

# SOUTH EAST ATLANTIC FISHERIES ORGANIZATION

# REPORT OF THE 6th ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COMMISSION, 2009

The Secretariat P.O. Box 4296

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# 1. Opening of the Meeting

- 1.1 The 6th Annual Meeting of SEAFO Commission was convened in Swakopmund, Namibia from 5-8 October 2009. The list of participants is provided in Annex 1.
- 1.2 The Meeting was called to order by the Chairperson, Mr. Jan Pieter Groenhof (Norway). In his opening remarks, the Chairperson warmly welcomed the delegates and expressed his wishes for a successful Meeting.

# 2. Adoption of Agenda and Meeting Arrangements

The Meeting adopted the agenda (Annex 2).

# 3. Introduction and Opening Statements of Parties and Signatories

- 3.1 The Heads of Delegations introduced members of their delegations. Only four of the SEAFO Contracting Parties Angola, European Community, Namibia and Norway were represented. South Africa were not present at the meeting, but rendered an apology for being unable to attend. Representing Signatory State were delegations from the Republic of Korea and USA.
- 3.2 All Contracting Parties presented opening statements (Annex 3).

#### 4. Introduction and Admission of Observers

Observers present were Japan, Korea, USA, FAO and BCC and all made opening statements (Annex 4).

# 5. Status of the Convention in Respect of Membership

- 5.1 The Executive Secretary informed the Meeting that the Secretariat has received no notifications of ratification or signature during 2009.
- 5.2 The Chairperson reported on the outcome of contacts made intersessionally with the authorities of Japan and the Republic of Korea in respect of ratification.
- 5.3 Official correspondence was received from the two countries which stated that both Countries are in the process of finalising the internal process of ratification but will not join SEAFO in 2009.
- 5.4 In response to correspondence from the Chairperson, both Japan and the Rep. of Korea stressed that they are taking concrete steps towards the ratification of the SEAFO Convention and undertook to complete the process during 2010.

- 5.5 In noting the positive developments by Japan and the Republic of Korea towards ratification, members encouraged the two flag States to complete the ratification process rapidly so that their vast experiences in multilateral fisheries arrangements can contribute to the work of the Organisation.
- 5.6 The Commission underscored that those who benefit from the resources in the region should, in conformity with international obligations, fully participate in the work of the Organisation as Contracting Parties.

# 6. Status of the Headquarters Agreement

- 6.1 The Executive Secretary reported that the signing ceremony between the Hon. Minister of Fisheries and Marine Resources of Namibia representing the Government of Namibia and SEAFO took place on 24 September 2009 at SEAFO offices in Walvis Bay.
- 6.2 Signed copies of the Headquarters Agreement will be made available to Head of Delegations.

# 7. Feedback from Namibia regarding SEAFO offices

The meeting was informed that the renovation project was delayed by a year however building will commence in 2010. It is envisaged that the offices will be handed over in 2012.

# 8. Performance Review of the Organisation/Composition of the Review Panel

- 8.1 The Commission adopted the proposal submitted by Norway regarding the composition of the Performance Review panel of the South East Atlantic Fisheries Organisation (Annex 5).
- 8.2 The Commission agreed to keep the panel as small as possible and that the Executive Secretary hould be an Ex Officio member of the panel.
- 8.3 The Executive Secretary shall contact the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) and the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES) to request the names of a Fisheries Management Expert and a Scientist, respectively. The Fisheries Management Expert shall act as chairperson of the review panel
- 8.4 The Commission nominated Dr Moses Maurihungirire from Namibia and Mr Tjere Lobach from Norway to serve on the Review Panel.
- 8.5 The review shall be based on the performance criteria agreed at the 5<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Commission, cf. Annex 8 of the 2008 Report of the Commission.
- 8.6 The Commission furthermore agreed that the Panel shall convene the first meeting in February/March 2010.
- 8.7 The budget for the Performance Review is N\$ 80 000, 00. The Commission agreed that if more funds would be required the Executive Secretary should take the necessary steps with

the parties to address such an issue, if it arises.

8.8 The report of the Review Panel shall be completed and make available to the Parties 30 days prior the 2010 Commission meeting.

# 9. Report of the Scientific Committee (SC)

- 9.1 The Chairperson of the SC, Mr. Phil Large (EU), presented the Report of the Scientific Committee which included specific recommendations and advice (Annex 6).
- 9.2 Mr. Large emphasised that catch statistics have not sufficiently improved to undertake stock assessments. Thus, the recommendations and advice presented are largely based on limited knowledge and taking into account, among others, the ecosystem approach to fisheries management and precautionary approach principle.
- 9.3 Furthermore, the Scientific Committee has reviewed three Conservation Measures and amendments are proposed.
- 9.4 The Chair informed the meeting on the outcomes of the Bottom Fishing/VME workshop. The SC recommends that the SEAFO identification guide on Corals and Sponges be based on work done by a Spanish Scientist.

### 10. Consideration of the Scientific Committee report

- 10.1 In considering of the overall report of the SC, several delegations expressed the satisfaction with a good SC report. Furthermore, several delegations sought clarification as to why reductions in certain TAC's were proposed. Delegations noted that the quality of data submitted by the FPs have improved for 2009.
- 10.2 In light of the SC recommendations Norway tabled a proposal regarding Total Allowable Catch (TAC) for 2010, which was adopted by the Commission. The TACs are as follows:

(a) Patagonian Toothfish: 200 tonnes(b) Orange Roughy: 50 tonnes(c) Alfonsinos: 200 tonnes

(d) Deep-Sea Red Crab: 200 tonnes in Sub-Division B1 and

200 tonnes in the remainder of the

Convention Area

These levels of TACs were made necessary due to inadequate data on population size, spatial distribution and sustainable catch levels of these resources in the Convention Area. Furthermore, consideration was also taken as regarding catch levels in adjacent area's i.e. CCAMLR and Namibia. The TAC's are set for 2010 only and shall be reviewed in 2010 by the Scientific Committee.

- 10.3 The Commission adopted the new revised Conservation Measures on reducing incidental by-catch of seabirds in the SEAFO CA and to Reduce Sea Turtle Mortality in SEAFO Fishing Operations with amendments.
- 10.4 The Commission took note that although two CPs did submit data regarding the creation of a fishing footprint in compliance with Conservation Measure 12/08, the format was considered by the SC to be unsuitable for a fishing footprint to be developed. The Commission agreed with the revised format that CPs and FPs should report to the Secretariat on the basis of digital catch position data (hauling position in decimal latitude/longditude to the nearest minute) for individual hauls/sets for the period 1987-2007. Each haul/set record should also include gear type (bottom longline, bottom trawl, traps etc) and date. The criteria for the establishment of the footprint will be if an area has been fished in two consecutive years during the period 1987-2007. Such information should be provided by the Contracting Parties and fishing nations by 1 March 2010.
- 10.5 The Commission was informed of the recent development within CCAMLR and NAFO regarding the reduction of encounter threshold levels for VMEs. The Commission adopted the revised threshold levels of 800 kg corals and 60 kg sponges in the SEAFO Convention Area.
- 10.6 In recognising the need for more comprehensive information on the spatial distribution and extent of seamount areas and their associated fauna to be provided for the review of closed areas scheduled for 2010, the Commission approved that the National Oceanography Centre, Southampton be awarded a short term consultancy contract to compile the best available bathymetry data and to develop a detailed map of bottom topography of the SEAFO Convention Area. The Commission furthermore agreed that the N\$ 80,000 budgeted for consultancy work in the 2009 budget should be carried forward to the 2010 budget. An additional amount of N\$ 26,000 for this work was also approved. The Commission tasked the Executive Secretary to draft a contract for the work to be undertaken on the basis of the agreed following workplan:

#### Task 1

- Supply SEAFO with the best available regional bathymetric compilation as an ESRI GIS layer, and a large-scale paper copy.
- Seamounts, ridges and banks will be classified into "biologically meaningful" units i.e. into those that reach the photic zone (where plant growth is possible), those that reach 1,000m (within the range of vertically migrating zooplankton) and those whose summits lay deeper.

# Task 2

Data review -Currently available public data to add bottom temp, salinity, O2
content, seabed type (geology) to the GIS - viewed as overlays to provide a summary
of the major environment types over the seamount provinces, though these will be
done at a regional rather than detailed scale.

Task 3 to be commissioned after scrutinising the results from Task 2

- Use these physical variables as proxies for potential occurrence of VMEs, such as coral and sponges, though again at a regional scale.
- Will add to the GIS, again at regional scales, biogeochemical provinces. These
  categorise surface ocean productivity and its seasonality -important predictors of
  seafloor biological standing stocks and potentially of biodiversity.
- 10.7 The Commission approved the use of the revised Spanish identification key for corals and sponges in the SEAFO Convention Area.
- 10.8 The Commission took note that the Scientific Committee does not have sufficient information available to evaluate the effects of lost gear on habitat and biodiversity. The only fisheries that currently pose potential Abandoned, lost and otherwise discharded fishing gear (ALDFG) problems are the longline fisheries for Patagonian toothfish and trap fisheries for deep-water red crab. The Commission was also informed that gillnets are important contributors to ALDFG problems including ghost-fishing and that this fishing method has been banned in the CCAMLR area. The Commission approved that gillnets be banned in the SEAFO Convention Area until such time that more information became available. The Commission furthermore approved that the fisheries forms be amended to include fields for ALDFG to include gear dimensions and geographical position and that the SEAFO Secretariat carries out a consultation with SEAFO fishing nations to determine the maximum limits on the length of individual fleets/sets, soak time, and vessel gear capacity.
- 10.9 The Commission approved the development of species profiles (including information of productivity and vulnerability) for the main commercially exploited species in the SEAFO CA.
- 10.10 The Commission adopted the terms of reference of the scientific co-coordinators namely:
  - (a) To act as the scientific focal point between SEAFO and CPs and FPs.
  - (b) Participation at SEAFO SSC and SC.
  - (c) Ensure that all available fisheries and scientific data, including historical data, are available to SSC and SC via the SEAFO Secretariat using the prescribed format
  - (d) To encourage the provision of scientific analyses relevant to SEAFO scientific bodies.

The Commission urged CPs and FPs to provide the names of their designated SEAFO scientific co-ordinators to the Secretariat.

- 10.11 The Commission urged CPs and FPs to fully comply with the agreed scientific reporting protocols. In addition the Commission agreed that the Secretariat improve the SEAFO website to make catch, sampling and observer forms easily accessible.
- 10.12 The Commission approved that the Secretariat invests in a suitable Access database that can accommodate all SEAFO data requirements. The Commission accepted the offer from Namibia to assist with the development of such a database which may entail a minor budgetary input.

- 10.13 The Commission took note that the SEAFO species list is not extensive insofar it does not include many species that may currently be considered as by-catch species and that may be targeted by future fisheries. This is of importance because many conservation measures in the SEAFO CA refer explicitly to fishing for species on the SEAFO species list (e.g. Conservation Measure 06/06 regarding closed areas). The Commission expressed concern and agreed to replace "species list" with "fisheries resources" as defined in the SEAFO Convention in CM 06/06.
- 10.14 The Commission accepted the offer made by FAO to collate the Ukraine and Russian (and other former Eastern-block nations) data. The Commission furthermore requested the Secretariat to request the FAO to give an indication of the time frame of the data and to supply the data in SEAFO format. The chair thanked FAO on behalf of the Organization.
- 10.15 The Commission approved that the Scientific Committee could continue with compilation of a formal protocol for referencing scientific documents and working papers. The protocol should be tabled and discussed on the next Commission meeting in 2010.

# 11. Report of the Compliance Committee (CC)

The Chairperson of the CC, Mr. B. Amutse (Namibia), presented the Report of the Compliance Committee including specific recommendations and advice (Annex 7).

# 12. Consideration of the Compliance Committee Report

- 12.1 The Committee took note that the EU vessels fished in SEAFO Convention Area were fishing for ICCAT species and therefore not obliged to submit data to the Secretariat.
- 12.2 The meeting expressed satisfaction that FPs are complying with the SEAFO Conservation Measures.
- 12.3 The Commission agreed that it is not necessary to implement a Catch Documentation Scheme (CDS) in SEAFO but rely on CCAMLR adopted measures regarding toothfish. The Commission furthermore noted that Angola is the only SEAFO CP not member to CCAMMLR and could implement the CCAMLR CDS on a voluntary basis.
- 12.4 The Commission adopted the amended Conservation Measure 03/06 on the Interim Prohibition of Transhipments-at-Sea in the SEAFO Convention Area and to Regulate Transhipment in Port.
- 12.5 The Commission agreed that a SEAFO IUU vessel list be compiled incorporating the IUU vessel lists established by NAFO, NEAFC and CCAMLR following the procedures set out in Paragraph 18 and 19 of Conservation Measure 08/06. The Secretariat will place the SEAFO IUU vessel list on the SEAFO webpage.
- 12.6 The Commission took note that due to the banning of gillnets, currently more regulations to limit the negative effects of ALDFG would have very little effect. The Commission furthermore agreed to await the outcome of the 2010 SEAFO Performance Review before additional Conservation Measures are drafted.

# 13. Report of the Standing Committee on Administration and Finance (SCAF)

- 13.1 The Chairperson of the SCAF, Ms. G. D'Almeida (Namibia), presented the Report of the Standing Committee on Administration and Finance including recommendations and advice (Annex 8).
- 13.2 The Commission took note that the observers were requested by the chairperson to withdraw from the meeting after agenda item 8 due to confidentiality issues in the rest of meeting agenda.

