, the Committee endorsed the request and decided to refer it to its parent body for its consideration. The Committee noted the existence of national projects (e.g. in Iran and Saudi Arabia) and urged that every effort be made to integrate or coordinate national projects with the Gulf Project in order to avoid duplication of effort.

(e) Fishery Product Identification-Processing-Marketing Vessel(s) for the Indian Ocean countries

17. The Committee had before it a proposal for a "Fishery Product Identification-Processing-Marketing Vessel(s) for the Indian Ocean countries". It unanimously endorsed the proposal and decided to refer it to the Commission for further consideration. The Committee emphasized the need for all member countries to actively support the proposal. One delegation pointed out the importance of establishing priority areas for the use of the vessel(s) and also emphasized the importance of giving high priority to the development of export fishery products.

(f) Projects in the Indian Ocean

18. The Committee noted with appreciation the document, Fishery Resources, Bi- and Multi-lateral Fishery Projects and Indian Ocean Programme Activities (IOFC:X/72/13), prepared by the Programme Staff.

DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT SESSION

19. The Committee suggested that its Fourth Session should be held at FAO, Rome, preferably in conjunction with the Ninth Session of the Committee on Fisheries which should be held in FAO, Rome, during April 1974.

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Technical Officer	P. Bromiley Fishery Officer (Production and Marketing)

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AGENDA

1. Opening of the Session
2. Adoption of the Agenda and Arrangements for the Session
3. International Indian Ocean Fishery Survey and Development Programme:
  - (a) Progress report
  - (b) Programme reports
  - (c) Plans for a pelagic fish assessment survey, Northwestern Arabian Sea
  - (d) Cooperative Fishery Survey Project in the Gulf lying between Iran and the Arabian Peninsula and in the Gulf of Oman
  - (e) Other future activities
4. Any Other Matters
5. Date and Place of Next Session
6. Adoption of the Report

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Appendix C

LIST OF DOCUMENTS

IOFC:X/72/1	Provisional agenda
IOFC:X/72/2	Annotated provisional agenda
IOFC:X/72/3	Provisional timetable
IOFC:X/72/4	Progress report of the Programme Leader
IOFC:X/72/5	Fishery economics
IOFC:X/72/6	Economic feasibility study of a trawl fishery in the gulf lying between Iran and the Arabian Peninsula
IOFC:X/72/7	Progress report: joint venture study, Indian Ocean Programme
IOFC:X/72/8	Marketing of Red Sea demersal fish
IOFC:X/72/9	Some introductory guidelines to management of shrimp fisheries
IOFC:X/72/10	UNDP/FAO fishery projects in the Indian Ocean
IOFC:X/72/11	Plan of the acoustic survey of the pelagic fishery resources of the northwestern Arabian Sea
IOFC:X/72/12	Cooperative fishery survey and development project in the gulf lying between Iran and the Arabian Peninsula and in the Gulf of Oman
IOFC:X/72/13	Fishery resources, bi- and multilateral projects, and Indian Ocean Programme activities
IOFC:X/72/14	Proposal for a fishery product identification-processing-marketing vessel(s) for the Indian Ocean Programme
IOFC:X/72/Inf.1	List of documents
IOFC:X/72/Inf.2	List of participants (provisional)
IOFC:X/72/Inf.3	Report of the Second Session of the IOFC Executive Committee for the Implementation of the International Indian Ocean Fishery Survey and Development Programme

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