# 14. Consideration of the Standing Committee on Administration and Finance Report

- 14.1 The Commission approved the amended paragraph 24 of the SEAFO Rules of Procedures in order to make provision for SCAF (Annex 9)
- 14.2 The Commission took note that staff PAYE for 2008 and 2009 were paid to date.
- 14.3 In reviewing Parties contributions to the 2009 budget, Angola and South Africa are yet to make their payment. The Commission agreed that a letter be sent by the Chairperson to the CPs in arrears to pay their contributions as soon as possible.
- 14.4 After reviewing the Auditor's Report compiled by PriceWaterHouseCoopers, the Commission endorsed the report for the financial year ended 31 December 2008.
- 14.5 The Commission agreed to increase the salaries of the personnel of the Secretariat by an amount to cover PAYE. The intention is to abide by the appointment offers regarding salaries and other benefits made to the personnel of the Secretariat. The staff contracts were approved by the Commission with amendments (Annex 10).
- 14.6 In reviewing the conditions of the personnel of the Secretariat and taken into account inflation and the cost of living in Namibia, the Commission decided to increase the salary of the Administrative Officer by 10%.
- 14.7 After discussions, the 2009 revised budget was approved. The Commission approved the 2010 budget with some amendments (Annex 11).
- 14.8 The Commission emphasised the need for the creation of a Special Requirements Fund to assist developing Parties in line with the SEAFO Convention. The meeting took note that contribution to the fund is on a voluntary basis. The Commission approved the establishment of the Special Requirements Fund (Annex 12). The Commission furthermore approved to amend the Financial Rules to make provision for the Special Requirements Fund (Annex 13).
- 14.9 The head of the Norwegian delegation indicated that Norway would be in position to contribute an N\$ 100,000.00 towards the Special Requirements Fund in 2010, and that the EC would examine the possibility of providing a similar amount.

- 14.10 The Commission took note that the review of the formula of contribution is based on Article 12 of the SEAFO Convention. On the basis of a proposal from the EC, the Commission approved a formula based a three part system (Annex 14). The formula shall come into force in 2011.
- 14.11 Japan and Korea presented statements on the formula of contribution and it was agreed that their statements should be incorporated in the report (Annex 15 & 16).

### 15. Report of Japan to Internal Ratification Procedures to Accede SEAFO

The Commission took note that Japan has made some editorial correction to the Convention Text for internal purposes to obtain approval form the Japanese Parliament to accede to the SEAFO Convention. It was also noted that this would have no substantive impact on the SEAFO Convention in itself.

# 16. Report back from meetings attended by the Executive Secretary

- 16.1 The Executive Secretary reported back on the 28<sup>th</sup> COFI meeting. The main topics of importance to SEAFO are *inter alia* the response of the Code of Conduct questionnaire, implementation of the Code of Conduct, IPOA implementation, and regional cooperation, RFMO Performance Review, Strengthen High Seas Governance and IUU. One intervention was made on behalf of SEAFO regarding Conservation Measure 12/08.
- 16.2 The Executive Secretary reported back on the second Regional Fisheries Body Network meeting held in Rome. The main topics for discussion were review of decisions of the 28<sup>th</sup> Cofi meeting, factors affecting fisheries management, overcapacity, UNGA Resolution 61/105, responsible fisheries management in marine ecosystems, role of regional Fisheries Bodies and the status of FIRMS and CWP are ongoing in SEAFO.
- 16.3 The Executive Secretary reported back on the Benguella Current Commission management Board meeting in Cape Town, South Africa. A total of 43 science projects were evaluated and approved by the Management Board on condition of availability of funding. The ES indicated that the relationship between SEAFO and the BCC should be strengthen as some of the scientific projects might be to the benefit of SEAFO.
- 16.4 The Executive Secretary reported back on a study visit to NEAFC in London during June. The points of discussions were staff rules, catch documentation scheme and Port State Measures. The Executive Secretary mentioned that the visit was fruitful.

# 17. Report back of SEAFO representatives at 2008/2009 meetings on other International organisations

17.1 Angola reported back on a FAO meeting on Port State negotiations to combat IUU fishing in Rome. The next meeting is November 2009.

- 17.2 The EC reported back on the 2009 Annual meeting of NAFO, in particular the concrete results experienced in the NAFO Convention Area after years of applying strict conservation measures. After many years of a fisheries moratorium, two fish stocks, namely cod (area 3M) and red fish (3L) had recovered to a state where they could be opened in 2010. Certain vulnerable marine ecosystem (VME) areas were closed. These representing about 90% of VMEs area. New encounter threshold shall be enforced for the trawl fisheries.
- 17.3 The EC reported back on the 2008 NEAFC Annual Meeting. New procedures for assessment have been put in place. The control scheme requiring the reporting of real time information to the fisheries monitoring centres was agreed. The Black list and Port State Measures were revised to combat IUU fisheries.
- 17.4 Norway provided a report back from the 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of CCAMLR. The 27<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of CCAMLR was held in Hobart, Australia from 27<sup>th</sup> October to 7<sup>th</sup> November 2008. The main issues discussed at the meeting were related to the outcome of the CCAMLR performance review, CCAMLR's response to UNGA Resolution on vulnerable marine ecosystems (VME's) and bottom fishing, the increasing participation in krill fisheries and actions to further reduce the amount of IUU fishing.

In 2008 a performance review of CCAMLR was undertaken. The established criteria were mainly drawn from those used by other RFMOs. The panel consisted of a mixture of internal and external experts, which reported on its finding to the annual meeting. The report consists of an extensive analysis of the organisation and a wide range of recommendations. The meeting agreed to the prioritised areas for the coming years, and among them are; port state control, flag state responsibilities, establishment of a network of marine protected areas (MPAs) and a better coordination with other bodies within the Antarctic system

Considerable time was also this year spent on the krill fishery. There is a growing interest, both by CCAMLR-members and other flag States. Although the notifications have increased dramatically over the last couple of years, the catches are still well below the precautionary TAC. A huge number of notification are not materialised, and in order to address this problem the meeting discussed a possible fee system, which was not agreed. It is expected, however, that CCAMLR will revert to this issue.

Concerning IUU fishing, it should be noted that CCAMLR has over the years introduced a series of measures to counteract such activities, and since 2002 the estimated IUU catches have decreased by about 80% (from 12000 to 2000 tons). The EC for the third consecutive year proposed a system on market-related measures against States involved in trade of Patagonian Toothfish without being a party to the established Catch Documentation System (CDS). Like previous years, the proposal received strong support from several members, but consensus was again blocked by Argentina.

# 18. Nominations of Parties to represent SEAFO at 2009/2010 meeting of other International Organisations

The Commission approved the following nominees to represent SEAFO as observer at the following meetings:

• Angola - ICCAT (2009)

- EC NAFO (2010)
- EC NEAFC (2009)
- Norway CCAMLR (2009)

# 19. Any Other Matters

The Commission decided to uphold the decision taken that only vessels from Contracting Parties shall be listed in the SEAFO Authorised Vessel list. Japan and Korea shall be formality notified in writing of this.

# 20. Venue and Date of 2010 Commission Meeting

- The date for the next Commission meeting: 11 15 October 2010.
- The next meeting will be in Namibia and the Secretariat is tasked to make proposals on a venue.

# 21. Closure of the Meeting

The Chairperson closed the meeting and commended the Parties for the efficient and effective conduct of the meeting. He thanked delegates for their positive inputs and wishes everyone a safe journey back home. The Chair thanked Taiyo (Namibia) and Tefco (South Africa) for the sponsoring of bags and jackets, and the Secretariat for their special effort in preparation for and during the Annual Meeting.

#### **ANNEX 1**

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### **ANNEX 2**

# Agenda of the 6th Annual Meeting of the Commission

Swakopmund, Namibia 5-8 October 2009

Venue: Alte Brucke, Swakopmund

- 1. Opening of the Meeting
- 2. Adoption of Agenda and Meeting Arrangements
- 3. Opening Statements by Parties
- 4. Introduction and Admission of Observers
- 5. Status of the Convention in Respect of Membership

Japan

Korea

Other

- 6. Status of the Headquarters Agreement
- 7. Feedback from Namibia regarding SEAFO Offices
- 8. Performance Review of the organization/Composition of Review Panel
- 9. Report of the Scientific Commission
- 10. Consideration of the Scientific Commission Report
- 11. Report of the Compliance Commission
- 12. Consideration of the Compliance Commission Report
- 13. Report of the Standing Commission on Administration and Finance
- 14. Consideration of the Report of the Standing Commission on Administration and Finance
- 15. Report of Japan on Internal Ratification Procedures to join SEAFO
- 16. Report back from meetings attended by the Executive Secretary
- 17. Reports of SEAFO Representatives at 2008/2009 meetings of other International Organisations
- 18. Nominations of Parties to represent SEAFO at 2009/2010 Meetings of other International

**Organisations** 

- 19. Any other Matters
- 20. Date and Place of 2009 Annual Meeting
- 21. Closure of the Meeting

#### ANNEX 3

#### **OPENING STATEMENTS BY PARTIES AND SIGNATORIES**

# 3.1 Statement by Angola

# 3.2 Statement by Namibia

Namibia as a host nation welcomes all the countries and non-governmental organizations to the Land of the Brave (Namibia). We are confident that you will be able to enjoy the warm hospitality offered by the cool Swakopmund. We congratulate the South East Atlantic Fisheries Organization (SEAFO) secretariat for the well organized meeting. Thank you, Dr. van Zyl and the rest of the secretariat for your zealousness and tactfulness.

Ladies and Gentlemen, we are aware of the fact that the SEAFO is a relatively new RFMO but has gone through important developmental stages. Namibia as a Contracting Party to the Commission is once again encouraging those states currently fishing in the Convention Area to ratify and accede to the SEAFO. The expertise and knowledge of these nations are a needed ingredient toward issues of concern in the Commission and subsidiary bodies' deliberations. The requirement of the Convention regarding adherence to measures is of utmost importance as this will affirm protection and sustainable long-term usage of resources in the Convention Area.

We realize that living resources within Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZs) have come to be used at their fullest potential. And the only two alternatives, if we are to provide for needed food security is to look into the expansion of aquaculture (which is not in SEAFO domain) and second to this is the so-called "untapped high seas frontiers". The SEAFO like other Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMOs) has proven to be a vehicle toward the conservation and wise management of species on the high seas while they are being exploited.

In addition, we are currently experiencing NGOs' continued support for the listing of commercially important fish stocks in CITES appendices and conducts vast campaigns in the promotion of a ban on the exploitation of these stocks. One of their arguments in favour of their listing is that RFMOs are unable or willing to make decisions that would ensure the future of these stocks or species.

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Because deep sea fishing is a relatively new activity and requires considerable resources in terms of investment and technology, few countries have so far developed policies and plans specifically related to managing it, even in their own waters. This pertains mainly to developing nations and Namibia is very much pleased by the fact that the currently being debated and formulated guidelines on high seas deep fisheries has addressed the plight of developing nations and small island states to be accorded the much needed assistance in order to monitor, control, surveillance, research and exploit the resources on these frontiers. It has now become time for these guidelines to be operationalized and the SEAFO is thus called to activating these procedures for the benefit of the seas under the SEAFO jurisdiction and the seas beyond.

Thank you very much, Namibia believes that this Commission meeting will be successful and add to development of the SEAFO.

# 3.3 Statement by Norway

Mr. Chairman, distinguished representatives, ladies and gentlemen.

It's a pleasure for Norway to once again to participate at an annual SEAFO meeting. On behalf of the Norwegian delegation, I would like to thank the Government of Namibia for inviting us to your beautiful country, and I am personally particularly pleased to be back in Swakopmund, where I haven't been since the 1998, when I participated in the third round of negotiations concerning the SEAFO Convention. I would like to take this opportunity to express my appreciation to the fact that the headquarter agreement between the host country and SEAFO finally has been signed.

I would also like to take this opportunity to officially welcome you, Mr. Groenhof, to the position of Chair of this organisation. I note that you over the last year have been involved on a number of issues, and we are looking forward to work with you at this meeting.

Protection of ocean habitats and deep sea biodiversity has become an important item on the international agenda. SEAFO last year adopted a comprehensive framework in response to the calls from the UN General Assembly to address bottom fishing and vulnerable marine ecosystems. Although SEAFO now has a set of regulations in place, there are still much to be done, both in the Scientific Commission and the Commission, to refine the details of this important framework.

The importance of coordinated port State measures has been recognised by the international community, and members of FAO agreed in the last week of August on the global, binding agreement. This is a milestone in the fight of IUU fishing, and I would think that SEAFO has to consider the impact this agreement may have on the SEAFO scheme on port State measures.

Although it is recognized that SEAFO has taken a series of important steps in recent years, we have at this juncture to follow up on last year's decision to undertake a performance review of the organisation. There have been numerous calls by the international community conduct such reviews, and most of the other RFMOs have already responded to these requests. Well, last year

we agreed on assessment criteria, thus at this meeting we have to agree on composition of a review panel, terms of reference for the panel as well as possible financial and administrative consequences for 2010.

Norway would like to stress the need for more states to ratify the SEAFO Convention, and Norway urges the remaining non-member coastal State in the region, namely the UK, also to ratify the Convention. To become an effective RFMO, with the required credibility it is important that all States participate in fisheries in the area, should become parties to SEAFO, and we are eager to be informed about ant progress in this regard.

Finally, the Norwegian delegation is prepared to work hard for the next days to achieve a favourable outcome also from this year's annual meeting.

# 3.4 Opening statement by EC

Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen.

The EC Delegation is once again very pleased to be here in Namibia, and in particular Swakopmund for the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of SEAFO. We would also like to thank the people of Namibia for the very warm welcome that has once again been extended towards us.

We would like to congratulate the Government of Namibia, and in particular Minister Iyambo, for the signing of the SEAFO Headquarters Agreement with Namibia last week in Walvis Bay. This marks a significant turning point in the history of the Organisation, as it provides SEAFO with the necessary foundation and legal status in Namibia so that it may operate in full conformity with international law and treaties. This is, to echo the words of Minister Iyambo, "crucial for all international organisations to carry out their duties".

We note with satisfaction the advances that have been made by SEAFO in recent years, notably as regards the development and adoption of measures to bring SEAFO inline with UNGA Resolution 61/105 as regards bottom fishing activities and the protection of Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems, and in particular the measures adopted last year in this regard. We look forward with interest to the results of the scientific Working Group held last week on this subject. We should also not ignore the advances that have been made pore recently on this issue in other Regional Fisheries Management Organisations, for example, NAFO which two weeks ago in Bergen closed important areas of VMEs in its Regulatory Area.

Another step forward for the organisation this year will be constitution of the Review Panel to undertake the Performance Review of SEAFO agreed last year. In our view this panel should represent a balance between Parties of the Organisation and independent external experts. We look forward to this work going ahead and the adoption of the Panel's report at the 2010 Annual Meeting. An area of concern for the EC is catch reporting and the notification of authorised vessels. This is an issue that we will be looking at closely in the

Compliance Committee which will begin its work later today, as well as the question of compliance of non-Contracting Parties.

On the point of non-Contracting Parties, we have noted the encouraging exchanges of correspondence between the Government of Japan and our Chairman. We sincerely and strongly hope that this will bear fruit, through the accession of Japan, and of Korea to SEAFO this year. I would remind participants of the view taken by SEAFO in 2007 of the consequences of these two important fishing nations not respecting their international obligations by not joining SEAFO at this Meeting.

In closing, I would like to underline our willingness to work constructively and co-operatively with all the other SEAFO Parties this week, in order to arrive at a successful and positive outcome on Friday.

Thank you.

#### Annex 4

# **Observers Opening Remarks**

### 4.1 FAO

FAO is very grateful for the invitation extended by the Secretariat of the South East Atlantic Fisheries Organization (SEAFO) to observe its Sixth Annual Meeting. FAO also wishes to express its gratitude for the warm hospitality provided by the Namibian authorities as well as the Secretariat. FAO has been keeping a close and effective working relationship with SEAFO and desires to continue such collaboration.

Regional Fishery Bodies (RFBs) including Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMOs) play a unique role in facilitating international cooperation for the conservation and management of fish stocks. RFBs represent the only realistic means of governing fish stocks that occur either as straddling or shared stocks between zones of national jurisdiction or between these zones and the high seas, or exclusively on the high seas. Therefore, to strengthen RFBs in order to conserve and manage fish stocks more effectively remains the major challenge facing international fisheries governance.

The Twenty-seventh Session of the FAO Committee on Fisheries (COFI 27) held in March 2007 discussed RFBs related matter, as a stand-alone Agenda item for the first time in the history of COFI. Many Members requested that FAO continue supporting RFBs. In the Twenty-eighth Session of COFI (COFI 28) in March 2009, under several substantial agenda items, in particular such as Progress in the Implementation of the Code and International Plans of Action (Item 4), Management of deep-sea fisheries in the high seas (Item 7) and Combating IUU fishing (Item 8), the important role of RFBs were also repeatedly underscored. Immediately after the session of COFI, the Second Meeting of Regional Fishery Body Secretariats Network (RSN 2) was held in Rome and reconfirmed the significant role of and expectation for RFBs to play in global and regional fisheries governance.

There has been a couple of remarkable progress recently made in global fisheries governance, where the role of RFBs is also highly expected. The International Guidelines for the Management of Deep-sea Fisheries in the High Seas were agreed upon on 29 August 2008. This new international instrument is the first of its kind in terms of integrating fisheries management and conservation requirements. RFBs are again highly expected as driving force to implement the Guidelines, which leads me to keenly observe discussion to be made under the relevant agenda item here.

Many distinguished delegates will be also aware that COFI, acknowledging the urgent need for a comprehensive suite of port State measures, agreed to proceed with the development of a legally-binding agreement on port State measures based on the 2001 FAO International Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing and the 2005 FAO Model Scheme on Port State Measures to Combat IUU Fishing. A Technical Consultation on Port State Measures continued its endeavour since June 2008 and the final resumed session was held in late August this year and concluded the discussion on the draft text. The FAO Council, which met a few days ago, decided to transmit the draft Agreement, together with a draft Conference Resolution, to the Conference of the Organization, which will meet in November of this year, for consideration and approval. The Agreement is expected to be open to signature immediately after the approval by the Conference. Implementation of the instrument will also depend highly on cooperation and collaboration with and among RFBs.

I would like to report that the development of a Comprehensive Global Record of Fishing Vessels is also ongoing and a Technical Consultation is expected to be organized in 2010. For this particular matter, cooperation and collaboration with RFBs is also essential. A General Information Paper on the nature and progress of this initiative is also available as a separate note for those interested. As part of the COFI approved programme of work and in preparation for the 2010 Technical Consultation, capacity building is being planned with member States in this region to help them strengthen their vessel registries.

I also wish to touch upon the issue on climate changes and fisheries. FAO organized an Expert Workshop on Climate Change Implications for Fisheries and Aquaculture from 7 to 9 April 2008 and presented a technical background document for the High-Level Conference on World Food Security: the Challenges of Climate Change and Bioenergy held in Rome from 3 to 5 June 2008. During the last session of COFI many members agreed that improvement in the management of fisheries and aquaculture would increase their resilience and adaptability to climate change. While the matter is quite complex and broad in its scope, RFBs are expected to take an important role. A policy brief on this matter is also available separately for those interested.

In this highly internationalized fisheries arena, it is now almost impossible for FAO to work on global and regional fisheries issues without cooperation and collaboration with RFBs. Therefore, I would like to reaffirm FAO's strong expectation and commitment to work with RFBs continuously and in a collaborative manner.

SEAFO is among the latest and most advanced instruments toward more responsible and sustainable fisheries, which all fishery communities in the world are carefully and expectedly watching. Therefore, it is highly expected

that SEAFO will continue playing a significant role in regional action to secure sustainable and more responsible fisheries management in the South Atlantic Ocean.

In conclusion, I would like to convey to the meeting greetings from FAO's Assistant Director-General for Fisheries and Aquaculture, Mr Ichiro Nomura. He wishes the meeting every success in its deliberations.

### 4.2 Japan

Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen.

It is our honor to have been invited to the 6th Annual Meeting of SEAFO in this beautiful city of Swakopmund this year. We would like to express our sincere gratitude to the Government of the Republic of Namibia for hosting this meeting and for its hospitality we have received, and to the Secretariat for the excellent preparations for this meeting.

Regrettably, we are here as an observer again this year. But it is our pleasure to inform that we are currently conducting final preparations for the necessary domestic procedure to seek approval from the Diet for the accession to the SEAFO Convention as soon as possible. In this connection, we would like to take this opportunity to express our deep appreciation for the generous cooperations extended by Mr. Chairman, the SEAFO Executive Secretary and FAO legal officers in the course of our preparations.

Mr. Chairman, we sincerely hope that the Commission provides the Japanese delegation with ample opportunity to work together with other member States during this meeting.

We expect that the Commission will discuss reasonable management measures for the long-term conservation and sustainable use of the fishery resources in the Convention Area.

Thank you.

#### 4.3 Korea

Mr. Chairman, distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen.

It's my pleasure to attend this meeting. On behalf of the Korean Government I thank the Secretariat for the preparation this meeting and the Namibian Government for hosting this meeting.

Korea, as a Responsible Fishing State, has shown its willingness to exercise and implement the precautionary approach in the management of fisheries resources in every RFMO, in line with other international principles such as UNSFA, 1995 and the FAO Code of Conduct for responsible Fisheries, 1995. Korea also has implemented all those conservation and management measures of every RFMO which Korea has joined as a full member, such as NAFO, CCAMLR, and all tuna RFMOs. By the same token Korea wants to join SEAFO as a full member to work with its Member States for the conservation and management, and reasonable and sustainable use of fisheries resources in the Convention Area.

The Korean Government has been accelerating the process of ratification to become a Party to the SEAFO, however, it takes unexpectedly some more time to fully complete the process of ratification due to the time consuming fundamental process within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade(MOFAT) as well as the ratification from the Parliament. It is expected that the ratification process will be completed before the next annual meeting of the SEAFO.

Korea wants to and will express our concerns on several issues which are important to us during the week, especially, for the reasonable fisheries resources management of the SEAFO area. In this sense, Korea wants to have the same level of discussion as much as the member states might have during the week.

This delegation hopes that this meeting will be very constructive one.

Thank you.

#### 4.4 United States of America

During the debate at the United Nations in 2006, the United States was a strong advocate for concrete measures to address concerns about the impact of certain fishing practices on the Marine Environment.

We thought, and continue to think, that the result achieved at that time was good one in that, in paragraph 80-89 of Resolution 61/105, the UNGA issued a strong call for action by States and regional fisheries management organisations to sustainably manage fish stocks and to protect vulnerable marine ecosystems from destructive fishing practises.

Last month in New York, the United States joined a number of other States, including several participants at this meeting, to review progress in implementing these provisions. (Randy, FYI: SEAFO members South Africa,

Norway and the EC were active participants. Others who might be at the meeting included Japan, Russia, Korea and Iceland.)

Participants at the meeting, including the United States, welcomed the considerable efforts by flag States, regional fisheries management organizations, the Food and Agriculture Organisation and others to implement these provisions and recognized the actions required to move forward with such a concerted effort;

The participants also recognized, however, that despite this progress, implementation in a number of areas is incomplete and that more work by States, individually and through regional fisheries management organisations and arrangements, is necessary to fulfil the UNGA mandate.

Among the key concerns of the United States is that, in a number of areas, there are vessels engaged in bottom fishing activities on the high seas though the flag State has conducted no assessment and made no determination regarding the impacts of these fisheries on vulnerable marine ecosystems.

Such actively is clear inconsistent with the UNGA mandate 61/105 and, in our view, such vessels should stop fishing until the flag State takes the necessary steps.

The nature and extent of the impact assessment conducted by the flag States, and the extent to which such assessment are consistent with the provisions of the FAO international Guidelines adopted last August, is a key issue for the United Sates in these discussion.

Other areas where the United States sees a need for more work and attention are:

- Identification of areas where VMEs are known to occur or are likely to occur, and measures to be taken in respect of such areas;
- Implementation of the Encounter Protocol or move on rule in paragraph 83 (d) of 61/105; and
- Measures to better manage the target stocks of these deep sea fisheries on the high seas.

We look forward to continuing the discussion at the UNGA later this Fall and look forward to working with all participants in those discussions to strengthen implementation of these provisions.

#### Annex 5

# Implementation of the Performance Review of the South East Atlantic Fisheries Organisation

# Composition of the Review Panel:

- 1. A fisheries management expert nominated by the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO), who also will serve as the chair of the Review Panel.
- 2. A scientist nominated by the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES).
- 3. Dr. Moses Maurihungirire, Namibia
- 4. Mr. Terje Lobach, Norway

The Secretariat shall not be a part of the Review Panel, but shall act as a facilitator of its activities, provide access to the required information and assist in drafting of the report. The Review Panel shall meet in Namibia. Contracting Parties to SEAFO shall cover the costs associated with the participation of their panel members.

# Scope of the review:

The review shall be undertaken based on the performance criteria agreed at the 5<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Commission, cf. Annex 8 of the 2008 Report of the Commission.

#### Work schedule:

The report of the Review Panel shall be completed and made available 30 days prior to the 2010 meeting of the Commission.

#### Annex 6

# REPORT OF SEAFO SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE 2009

### 1. Opening of the Meeting

The 5th Annual Meeting of the SEAFO Scientific Committee (SC) was convened on 30 Sept-2 October 2009 at the Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources Building, Swakopmund, Namibia. The Meeting was opened by the Chairperson of the Scientific Committee, Mr. Philip A. Large who extended a warm welcome to attending participants. He highlighted the importance of the work of the Committee and expected outcomes of the Meeting.

# 2. Adoption of the Agenda and Arrangements

The agenda was revised to include and item on the development of the SEAFO Fishing Footprint. The revised agenda was adopted and is appended as Annex I of the SC Report. The Executive Secretary informed the Meeting of practical organisation and arrangements.

### 3. Appointment of rapporteur

The Chair proposed to the Meeting that all participants should contribute to the writing of the report and as such there is no need to appoint a rapporteur. The Meeting accepted the Chair's suggestion.

#### 4. Introduction of participants

In response to the Chair, participants introduced themselves. A total of 11 scientists representing Angola, EU, Namibia and Norway were present. Participants and their addresses are listed in Annex II of the SC Report.

#### 5. Introduction of observers

Two observers from Japan (one scientist and one fishing Industry representative) and one observer from Brazil (the Project Leader of the South Atlantic MAR-ECO project, one observer from the BCC and one observer from Birdlife International were present. The observers and their addresses are listed in Annex II.

# 6. Report by the Chair of the Scientific Sub-Committee and comments by SC

The Scientific Committee (SC) acknowledged the excellent work done by the SSC. All the terms of reference for the SSC had been addressed are given in the SSC Report (Annex III of the SC Report). Below the SSC outcomes are summarised along with the SC response..

a. Source, analyse and compile catch and CPUE data for the main fish stocks (e.g. orange roughy, alfonsino, armourhead, deep-sea red crab, Patagonian toothfish) in terms of quantity and geographical positions for the SEAFO region using all existing information including observer data.

The quality and quantity of data from active fishing vessels has improved in the last two years. Historically there was no distinction between landings and catches, however discard information was available for the two longline vessels fishing to date in 2009. There is a general lack of fishing effort and biological (length, sex ratio, and maturity) data, primarily from the crab vessels.

For 2009, detailed catch positions for the crab fishery were not reported as specified in the new SEAFO logsheets and also no length frequency data were received. In contrast, the longline fishery provided relatively comprehensive data.

Historically, the following countries are known to have been fishing in the SEAFO Area *viz*. Spain, Portugal, Russia, Cyprus, Mauritius, Japan, Korea, Poland, Norway, South Africa and Namibia. In 2009, the only countries that have provided landings data for the SEAFO Area were Japan and Korea. VMS data and catch reports suggest that these vessels were the only ones fishing for SEAFO species in the SEAFO CA.

Landings analyses were made on the most recent landings statistics provided to the Secretariat. The existence and extent of any Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing in the SEAFO CA is unknown.

SSC was again in a position to present a summary of available VMS data for vessels fishing for SEAFO species. These data are available from 2007, but only data for 2009 are presented in the SSC report (Figures 1 & 2 in the SSC Report). These data have been anonymised so that Contracting Parties and individual vessels cannot be identified.

Although it has not been possible to exclude VMS signals while vessels are steaming, the data related to vessels using static gear and from scrutinizing areas of intense VMS activity it is possible to identify likely fishing activity. There is no evidence of fishing activity in SEAFO closed areas during 2009 to date.

A: The only biological data available were length frequency distributions of toothfish landings from two Korean longline vessels fishing in different parts of Division D. These data suggest that fish caught in the western part of SEAFO Division D were larger than those caught in Sub-Division D1.

# b. Evaluate trends in the total catches and where possible CPUE for the stocks as outlined under point (a), and undertake stock assessments when appropriate.

Currently the commercially most important species in the SEAFO CA are Patagonian toothfish and deep-sea red crabs. The SEAFO species list is given in Table 1. This list has been revised this year to include spiny dogfish (*Squalus acanthias*), rock lobster (*Jasus tristanti*) and a range of species of deep-sea sharks recorded in recent scientific investigations. It is likely that other species of deep-sea sharks are distributed in the SEAFO CA, however no information is available as yet for substantial areas of the CA. SC expressed concern that the SEAFO species list, as revised in this report, is not extensive in so far it does not include many species may currently be by-catch species and which in future fisheries may be targeted. This is of particular importance because many conservation measures in the SEAFO CA refer explicitly to fishing for species on the SEAFO species list (e.g. Conservation Measure 06/06 regarding closed areas).

One option to resolve this issue would be to define the SEAFO species list as all those species encountered in commercial fishing operations currently not on the ICCAT species list.

Table 1. Revised SEAFO Species List.

Table 1. Revised SEAFO Species List.					
FAO 3 Alfa	Species	Latin Name	Transboundary		
Code					
TOP*	Patagonian toothfish	1.1.1 Dissostichus eleginoides	1.1.2 Yes		
ORY*	Orange Roughy	Hoplosthethus spp	Unknown		
ALF*	Alfonsino	Family Berycidae	Unknown		
CGE*	Deep-sea Red Crab	Chaceon maritae	Unknown		
MAC*	Mackerel	Scomber scombrus	Unknown		
EDR*	Armourhead	Pseudopentaceros spp.	Unknown		
BOC*	Boarfish	Capros aper	Unknown		
ORD*	Oreo dories	Family Oreosomatidae	Unknown		
CDL*	Cardinal Fish	Epigonus spp.	Unknown		
OCZ*	Octopus	Family Octopodidae	Unknown		
SQC*	Squid	Family Loliginidae	Unknown		
WRF*	Wreckfish	1.1.3 Polyprion americanus	1.1.4 Unknown		
SKA*	Skates	Family Rajidae	Unknown		
DGS	Spiny Dogfish	Squalus acanthias	Unknown		
ETB	Blurred smooth lanternshark	Etmopterus bigelowi	Unknown		
ETH	Shorttail lanternshark	Etmopterus brachyurus	Unknown		
ETR	Great lanternshark	Etmopterus princeps	Unknown		
ETP	Smooth lanternshark	Etmopterus pusillus	Unknown		
APA	Ghost catshark	Apristurus manis	Unknown		
SSQ	Velvet dogfish	Scymnodon squamulosus	Unknown		
СҮО	Portuguese Dogfish	Centroscymnus coelolepis	Unknown		
GUQ	Leafscale Gulper Shark	Centrophorus squamosus	Unknown		
GUP	Gulper Shark	Centrophorus granulosus	Unknown		
CFB□	Black dogfish	Centroscyllium fabricii	Unknown		
CYP□	Longnose velvet	Centroscymnus crepidater	Unknown		

	dogfish		
CYY□	Shortnose velvet dogfish	Centroscymnus cryptacanthus	Unknown
SCK□	Kitefin shark	Dalatias licha	Unknown
ETE		Etmopterus compagnoi	Unknown
ETI	Broadbanded lanternshark	Etmopterus gracilispinis	Unknown
ETM	Southern lanternshark	Etmopterus granulosus	Unknown
ETF	Blackbelly lanternshark	Etmopterus Lucifer	Unknown
ETT	African lanternshark	Etmopterus polli	Unknown
ETX	Velvet belly lantern shark	Etmopterus spinax	Unknown
EUZ	Taillight shark	Euprotomicroides zantedeschia	Unknown
EUP	Pygmy shark	Euprotomicrus bispinatus	Unknown
HYY□	Longnose pygmy shark	Heteroscymnoides marleyi	Unknown
ISB□	Cookiecutter shark	Isistius brasiliensis	Unknown
OXY	Angular roughshark	Oxynotus centrina	Unknown
SYO	Smallmouth velvet dogfish	Scymnodon obscurus	Unknown
GSK□	Greenland shark	Somniosus microcephalus	Unknown
SKH	Other sharks (deep-sea)	Order Selachomorpha	Unknown
LBT	Rock lobster	Jasus tristanti	Unknown

<sup>\*</sup> Species for which landings data have been recorded.

Source: From FishBase records for the SE Atlantic (Area 47)

#### **Stock Assessments**

In view of the lack of data, stock assessments cannot be attempted now and in the foreseeable future for any species of the SEAFO species list. Available LPUE data for orange roughy suggest that this species in Sub-division B1 remains at a low level compared to that seen at the start of the series (see Fig. 6 in the SSC report).

# c. Evaluate and suggest reference points for deep-sea fish resources.

In 2007, SSC agreed to categorise the commercially most important species in the SEAFO Convention Area into two categories (A and B) on the basis of available information of life history characteristics, perceived vulnerability to fishing and the fishing gear used. In 2009, SSC has made a minor revision to the estimated longevity of deep-sea crab (see SSC report Table 11).

SEAFO SCR Doc 01/2009 (reviewed under ToR h in the SSC report) describes a method (Cheung et. al., 2005 and 2007; Musick, 1999) to identify the productivity and vulnerability of individual species using data currently available. The species profiles provide a useful basis to update and extract key information related to the target species that could be used in assessment models, management advice and ecosystem modelling. SC agreed to nominate stock co-ordinators to develop species profiles for the majority of

SC agreed to nominate stock co-ordinators to develop species profiles for the majority of species in Table 11 in the SSC report.

In recent years SSC attempted to identify reference points for all species. The only data available for use were LPUE data and these were sparse for most species and were considered unreliable especially where species were taken as bycatch.

In the absence of reference points and available indicators of abundance and fishing mortality, SC again is of the view that the primary management tool should be precautionary catch limits (see ToRs 16i and 18 in the SC Report).

# d. Review of sampling/reporting protocols and requirements including fish identification keys.

Last year SEAFO introduced mandatory sampling forms for catches and other fishing details (including discards/benthos/seabirds/mammals) to be recorded by observers and also an observer summary form. These forms were based on CCAMLR protocols.

In 2009 these protocols have been followed in the toothfish fishery however a number of issues need to be addressed in the red crab fishery. Vessels fishing in the crab fishery have changed the format of the crab fishery forms, have not included detailed spatial catch and effort data and have not provided biological sampling information. Some summarised biological and coarse spatial information were included in the observer summary report, however the required format for this report was not followed.

However, SC recognize that 2009 is the first year that these sampling forms have been in use, and acknowledges that Contracting and Fishing Parties have reaffirmed their commitment to fully comply.

Identification keys are not yet in place for fish. A coral and sponge ID key has been developed as part of the program for the SEAFO Bottom Fishing/VME Workshop (see ToR 7).

# e. Complete FIRMS information fisheries sheets

SSC updated the FIRMS stock inventories in accordance with FAO request. SC has nothing further to add.

# f. Examine where appropriate assessment and research done by neighbouring assessment and management organization (such as BCLME/BCC, CCAMLR, GCLME, ICCAT, SWIOFC)

No assessments and results were received during this year.

# g. Reviewing the Distribution of Reported Catches of Benthic Organisms (corals, sponges etc.)

A second joint Spanish-Namibian survey was conducted in February/March 2009 on the Ewing seamount and Valdivia Bank to complete the work started in 2008. It is expected that the full results will be available in 2010.

#### h. Undertake review of Submitted SEAFO Research Documents

- (i) SEAFO SCR Doc 01/2009 (reviewed under ToR h in the SSC report) describes a method (Cheung et. al., 2005 and 2007; Musick, 1999) to identify the productivity and vulnerability of individual species using data currently available. For SC comment please see Item c above.
- (ii) The science plan of the MAR-ECO project "Patterns and processes of the Ecosystems of the Southern Mid-Atlantic" was reviewed at the SEAFO Bottom Fishing/VME Workshop where most members of SC were present.
- (iii) The preliminary results from the Spanish-Namibian multi-disciplinary research cruise on the Walvis Ridge seamounts in 2009 was likewise reviewed at the SEAFO Bottom Fishing/VME Workshop.

#### i. Review of historical fisheries data

Historical data were reviewed by SSC and updates made where necessary. SSC is of the opinion that historical data are now updated up to 2008 with all data currently available. However, SC notes that additional historical data do exist for Ukraine and Russia (and other former Eastern-block nations), and **a** recommendation to obtain this data through the FAO is made under SC ToR 18.

### j. Make recommendations on lost fishing gear

Much of the information presented below is a summary a *UNEP Regional Seas Reports* and *Studies*, No. 185; *FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Technical Paper*, No. 523 (Macfadyen *et al*, 2009).

Abandoned, lost or otherwise discarded fishing gear (ALDFG) is a problem that is increasingly of concern. Various United Nations General Assembly resolutions now

provide a mandate for and require action to reduce ALDFG and marine debris in general (FAO Tech. Paper No. 523).

The impacts of ALDFG include: continued catching of target and non-target species (such as turtles, seabirds and marine mammals); alterations to the benthic environment; navigational hazards; beach debris/litter; introduction of synthetic material into the marine food web; introduction of alien species transported by ALDFG; and a variety of costs related to clean-up operations and impacts on business activities. In general, gillnets and pots/traps are the fishing gears most likely to "ghost fish" while other gear, such as trawls and longlines, are more likely to cause entanglement of marine organisms, including protected species such as corals, and habitat damage.

The factors which cause fishing gear to be abandoned, lost or otherwise discarded are numerous and include: adverse weather; operational fishing factors including the cost of gear retrieval; gear conflicts; illegal, unregulated and unreported (IUU) fishing; vandalism/theft; and access to and cost and availability of shoreside collection facilities. Weather, operational fishing factors and gear conflicts are probably the most significant factors, but the causes of ALDFG accumulation are poorly documented and not well understood.

# Gillnet/tangle nets

Gillnetting/tangle netting, defined as fishing with nets in which all or a substantial part of the catch is retained by becoming enmeshed in one or more meshes (Potter and Pawson, 1991), is a fishing method attractive to fishers because, as a passive gear, gillnet use is fuel-efficient (Millner, 1985) and has less impact on the seabed and benthic organisms than active fishing methods such as trawling (Morgan and Chuenpagdee, 2003). Also, and depending on the mesh size used, gillnets can be highly selective and have little impact on small and juvenile fish (Millner, 1985). However, if gillnets are lost, discarded or abandoned, they can have a harmful effect on the marine environment by continuing to "ghost fish", defined as causing mortality of fish and other taxa after all control of the fishing gear is lost by a fisher (Brown and Macfadyen, 2007).

Research into ghost fishing in European waters indicated that ghost fishing in water shallower than 200 m was not a significant problem because lost, discarded and abandoned nets have a limited fishing life owing to their high rate of biofouling and, in some areas, their tangling by tidal scouring (Carr *et al.*, 1992; Erzini *et al.*, 1997; Pawson, 2003; Revill and Dunlin, 2003). No notable long-term research has been conducted on the effect of ghost fishing in deeper water (Davies *et al.*, 2007), but nets lost there are expected to stabilize to approximately 20% of the initial catch after 45 days (Humborstad *et al.*, 2003), though may continue to "fish" for periods of at least 2–3 years and perhaps even longer (Furevik and Fosseidengen, 2000), largely as a result of lower rates of biofouling and tidal scouring in deep water.

Other than damage to coral reefs, effects on habitat by gillnets are thought to be minimal (ICES, 1991, 1995; Stephan *et al.*, 2000). The impact of lost gillnets on coral reefs can be more severe. Al-Jufaili n*et al.* (1999) found that ALD nets affected coral reefs at 49 percent of sites surveyed throughout the Sultanate of Oman and accounted for 70 percent

of all severe human impacts. Donohue *et al.* (2001) have confirmed the threat of ALDFG to the coral reefs of the northwestern Hawaiian Islands, where derelict fishing gear is threatening coral reef ecosystems by abrading and scouring living coral polyps and altering reef structure

### Pots and traps

ALDFG pots and traps can also ghost fish. As they are usually baited when they are set, if the pot is lost, over time the bait attracts scavengers, some of which are commercially important species. These scavengers may become entrapped and subsequently die, forming new bait for other scavengers. Entrapped animals may escape over time.

Animals captured in ALDFG traps die from starvation, cannibalism, infection, disease, or prolonged exposure to poor water quality (i.e. low dissolved oxygen) (Van Engel, 1982; Guillory, 1993). The continued fishing by ALDFG pots was evaluated experimentally by Bullimore *et al.* (2001). A fleet of 12 pots were set in a manner to simulate ghost fishing, off the coast of Wales, United Kingdom. The original bait was consumed within 28 days of deployment yet the pots continued to fish, mainly for spider crab (*M. squinado*) and brown crab (*Cancer pagurus*). The catch declined over time, reaching a minimum between nine and ten months. The actual mortality of crustaceans was difficult to estimate, as some were able to escape and the pots were not under continual observation.

In general, traps are often advocated on an environmental basis for having a lesser impact on habitat than mobile fishing gear such as trawls and dredges (Rogers *et al.*, 1998; Hamilton, 2000; Barnette, 2001). The potential physical impacts of ALD traps depend upon the type of habitat and the occurrence of these habitats relative to the distribution of traps (Guillory, 2001). In general, sand- and mud-bottom habitats are less affected by crab and lobster traps than sensitive bottom habitats such as submergent aquatic vegetation beds or non-vegetated live bottom (stony corals, gorgonians, sponges) (Barnette, 2001). ALD traps, while individually occupying a small area, may impact benthic flora because of their large number and potential smothering effect (Guillory, 2001). A study of the impact of ALD traps and other fishing gear on the Florida Keys (Chiappone *et al.*, 2002) indicated that 64% of the stony corals were impacted, 22% of the gorgonians impacted and 29% of the sponges impacted.

#### **Trawls**

For trawl gear, the larger diameter synthetic multifilament twine common to trawl nets is the key factor that reduces ghost fishing mortality in lost gear. The material has a larger diameter than gillnet monofilament and is visible or of such a size that it can be sensed by the fish. Although lost trawl gear will often be suspended by floats and form a curtain that rises well above the bottom, many of the losses form additional habitat for such organisms as ocean pout, wolfish and cod, and substrate for attaching benthic invertebrates such as hydroids and sea anemone, again reducing their capacity to continue fishing (Carr and Harris, 1994).

# Longlines

The mortality rate from lost demersal longlines is usually low (ICES, 2000; Huse *et al.*, 2002). Such lost gear may persist in the environment, however, when it is constructed of monofilament. Lost longline gear may continue to catch fish as long as bait exists on the hooks. Fish caught on the hooks may themselves become a form of bait for subsequent fish, both target and non-target. ALD longlines will not stop fishing until all of the hooks are bare. The extent to which this occurs and its effects on community structure have not been analysed (NOAA, 2004).

While it is an important commercial gear, hook and line is also used by a large number of recreational and subsistence fishers, and therefore losses, especially within shallow inshore waters, may be very high. This of relevance in the SEAFO area as some seamount peaks has water depths of < 50m. In the Florida Keys, Chiappone *et al.* (2002) reported that the debris type causing the greatest degree of damage was hook and line gear (68%), especially monofilament line (58%), and that it accounted for the majority of damage to branching gorgonians (69%), fire coral (83%), sponges (64 percent), and colonial zoanthids (77%).

In studies of the impact of fishing on the coldwater corals of the northeast Atlantic, although lost longlines were observed on video surveys of coral areas, no evidence of actual damage to reefs was found, although it was supposed that coral branches might be broken off during the retrieval of longlines (ICES, 2002).

#### Effects of ALDFG on the marine environment

The longer-term fate of lost fishing gear is unclear. Modern plastics can last up to 600 years in the marine environment, depending upon water conditions, ultraviolet light penetration and the level of physical abrasion. Furthermore, the impact of microscopic plastic fragments and fibers, the result of the degradation of larger items, is not known.

### Review of measures to reduce ALDFG

Measures to address ALDFG can be broadly divided between measures that *prevent* (avoiding the occurrence of ALDFG in the environment); *mitigate* (reducing the impact of ALDFG in the nenvironment) and *cure* (removing ALDFG from the environment). The examples presented also illustrate that many of these measures can be applied at a variety of levels (internationally, nationally, regionally, locally) and through a variety of mechanisms from legal requirement through to voluntary schemes.

# Preventative measures

### Gear marking

FAO Guidelines set out the marking system and the responsibilities of owners of gear and fisheries authorities. They also cover the recovery of lost and abandoned gear, salvage and the role of gear manufacturers. In addition liabilities, penalties and control are

discussed. (FAO Fisheries Report No. 485, 1991). Following the expert consultation, FAO produced a set of technical recommendations for the marking of fishing gear (FAO Fisheries Report No. 485 Supplement, 1993) with regard to a standardized system for the type and location of unique identifying marks on tags for each gear type as well as rules to be observed in marking gear so that its presence and extent is obvious to other seafarers. In 1994, at an expert consultation on the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fishing.

The experts offered, *inter alia*, the following solutions:

- reporting of all lost gear in terms of numbers and location to national management entities. Industry and government should consider efforts and means to recover ghost fishing gear; and
- Regulatory framework to deal with violators.

They recommended that:

• all fishing gear should be marked, as appropriate, in such a way so as to uniquely identify the ownership of the gear.

At the RFMO level, CCAMLR has an active programme to combat marine debris, including debris from fishing activities such as large-scale trawl fisheries for krill and longline fishing for Patagonian toothfish (NRC, 2008). Conservation Measure 10-01 on the Marking of Fishing Gear requires all fishing gear such as pots, marker buoys and floats to be marked with the vessel name, call sign and flag state. ICCAT does not have measures concerning ALD fishing gear, but Contracting Parties have to ensure that fishing gear is marked in accordance with generally accepted standards. Some nations have, however, already introduced gear marking requirements with explicit recognition of ALDFG issues. The Republic of Korea introduced a gear-marking initiative in 2006 as part of its National Integrated Management Strategy for Marine Litter. In 2006, the EC introduced regulations requiring the marking of passive gears (static longlines, gillnets and trammel nets) and beam trawls with the vessels' port licence number as a clear identifier. This applies to all vessels fishing this gear in Community waters outside of member state territorial waters (EC, 2006). However, worldwide there are few examples of requirements for gear marking intended to address the problem of ALDFG, i.e. marking to prohibit the deliberate abandonment of gear through enabling identification of ownership.

#### On-board technology to avoid or locate gear

The increasing use of GPS and sea-bed mapping technology by fishing vessels affords benefits in terms of both reducing initial loss and improving the location and subsequent recovery of lost gear. With improvements in sea-bed imaging technology, some mobile gear can be towed close to the sea bed or known obstacles, enabling reduced direct impact/contact with the sea bed or these obstacles, thereby reducing the risk of gear snagging and loss. For static gear, technology can also enable the more accurate setting and subsequent location and retrieval of gear.

The main determinant of successful recovery appears to be the reason for the initial loss of fishing gear; fishers report that where nets are trawled away, it is virtually impossible to recover them at sea.

Transponders are now a common feature in many large-scale fisheries with the satellite tracking of vessels for safety and MCS purposes, and the use of transponderson gear such as marker buoys or floats is becoming more readily available. The fitting of transponders to gear improves the ability to locate gear in the water.

#### **Port State measures**

Port State measures are seen to be critical in addressing IUU fishing, which is a significant contributor to ALDFG problems as illegal fishers are unlikely to comply with regulation including any measures to reduce ALDFG. Those engaged in IUU fishing are also assumed to be key contributors to abandoned gear prompted by MCS activity. In 2001, FAO Members, recognizing the threat of IUU fishing, developed within the framework of the 1995 FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, an International Plan of Action (IPOA) to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing (IPOA-IUU).

A scheme was devised to address IUU fishing at the port state level. In addition to a reduction in IUU fishing having a positive influence on reducing ALDFG in general, the scheme proposes port inspections that will enable "examination of any areas of the fishing vessel that is required, including ...the nets and any other gear, equipment...to verify compliance with relevant conservation and management measures". FAO is encouraging the strengthening of port State measures in order to combat IUU. One of the inspection processes being proposed (relating to gear inspection and the marking of gear) is gear inventories for vessels in international waters.

# Onshore collection/reception and/or payment for old/retrieved gear

The provision of appropriate collection facilities is a preventative measure, as it can reduce the likelihood that a fisher will discard unwanted gear at sea. MARPOL Annex V Regulation 7 requires that "the Government of each Party to the Convention undertakes to ensure the provision of facilities at ports and terminals for the reception of garbage, without causing undue delay to ships, and according to the needs of the ships using them." (IMO, 2006). There has, however, been international recognition that there are scale and capacity issues that have prevented the provision of adequate reception facilities at small ports and harbours, many of which are fishing harbours. While vessel crews docking at these berths well understand that such a service is not usually provided free of charge, vessel crews, ready and willing to pay for disposal services either directly from the facility or via independent entities, are not always able to secure these services.

Although "rational" tariffs are recommended, any additional tariff for reception of waste such as fishing gear may be a disincentive to fishers compared to burning or dumping at no immediate direct cost. Numerous initiatives have since been developed that provide free waste reception facilities for solid waste such as fishing gear, or these costs are incorporated into general berthing charges or landing fees. In some circumstances where ALDFG gear is perceived to be a particular problem, authorities have created positive incentives through reward schemes for disposal of old and unwanted gear in appropriate

facilities. The Korean Government Department, Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (MOMAF), purchases waste fishing gear returned to port by fishers; this is reported to be highly effective in terms of recovery and disposal of gear.

## **Reduced fishing effort**

Effort reduction measures can affect the causes and levels of ALDFG in different ways, depending on the type of input restriction. For static gear, the amount of gear in the water and the time it is left in the water (soak time), both influence the probability that gear will be lost or discarded, with greater gear use and longer soak times increasing the chances of lost gear.

Many fisheries already limit fishing efforts by monitoring use of pots or number of net hours where soak time is included as a key variable. The European Commission (EC) introduced an emergency temporary ban on gillnet fishing at depths >200 m in ICES Divisions VI and VIIb-k and Sub-area XII east of 27°W (EC Regulation No 51/2005).

These measures for deep-water gillnets were revised in 2006 and now include a permanent ban on all deep-water gillnet fisheries at depths >600 m and imposing maximum limits on the length of nets deployed (10 km) and the soak time (72 hrs) in the remaining fisheries at depths <600 m (EC Regulation No 41/2006).

## Mitigating (reducing impacts) measures

Technology can be used to reduce the impacts of ALDFG, particularly through alterations to the gear itself to minimize the potential to ghost fish, but also through ways to better manage gear in the water.

## Reduced ghost catches through the use of biodegradable nets and pots

A number of shellfish fisheries are required to use degradable escape panels in traps. For example, Florida's spiny lobster fishery has had such a requirement since 1982 (Matthews and Donahue, 1996). In Canada, recreational fishing traps require features "to ensure that if the trap is lost, the section secured by the cord will rot, allowing captive crabs to escape and to prevent the trap from continuing to fish". (DFO, 2007). Also in Canada, the Pacific Region Integrated Fisheries Management Plan for crab by traps, 2008, includes various requirements related to biodegradable escape mechanisms. The use of biodegradable materials is less evident in net fisheries.

There have been some efforts to develop biodegradable and oxy-degradable plastics for use in the fishing industry. For example, the Australian and New Zealand Environment Conservation Council (ANZECC) was instrumental in promoting a national approach towards the use of biodegradable materials in bait bag manufacture (Kiessling, 2003).

## Reduced ghost catches of incidental catch species

Fishing gears with the potential to capture significant bycatch of non-target species (cetaceans, pinnipeds, turtles, seabirds) when actively fishing, also have the potential to result in non-target species bycatch once gear is abandoned, lost or discarded. Mitigating against such ghost fishing of bycatch can be effected by using the same measures as in active fishery, such as acoustic beacons ("pingers"), reflectors in gillnet and set net fishing gears. But it should be recognized that the effectiveness of such measures can rapidly decrease when gear is no longer actively being fished and the pingers run out of power over time.

Of perhaps greater significance to ALDFG reduction are mitigation measures that are effective even when fishing gear is not being actively fished. Trials are progressing with substances that reflect sound, such as barium sulphate, with such substances being added to nylon net during production. The additive does not affect the performance or the look of the net in any way, but it reflects sound waves in ranges used by echo-locating animals (Schueller, 2001). Other developments supported by WWF's International Smart Gear Competition (<a href="www.smartgear.org">www.smartgear.org</a>) have produced weak ropes that are operationally sound, but break with the action of marine mammals, and magnets attached to longlines to repel sharks. Innovative solutions such as the passive pinger should retain effectiveness even when the gear is lost.

## Clean-up/curative measures

### Locating lost gear

Generally fishers will make every possible attempt to locate and recover their own gear as it has a significant economic cost in most fisheries. However in some circumstances, gear location surveys may be needed. Sea-based surveys can be used to locate lost fishing gear that may still be ghost fishing or damaging habitats. Where no accurate information on location of gear is available, the use of modeling techniques, local knowledge and anecdotal information to identify potential hotspots is essential in order to better target a survey intended for gear retrieval. Side scan sonar (SSS) is a sea-bed mapping technology that has become more accurate and more affordable in recent years. However, SSS is likely to be applicable where relatively large or readily distinguishable items such as pots or traps are to be located. Other possible sources of information might include skipper interviews and the interpretation of VMS plots.

#### Gear recovery programmes

Curative measures often take the form of gear retrieval programmes, which typically entail using a creeper or grapnel to snag nets. Gear retrieval programmes have been undertaken in net fisheries in Sweden and Poland (Brown and Macfadyen, 2007). Retrieval programmes are also routinely employed by Norway, which led to Norwegian, English and Irish collaborative projects to recover ALDFG from the Northeast deepwater Atlantic gillnet fishery (Large *et al*, 2009). However, the efficacy of such surveys is

largely reliant on information on the position of ALDFG provided by and collected from fishers.

# **Implications for SEAFO**

The only fisheries that currently pose potential ALDFG problems are longline fisheries for Patagonian toothfish and trap fisheries for deep-water red crab.

SC noted the work carried out on this subject by SSC and SC comments and recommendations can be found under SC ToR 18.

### k. Complete TXOTX questionnaire

SSC completed the report with the assistance of the Secretariat. The questionnaire is addressed under SC ToR 11.

## 7. Feedback on the SEAFO Bottom Fishing/VME Workshop

SC held a bottom fishing VME Workshop on 28-29 September in preparation for the SC meeting. The workshop was attended by 15 scientists including a representative from the FAO and an expert from IEO (Spain) on benthos in African coastal regions. A brief report summarising the proceedings of the Workshop is currently in preparation and will be posted on the SEAFO website subject to signing off by the Workshop participants and agreement by the Commission.

The Workshop evaluated coral ID keys from CCAMLR, NAFO and African coastal regions. These were considered by SC and it was decided to adopt the ID key from IEO (Spain) for corals and sponges in south-western African shelf and slope waters.

The Workshop reviewed current reporting requirements for corals and sponges and made a number of recommendations which are described in SC ToRs 14 and 18.

VME composition was explored by the workshop using the limited information currently available for the SEAFO area. SC notes that more comprehensive information on the spatial distribution and extent of seamount areas and their associated fauna is required (see recommendations under SC ToR 18). Additionally there is a need to collate information of vents, carbonate mounds and seeps in the SEAFO CA. SC notes that the Workshop explored the possibility of using predictive methods to identify the possible areas where VMEs may exists. SC agreed to explore this approach.

Regarding developing a fishing footprint, SC notes that this was discussed at length within the Workshop but feels that the best way to progress this further should be explored by the Commission (see recommendations under SC ToR 18).

SC notes that the Workshop was aware of concern that the interim encounter threshold for VMEs set by most RFMOs, including SEAFO, may be too high. SC reviewed the alternate options for thresholds discussed in the workshop and recent developments regarding changes to encounter thresholds for VMEs used in the NAFO area and additional information made available from scientific investigations in progress. SC is aware that CCAMLR has developed specific thresholds for fixed gears and these and other thresholds will be reviewed by SC next year when the bottom fishing regulation is due to be reviewed by the Commission. In strong view of the concern that the interim encounter threshold for VMEs set by most RFMOs, including SEAFO, may be too high,

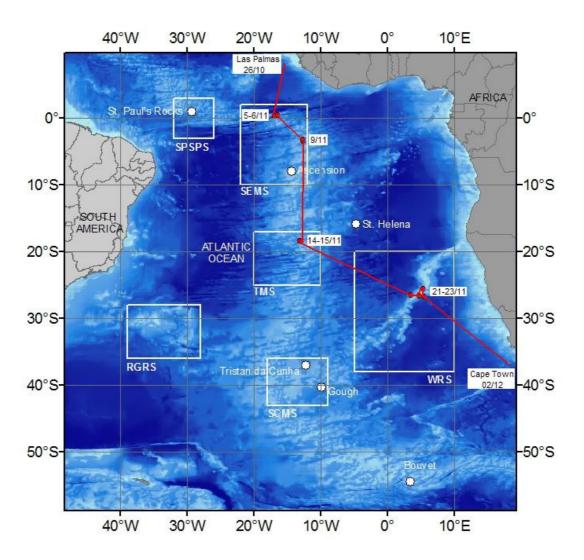
SC suggests that the Commission give consideration to revising the thresholds downwards (see Tor 18).

## 8. Development of SEAFO Fishing Footprint

SC reviewed data supplied by CPs and FPs in response to SEAFO Conservation Measure 12/08 (Bottom Fishing Activity in the SEAFO CA). Data (a combination of JPEG maps and catch positions) are currently available for only two CPs and one FP. These account for only some of the fishing activity over the period 1987-2007, as indicated by landings tables and other sources (e.g. SEAFO SCR Doc 02/09). A further concern is that some of these data may relate to fishing activity for ICCAT species. The format of available data, although in compliance with Conservation Measure 12/08, were considered by SC to be unsuitable for developing a fishing footprint with similar precision to footprints developed by other RFMOs. (see recommendations under SC ToR 18).

## 9. The South Atlantic Mar-Eco Project

The SC appreciated that the MAR-ECO project, endorsed by SEAFO in 2008, submitted a science plan for the ocean-wide activity. There will be two cruises with MAR-ECO elements in 2009, one on a Russian (9 days) and one on a Brazilian vessel (two transatlantic transects). The Russian vessel will provide some information on benthic communities in a few locations. The cruises have as main objective to map biodiversity and distribution patterns, and exploratory fishing will not be conducted.



**Figure 1:** Cruise track and stations for the Russian MAR-ECO cruise on the RV Academic Ioffe in October-November 2009.

The participation from SEAFO is limited to one person from South Africa going on the Russian vessel. The MAR-ECO steering group has members from South Africa and maintains good communication with the SEAFO executive secretary. MAR-ECO is open to stronger African participation.

The SC recognised that there has been no decision made by African Coastal States party to SEAFO regarding participation in MAR-ECO, as envisaged last year. MAR-ECO is an opportunity for gaining new knowledge of the diversity and distribution patterns of marine life in the South Atlantic oceanic areas, including the SEAFO area, through a trans-Atlantic collaboration. To develop activity at sea in the SEAFO area, specifically on the Walvis Ridge and the mid-Atlantic Ridge, the formation of a consortium should be encouraged with the aim to submit proposals to international funding agencies and the

FAO (regarding future ship-time). SEAFO CPs should endeavour to support this initiative and/or consider opportunities for own MAR-ECO activity, including work at sea and subsequent analyses.

The basic science activity as planned by MAR-ECO will potentially provide SEAFO with significant new information:

- Bathymetry and physical oceanography of the CA.
- Revised species lists for pelagic and benthic macro- and megafauna across a wide geographical area and depth range.
- Comprehensive occurrence records for species in the SEAFO area in relation to their overall biogeographical patterns.
- Distribution patterns of VME-indicator organisms and an improved basis for modelling the spatial distribution of candidate VMEs.
- New knowledge on the closed areas and their biota enabling a science-based evaluation of the appropriateness of the closures.
- Enhanced regional competence on deepwater studies and international networking.

## 10. The Spanish-Namibia Joint Survey

SC notes the progress update provided toSSC and will consider the final report summarizing the results from the 2008 and 2009 research cruises when it becomes available next year.

## 11. Review and endorsement of the TXOTX Questionnaire

SC reviewed the TXOTX questionnaire completed by the SSC with assistance from the SEAFO Secretariat and endorsed that this be the SC view.

#### 12. Report back of Scientific Co-ordinators

SC reviewed the ToRs for Scientific Co-ordinators set by the Commission set in 2009 and is of the view that most of the tasks described are best dealt with by the relevant data management authorities within CPs and FPs. Also some of the ToRs are already addressed by mechanisms within the SEAFO Commission, CPs and FPs.

SC is of the view that the work of scientific co-ordinators should comprise:

- 1. To act as the scientific focal point between SEAFO and CPs and FPs.
- 2. Participation at SEAFO SSC and SC.
- 3. Ensure that all available fisheries and scientific data, including historical data, is available to SSC and SC via the SEAFO Secretariat using the prescribed format.
- 4. To encourage the provision of scientific analyses relevant to SEAFO scientific bodies.

SC is aware that not all CPs have nominated scientific co-ordinators. SC recommends that the Commission pursues this issue and includes the appointment of scientific co-ordinators by FPs (see recommendations under SC ToR 18)

## 13. Scientific Database

The organisation of data within the SEAFO Secretariat is problematic because of the lack of a functional database (see recommendations under SC ToR 18).

## 14. SEAFO Identification kit for Sponges and Corals

SC reviewed the coral and sponge key prepared by Ramos *et al.* (2009) and concluded that with minor modifications this should be adopted for use as the official SEAFO key by observers in the SEAFO CA. SC also agreed to modify the SEAFO sampling forms to include the names of major coral and sponge taxa.

## 15. Impact of lost gear on habitat and biodiversity

SC's response to this ToR refers solely to the impacts mitigation and curative measures relating to abandoned, lost or otherwise discarded fishing gear (ALDFG). SC does not have sufficient information available to evaluate the effects of lost gear on habitat and biodiversity. SC recommendations and advice based on the work carried out by SSC (SSC item j, above) are given under SC ToR 18.

### 16. Review of Conservation Measures

## i Conservation Measure 10/07: Fixing catch limits for crabs and toothfish.

For Patagonian toothfish, the SC took into account the current CCAMLR Conservation Measure 41-04(2008) relating to toothfish in the northern component of CCAMLR Subarea 48.6 adjacent to SEAFO Division D. The current CCAMLR TAC for this area is 200 tonnes and SC agreed to reduce the precautionary catch limit for toothfish in SEAFO CA to 200 tonnes for 2010 and 2011.

For deep-sea red crab, SC agreed, in the absence of information on the current size of the resource and levels of fishing mortality, to recommend the current precautionary catch limits are maintained in 2010 and 2011 at 200 tonnes in Sub-Division B1 and 200 tonnes in the remainder of the SEAFO Area until such time as when additional information becomes available.

For orange roughy and alfonsino, SC is of the view that if substantial fisheries develop in the SEAFO CA it is likely that they will be for these species.

Experience from other orange roughy fisheries around the world (New Zealand, west of Ireland etc) suggests that sustainable catches are of the of order of 2-3% of virgin biomass. Annual landings from the Namibian orange roughy in Sub-Division B1 peaked in 2001 at around 90t and strongly declined thereafter to very low levels, which is reflected by available LPUE data. Additionally there is currently a moratorium on fishing for orange roughy in the Namibian EEZ adjacent to Sub-Division B1. The connectivity between the populations supporting these fisheries is unknown, but it is possible that these are from the same stock. Given this, SC recommends a zero catch limit for orange roughy in Sub-Division B1 for 2010 and 2011. In view of the unknown size of any orange roughy populations that may exist in the remainder of the SEAFO CA, SC recommends a precautionary annual catch limit for 2010 and 2011 of 50 tonnes until such time as when additional information becomes available to identify sustainable fishing levels. This catch limit would prevent a strong increase in activity but permit exploratory fishing.

Alfonsino is not a long-lived, slowing growing species but is vulnerable to fishing because fisheries mostly target aggregations. Experience in the NAFO region suggest that, as with orange roughy, fishing often takes the form of short-term "mining" which

can lead to sequential depletion of populations which even for alfonsino may take 15-20 years to recover. SC recommends a precautionary annual catch limit for 2010 and 2011 of 200 tonnes for alfonsino in the SEAFO CA or until additional information becomes available to identify sustainable fishing levels.

A suggested revised text for Conservation Measure 10/07 for consideration by the Commission is given below:-

Conservation Measure ?/09: Fixing catch limits and related conditions for the Patagonian toothfish, red crab, orange roughy and alfonsino fisheries in the SEAFO Convention Area in 2010 and 2011.

## 1 Patagonian Toothfish

- 1.1 An annual catch limit of 200 tonnes is fixed for 2010 and 2011 in the SEAFO Convention area.
- 1.2 Each vessel shall report their catch including nil returns by electronic means to the SEAFO secretariat every 5 days of the fishing trip.

## 2. Deep sea red crab spp.

- 2.1 An annual catch limit of 200 tonnes is fixed for Sub Division B1 and 200 tonnes for the remainder of the SEAFO Convention area for 2010 and 2011.
- 2.2 Each vessel shall report their catch, including nil returns, by electronic means, to the SEAFO secretariat every 5 days of the fishing trip.

## 3. Orange roughy

3.1 An annual catch limit of zero tonnes is fixed for Sub-Division B1 and 50 tonnes for the remainder of the SEAFO CA for 2010 and 2011.

#### 4. Alfonsino

- 4.1 An annual catch limit of 200 tonnes is fixed for the SEAFO CA in 2010 and 2011.
- **5.** Each vessel shall report their catch (whole weight) for all of the above species on a set by set basis, including nil returns, by electronic means, to the SEAFO secretariat every 5 days of the fishing trip.

#### 6. Closure of Fisheries

The Executive Secretary is mandated to close the fisheries when the catch limits referred to in paragraphs 1.1 or 2.1 are deemed to be exhausted.

## 7. CPUE Data

Flag States of vessels involved in these fisheries shall provide detailed catch and effort data no later than three months before the Scientific Committee Annual Meeting in 2010 and 2011, respectively.

## 8. Compliance

Vessels identified as not complying with these provisions, as well as other relevant SEAFO Conservation and Management measures 02/05, 03/06, 04/06, 05/06 and 07/06, shall be considered to be conducting IUU fishing and be subject to listing in accordance with Conservation Measure 08/06.

# ii. Conservation Measure 05/06: On Reducing Incidental By-catch of Seabirds in the SEAFO Convention Area.

SC reviewed the current Conservation Measure 05/06 in the light of the latest CCAMLR regulations and information and advice provided by Birdlife International. The suggested revised text strengthens measures to address seabird losses in trawl gears. Recently, warp

collisions (birds colliding with warp lines) have been recognised as a significant problem in trawl fisheries. Mitigation measures have been applied in South African trawl fisheries and in the CCAMLR area.

A suggested revised text for Conservation Measure 05/06 for consideration by the Commission is given below:-

Conservation Measure 05/06: On Reducing Incidental By-catch of Seabirds in the SEAFO Convention Area.

### The Parties to the SEAFO Convention:

RECOGNISING the need to strengthen mechanisms to protect seabirds in the South-East Atlantic Ocean;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) International Plan of Action for Reducing the Incidental Catch of Seabirds in Longline Fisheries (IPOA-Seabirds);

ACKNOWLEDGING that to date some Contracting Parties have identified the need for, and have either completed or are near finalising their National Plan of Action on Seabirds:

RECOGNISING the concern that some species of seabirds, notably albatross and petrels, are threatened with global extinction;

NOTING that the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels, done at Canberra on 19 June 2001, has entered into force;

#### Have agreed as follows:

- 2. Contracting Parties shall collect and provide all available information to the Secretariat on interactions with seabirds, including incidental catches by fishing vessels, fishing for species covered by the SEAFO Convention, flagged to these Contracting Parties.
- 3. Each Contracting Party shall seek to achieve reductions in levels of seabird by-catch across all fishing areas, seasons, and fisheries through the use of effective mitigation measures.

#### Longlines

- 4. All longline vessels fishing south of the parallel of latitude 30 degrees South shall carry and use bird-scaring lines (tori poles):
  - Tori poles shall be in accordance with agreed tori pole design and deployment guidelines (provided for in Appendix A);
  - Tori poles shall be deployed prior to longlines entering the water at all times south of the parallel of latitude 30 degrees South;
  - Where practical, vessels shall be encouraged to use a second tori pole and birdscaring line at times of high bird abundance or activity;
  - Back-up tori lines shall be carried by all vessels and be ready for immediate use.
- 5. The Commission shall, upon receipt of information from the Scientific Committee, consider, and if necessary, refine, the area of application of the mitigation measures specified in paragraph 4.

- 6. Longlines shall be set at night only (i.e. during the hours of darkness between the times of nautical twilight(1). During longline fishing at night, only the minimum ship's lights necessary for safety shall be used.
- 7. The dumping of offal is prohibited while gear is being shot or set. The dumping of offal during the hauling of gear shall be avoided. Any such discharge shall take place, where possible, on the opposite side of the vessel to that where the gear is being hauled. For vessels or fisheries where there is not a requirement to retain offal on board the vessel, a system shall be implemented to remove fish hooks from offal and fish heads prior to discharge.
- 8. Contracting Party shall not authorise vessels to fish in the Convention Area which are so configured that they lack on-board processing facilities or adequate capacity to retain offal on-board, or the ability to discharge offal on the opposite side of the vessel to that where gear is being hauled.
- 9. Every effort shall be made to ensure that birds captured alive during fishing operations are released alive and that whenever possible hooks are removed without jeopardising the life of the bird concerned.

## Trawl gear

- 10. A streamer (or tori) line shall be deployed outside of both warp cables, the tori lines shall be attached to the stern at the maximum practical height above water line. Back-up tori lines shall be carried by all vessels and be ready for immediate use. Technical specifications for tori lines are given in Appendix B
- 11. The dumping of offal is prohibited while gear is being shot or set. The dumping of offal during the hauling of gear shall be avoided.
- 12. Nets shall be cleaned prior to shooting to remove items that might attract seabirds.
- 13. Vessels shall adopt shooting and hauling procedures that minimise the time that the net is lying on the surface with the meshes slack. Net maintenance shall, to the extent possible, not be carried out with the net in the water.
- 14. Each Contracting Party shall encourage their vessels to develop gear configurations that will minimise the chance of birds encountering the part of the net to which they are most vulnerable. This could include increasing the weighting or decreasing the buoyancy of the net so that it sinks faster, or placing coloured streamer or other devices over particular areas of the net where the mesh sizes create a particular danger to birds.

# Appendix A Guidelines for Design and Deployment of Longline Tori Lines

# Preamble

These guidelines are designed to assist in the preparation and implementation of tori line regulations for longline fishing vessels. While these guidelines are relatively explicit, improvement in tori line effectiveness through experimentation is encouraged. The guidelines take into account environmental and operational variables such as weather conditions, setting speed and ship size, all of which influence tori line performance and design in protecting baits from birds. Tori line design and use may change to take account of these variables provided that line performance is not compromised. Ongoing

improvement in tori line design is envisaged and consequently review of these guidelines should be undertaken in the future.

## **Tori Line Design**

- 1. The streamer line should be a minimum of 150 m in total length, be attached to the vessel at a point >7 m above the sea surface (using a pole if necessary) and tow an object (such as a length of heavy rope) at its seaward end, which creates drag and stability. These specifications are critical to achieve the desired aerial extent (100 m), the active portion of the streamer line and minimize fouling with hooklines, floats and other fishing gear.
- 2. The above water section of the line should be sufficiently light that its movement is unpredictable to avoid habituation by birds and sufficiently heavy to avoid deflection of the line by wind.
- 3. Swivels positioned at the attachment point to the vessel, the towed object and where streamers join the backbone help to avoid twisting and wear. These can also incorporate breakaway points, in the event of snags with the hook line.
- 4. Each branch streamer should consist of two or more strands and should be constructed from brightly coloured, UV-protected rubber tubing. Streamers should be spaced at intervals of less than 5 m along the streamer line backbone. Branch streamers should be long enough to reach the sea surface in calm conditions.
- 5. Each streamer pair should be detachable by means of a clip so that line stowage is more efficient.
- 6. The in-water portion of the tori line (that creates tension on the streamer line and thereby holds the aerial portion aloft) should be adjusted (e.g. increasing the length of rope) to account for slower setting speeds and to ensure the minimum aerial coverage of 100 m is maintained consistently.

## **Deployment of Tori Lines**

- 1. The line should be suspended from a pole affixed to the vessel. The tori pole should be set as high as possible so that the line protects bait a good distance astern of the vessel and will not tangle with the fishing gear. Grater pole height provides greater bait protection. For example, a height of around 6 m above the water line can give about 100 m of bait protection.
- 2. The tori line should be set so that streamers pass over baited hooks in the water.
- 3. Deployment of multiple tori lines is encouraged to provide even greater protections of baits from birds.
- 4. Because there is the potential for line breakage and tangling, spare tori lines should be carried on board to replace damaged lines and to ensure fishing operations can continue uninterrupted.
- 5. When fishers use a bait casting machine (BCM) they must ensure co-ordination of the tori line and machine by:
- a) ensuring the BCM throws directly under the tori line protection and
- b) when using a BCM that allows throwing to port and starboard, ensure that two tori lines are used.

6. Fishers are encouraged to install manual, electric of hydraulic winches to improve ease of deployment and retrieval of tori lines.

## Line weighting

- 1.Vessels using autoline systems should add weights to the hookline or use integrated weight hooklines while deploying longlines. Integrated weight (IW) longlines of a minimum of 50 g/m or attachment to non-IW longlines of 5 kg weights at 50 to 60 m intervals are recommended.
- 2. Vessels using the Spanish method of longline fishing should release weights before line tension occurs; weights of at least 8.5 kg mass shall be used, spaced at intervals of no more than 40 m, or weights of at least 6 kg mass shall be used, spaced at intervals of no more than 20 m.
- 3. Further, SEAFO recommends that longline fisheries consider the Chilean system (equivalent to CCAMLR Trotline system), which is designed to eliminate cetacean predation on demersal longlines, but simultaneously eliminates virtually all seabird bycatch. In this system, 4-10 kg weights are deployed per hookline.

## Appendix B

## **Guidelines for Design and Deployment of Trawl Tori Lines**

- 1. The main line should consist of 50 m of 9 mm line.
- 2. Streamers should be attached at 5 m intervals and be long enough to reach the water in calm conditions.
- 3. It is essential that streamers are made from semi-flexible tubing of high visibility. The recommended material is UV-protected fluorescent red polythene tubing and alternatives such as fire hose; old waterproofs and dark coloured tubing are not acceptable.
- 4. The lines should be mounted two metres outboard of the trawl blocks on both the port and starboard sides. It may be necessary to weld short extension arms to the handrail in order to achieve this distance.
- 5. Streamer lines should be deployed once the trawl doors are submerged and retrieved as net hauling commences. It is important to retrieve the streamer lines before hauling as vessels often go astern during this process, which can suck the tori lines underwater and lead to problems.
- 6. A spare streamer line should be carried and deployed in the event of loss or damage of a line.

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7. The tori lines should be deployed after shooting and retrieved prior to hauling to minimize entanglement, but should be flown during trawling.

# iii. Resolution 01/06: To Reduce Sea Turtle Mortality in SEAFO Fishing Operations.

SC reviewed this resolution and updated it on the basis of information made available. A suggested revised text for consideration by the Commission is given below:-

#### Preamble:

*Recognizing* the cultural and ecological significance of sea turtles in the Southeast Atlantic Ocean;

Recognizing that the FAO Committee on Fisheries (COFI) endorsement "Guidelines to Reduce Sea Turtle Mortality in Fishing Operations" at its Twenty-sixth Session, held in March 2005, and that these guidelines are directed towards members and non-members of FAO, fishing entities, subregional, regional and global organizations, whether governmental or non-governmental concerned with fisheries management and sustainable use of aquatic ecosystems;

Further recognizing that implementation of these guidelines should be consistent with the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries as well as with the Reykjavik Declaration on Responsible Fisheries in the Marine Ecosystem with regard to ecosystem considerations and based on the use of the best available science;

*Taking into account* the importance placed by the guidelines on research, monitoring, the sharing of information, and public education on sea turtle;

## The Contracting Parties of SEAFO resolve as follows:

- 1. Contracting Parties should, as appropriate, individually and collectively implement the FAO "Guidelines to Reduce Sea Turtle Mortality in Fishing Operations" to reduce the incidental catch of sea turtles and ensure the safe handling of all turtles that are captured.
- 2. Contracting Parties should continue to enhance the implementation of their existing turtle mitigation measures using best available scientific information on mitigation techniques.
- 3. Contracting Parties should collect and provide to the Secretariat, all available information on interactions with and by-catch of sea turtles in fisheries managed by SEAFO in the Convention area and foster collaboration with other Contracting Parties in the exchange of information in this area. The new SEAFO catch forms have provision for recording detailed by-catch data on a set-by-set basis, and these should be used at all times
- 4. SEAFO should cooperate with other regional, sub-regional and global organizations to share data on sea turtle by-catch and to develop and apply compatible by-catch reduction measures as appropriate.
- 5. Contracting Parties should continue to provide to the Secretariat a detailing of sea turtle fishery interaction/by-catch data (e.g. species identification, fate and condition at release, relevant biological information and gear configuration) collected by observers, in fisheries managed by SEAFO in the Convention Area. Observers should use the pictorial key in Appendix A (derived from the FAO field guide applying to fisheries in Namibian

waters). This information shall be compiled by the Secretariat and reported to the Scientific Committee and to the Commission.

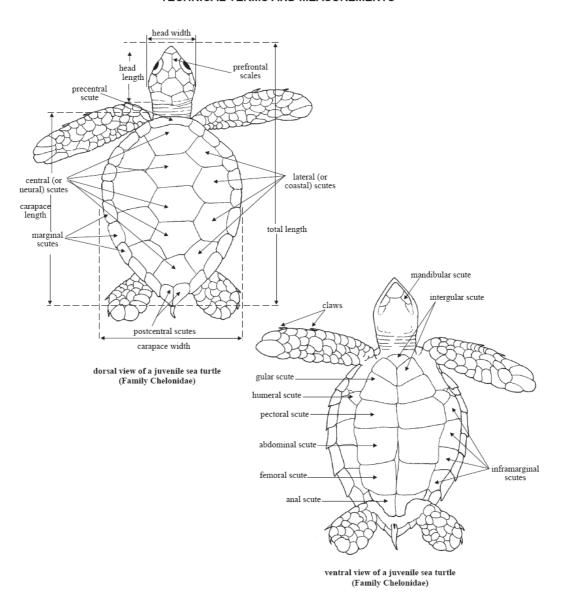
6. All information on sea turtles available to the SEAFO Secretariat will be forwarded to the FAO.

# Appendix A

# **SEA TURTLES**

Of the 8 species of sea turtles worldwide, 5 occur in Namibia. Most sea turtle species are considered endangered and are protected under an international agreement. All turtles receive total protection in Namibia. In the past they were incidentally exploited for their fresh meat, their eggs, for ornamental crafts made from their shell, and for leather from their skin. Today they are inadvertently caught in some fisheries. This guide is intended as an aid for conservationists in the management of this endangered group.

#### TECHNICAL TERMS AND MEASUREMENTS



Caretta caretta (Linnaeus, 1758)

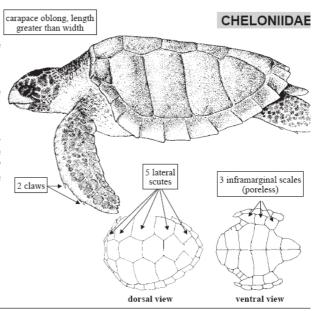
**FAO** names: **En** - Loggerhead turtle; **Fr** - Tortue caouanne; **Sp** - Caguama.

#### Local names:

Size: Mean straight carapace length of mature females between 80 and 105 cm.

Fisheries: Caught accidentally by trawlers.

Habitat and biology: Primarily in shallow waters of the continental shelf. Feeds on a wide variety of invertebrates as well as on bony fishes. It is preyed upon by sharks, at all age classes



## Chelonia mydas (Linnaeus, 1758)

**FAO** names: En - Green sea turtle; Fr - Tortue verte; Sp - Tortuga blanca.

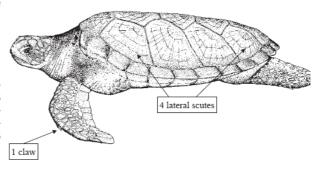
#### Local names:

Size: To 140 cm curved carapace length.

Fisheries: Caught inadvertently in trawls.

Habitat and biology: A solitary, nektonic species, sometimes forming feeding aggregations in shallow waters. Feeds, during daytime, on algae and sea grass. High predation on this species occurs at all its life stages, sharks being its worse enemies.

#### CHELONIIDAL



#### Eretmochelys imbricata (Linnaeus, 1766)

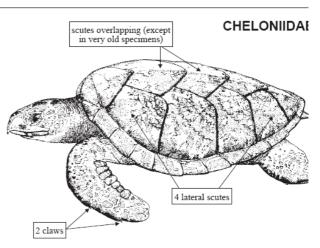
**FAO** names: En - Hawksbill sea turtle; Fr - Tortue caret; Sp - Tortuga de carey.

#### Local names:

**Size**: Adult females measure from 50 to 115 cm straight carapace length.

Fisheries: Elsewhere caught by turning the females while crawling on the beach, by spearing, entangling nets, and incidentally in trawls. This species is particularly valuable because of the scutes covering its carapace which are used in some countries in jewelry (tortoise shell), though not in Namibia.

Habitat and biology: Occur in clear littoral waters. Carnivorous, feeds on a wide variety of invertebrates. It is heavily preyed upon at all life staces.



### Lepidochelys olivacea (Eschscholtz, 1829)

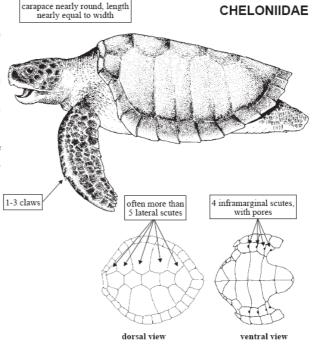
**FAO** names: En - Olive ridley turtle; Fr - Tortue olivâtre; Sp - Tortuga golfina.

#### Local names:

**Size**: Mature specimens between 50 and 75 cm straight carapace length.

Fisheries: Caught inadvertently in some fisheries

Habitat and biology: Occurs in shallow coastal waters and offshore. Feeds on a wide variety of fishes and invertebrates. Juveniles and adults are preyed upon by sharks.



#### Dermochelys coriacea (Vandelli, 1761)

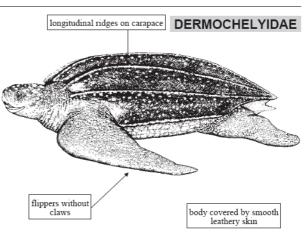
**FAO names**: **En** - Leatherback turtle; **Fr** - Tortue luth; **Sp** - Tortuga laud.

#### Local names

Size: Maximum about 270 cm carapace length.

**Fisheries**: Caught accidentally with drift nets, longines, and in trawls.

Habitat and biology: Pelagic species, approaching the coast for spawning. It feeds on jellyfish, tunicates, and other soft-bodied invertebrates with highest concentrations in the upwelling regions. Preyed upon by sharks and killer whales. Adults are able to stand temperatures as low as 10°C.



# 17. Co-operation with other organisations/science programmes • GESAMP

SC reviewed the annual report of the Joint Group of Experts on the Scientific Aspects of Marine Environmental Protection (GESAMP) and supported the initiative of Working Group 35 on deep-water fisheries. However, SC is of the view that much of the information likely to be required by this Working Group is currently available in SEAFO documents on the SEAFO website.

#### • CWP

SC reviewed the report of the 22<sup>nd</sup> session of the FAO Co-ordinating Working Party on Fisheries Statistics (Feb-Mar 2007) and noted the involvement of SEAFO through the executive secretary and expressed the view that participation should be maintained.

## • FAO Deep Sea Project

SC reviewed this program proposal and expressed a strong interest in participating and contributing to meetings and further development of the proposal.

## 18. Advice and recommendations to the Commission

As last year, the SC has identified the responsible entities to take action under each recommendation. These should not be interpreted as instructions, but are provided to facilitate responses and needs in a non-prescriptive manner.

- a. SC recommends that Conservation Measure 10/07; Fixing catch limits of crabs and toothfish be revised as follows and to include orange roughy and alfonsino:
- For Patagonian toothfish, the SC took into account the current CCAMLR Conservation Measure 41-04(2008) relating to toothfish in the northern component of CCAMLR Subarea 48.6 adjacent to SEAFO Division D. The current CCAMLR TAC for this area is 200 tonnes and SC agreed to recommend a reduction the precautionary catch limit for toothfish in SEAFO CA to 200 tonnes for 2010 and 2011.
- For deep-sea red crab spp, SC, in the absence of information on the current size of the resource and levels of fishing mortality, recommends the current precautionary catch limits be maintained in 2010 and 2011 at 200 tonnes in Sub-Division B1 and 200 tonnes in the remainder of the SEAFO CA until such time as when additional information becomes available.
- For orange roughy and alfonsino, SC is of the view that if substantial fisheries develop in the SEAFO CA it is likely that they will be for these species. Experience from other orange roughy fisheries around the world (New Zealand, west of Ireland etc) suggests that sustainable catches are of the of order of 2-3% of virgin biomass. Annual landings from the Namibian orange roughy in Sub-Division B1 peaked in 2001 at around 90t and strongly declined thereafter to very low levels, which is reflected by available LPUE data. Additionally there is currently a moratorium on fishing for orange roughy in the Namibian EEZ adjacent to Sub-Division B1. The connectivity between the populations supporting these fisheries is unknown, but it is possible that these are from the same stock. Given this, SC recommends a zero catch limit for orange roughy in Sub-Division B1 for 2010 and 2011. In view of the unknown size of any orange roughy populations that may exist in the remainder of the SEAFO CA, SC recommends a precautionary annual catch limit for 2010 and 2011 of 50 tonnes until such time as when additional information becomes available to identify sustainable fishing levels. This catch limit would prevent a strong increase in activity but permit exploratory fishing.

• Alfonsino is not a long-lived, slow-growing species but is vulnerable to fishing because fisheries mostly target aggregations. Experience in the NAFO region suggest that, as with orange roughy, fishing often takes the form of short-term "mining" which can lead to sequential depletion of populations which even for alfonsino may take 15-20 years to recover. SC recommends a precautionary annual catch limit for 2010 and 2011 of 200 tonnes for alfonsino in the SEAFO CA or until additional information becomes available to identify sustainable fishing levels.

# SC has recommended changes to the text of the Conservation Measure in a accordance with the above (see SC ToR 16i)

**ACTION: Commission** 

**b.** Conservation Measure 05/06: On reducing incidental by-catch of seabirds in the SEAFO CA, has been revised in the light of the latest CCAMLR regulations and information and advice provided by Birdlife International. The revised text also introduces measures to address seabird losses in trawl gears. Warp collisions (birds colliding with warp lines) have been recognised as a significant problem in trawl fisheries. Mitigation measures have been applied in South African trawl fisheries and in the CCAMLR area. **SC recommends that the revised measure** (see SC ToR 16ii) be adopted.

#### **ACTION: Commission**

c. SC reviewed Resolution 01/06: To Reduce Sea Turtle Mortality in SEAFO Fishing Operations and made minor revisions to the text for consideration by the Commission (see TOR 16iii). SC recommends that SEAFO catch forms be modified to record detailed by-catch data at a species level on a set-by-set basis, and these should be used at all times. SC recommends that the SEAFO Secretariat produce the Turtle identification key (see SC ToR 16iii Appendix A) in a form suitable for use at sea by observers.

#### **ACTION: Commission**

d. Regarding the development of a fishing footprint, SC reviewed data supplied by CPs and fishing parties (FPs) and a combination of JPEG maps and catch positions are currently available for only two CPs and one FP. These account for only some of the fishing activity in the SEAFO CA over the period 1987-2007. A further concern is that some of these data may relate to fishing activity for ICCAT species. The format of available data, although in compliance with Conservation Measure 12/08, were considered by SC to be unsuitable for developing a fishing footprint with similar precision to footprints developed by other RFMOs. To permit graphical representation the SC recommends the Commission consider revising the format of requested data. SC suggests that a way forward be to request actual catch position data in terms of latitude and longitude to the nearest minute.

#### **ACTION: Commission & Secretariat**

e. SC expresses concern that the interim encounter threshold for VMEs set by some RFMOs, including SEAFO, may be too high. SC reviewed alternate options for thresholds taking into consideration changes to thresholds used in the NAFO area and additional information made available from scientific investigations in progress. SC is aware that CCAMLR has developed specific thresholds for fixed gears and these and other thresholds will be reviewed by SC next year when the bottom fishing regulation is due to be reviewed by the Commission. In view of the concern, as an interim measure, SC suggests that the Commission give consideration to revising the thresholds downwards.

#### **ACTION: Commission**

f. SC notes that more comprehensive information on the spatial distribution and extent of seamount areas and their associated fauna is required for the review of closed areas scheduled for 2010. Additionally there is a need to collate information of vents, carbonate mounds and seeps in the SEAFO CA. SC recommends [1] that funds be made available to hire a consultant to compile the best available bathymetry data and to develop a detailed map of bottom topography of the SEAFO CA, and [2] SC explores the use of predictive methods to identify the possible areas where VMEs may exist.

#### **ACTION: Commission & Secretariat**

**g.** Available coral and sponge keys were evaluated and SC recommends that SEAFO adopt the Spanish ID key based on observations on the south-western African shelf and slope waters. SC recommends that the SEAFO Secretariat produce the key in a form suitable for use at sea by observers.

## **ACTION: Secretariat**

**h.** Regarding the impact of lost gear on habitat and biodiversity, SC's response to ToR 15 refers solely to the impacts mitigation and curative measures relating to abandoned, lost or otherwise discarded fishing gear (ALDFG). SC does not have sufficient information available to evaluate the effects of lost gear on habitat and biodiversity.

The only fisheries that currently pose potential ALDFG problems are longline fisheries for Patagonian toothfish and trap fisheries for deep-water red crab. It is important that fishers record the nature and location of ALDFG. SC recommends that all SEAFO fishery forms include fields for ALDFG to include gear dimensions and geographical position. In the absence of information from fishers, SC recommends that the SEAFO Secretariat carries out a consultation with SEAFO fishing nations to determine the maximum limits on the length of individual fleets/sets, soak time, and vessel gear capacity, and reports back to SC.

Gillnets are important contributors to ALDFG problems including ghost-fishing. This fishing method has been banned in the CCAMLR area and SC recommends a similar ban be applied in the SEAFO CA. However if a ban is not implemented SC recommends introducing limitations on the length of fleets, soak-times and depth of fishing. An example is those measures introduced in parts of the NE Atlantic such as the 10km limit on the maximum length of individual fleets, soak time to 72 hours.

Many of the preventative and mitigation measures regarding ALDFG problems (see SC ToR 6 item j), in the opinion of SC, are outside the Committee's expertise and SC recommends that these be considered by the SEAFO Compliance Committee.

#### **ACTION: Commission**

i. SC recommends the development of species profiles (including information of productivity and vulnerability) for the main commercially exploited species in the SEAFO CA (see SC ToR 6 item c). The profiles will be used in assessment models, management advice and ecosystem modeling.

#### **ACTION: Scientific Committee**

- j. SC reviewed the ToRs for Scientific Co-ordinators set by the Commission in 2008 and is of the view that most of the tasks described are best dealt with by the relevant data management authorities within CPs and FPs. Also some of the ToRs are already addressed by mechanisms within the SEAFO Commission, CPs and FPs. SC is of the view that the work of Scientific Co-ordinators should comprise:
  - (e) To act as the scientific focal point between SEAFO and CPs and FPs.
  - (f) Participation at SEAFO SSC and SC.
  - (g) Ensure that all available fisheries and scientific data, including historical data, is available to SSC and SC via the SEAFO Secretariat using the prescribed format.
  - (h) To encourage the provision of scientific analyses relevant to SEAFO scientific bodies.

SC is aware that not all CPs have nominated scientific co-ordinators. SC recommends that the Commission pursues this issue and includes the appointment of Scientific Co-ordinators by FPs.

#### **ACTION: Commission**

k. SC recommends full compliance with agreed scientific reporting protocols. In addition SC recommends that the Secretariat improve the SEAFO website to make catch, sampling and observer forms easily accessible.

## **ACTION: Commission**

l. SC recommends that the Secretariat invests in suitable database software that can accommodate all SEAFO data requirements. SC notes that the

operation of such a database may require additional expertise in the SEAFO Secretariat.

#### **ACTION: Commission**

m. SC expressed concern that the SEAFO species list is not extensive insofar it does not include many species that may currently be by-catch species and which in the future fisheries may target. This is of importance because many conservation measures in the SEAFO CA refer explicitly to fishing for species on the SEAFO species list (e.g. Conservation Measure 06/06 regarding closed areas). One option to resolve this issue would be to define the SEAFO species list as all those species encountered in commercial fishing operations currently not on the ICCAT species list. SC would welcome guidance on this issue from the Commission.

#### **ACTION: Commission**

n. SC notes that additional historical fisheries data exist for Ukraine and Russia (and other former Eastern-block nations), and recommends support of an offer by the FAO to collate this information.

#### **ACTION: Secretariat**

o. SC recommends that SEAFO adopt a formal protocol for referencing scientific documents and working papers. SC recommends that scientific documents be available on the SEAFO website.

#### **ACTION: Commission & Secretariat**

#### 19. 2010 work program

The 2010 work program will be developed in the remainder of 2009 and finalized in preparation for meetings in 2010.

#### 20. Budget for 2010

The meeting recommended that the Commission approve an allocation to hire a consultant to compile the best available bathymetry data and to develop a detailed map of bottom topography of the SEAFO CA. SC wish that be noted that the funding allocation for the development of a coral and sponge ID was not used this year.

SC envisages a 3-day Scientific Sub-Committee meeting and a 5-day Scientific Committee meeting in 2010. The latter will be required to enable SC to provide advice and recommendations for the reviews of closed areas and bottom fishing conservation measures (required by the Commission in 2010).

## 21. Any other matters

There were no other matters.

# 22. Adoption of the report

The report was presented and adopted by the meeting.

# 23. Date and place of the next meeting

SC agreed not to set a date and await the agreed date for the 2010 Commission meeting. SC expressed the view that scientific meetings immediately precede the annual Commission meeting, as in this and previous years. SC expressed the view that if the

Annual Commission meeting in 2010 is in Namibia, SC would wish to convene in Windhoek.

# 24. Closure of the meeting

On Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> October at 1750 hrs the Chairperson declared the closure of the meeting after all items had been concluded. In his closing remarks, the Chair expressed his satisfaction for the work accomplished and thanked all participants for their valuable contributions

#### **ANNEX I**

# Agenda for the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the SEAFO Scientific Committee

- 1. Opening and welcome remarks by the Chairperson, Mr. Phil Large
- 2. Adoption of the agenda and arrangements
- 3. Appointment of rapporteur
- 4. Introduction of participants
- 5. Introduction of observers
- 6. Report by the Chair of the Scientific Sub-Committee and comments by SC
- 7. Feedback on the SEAFO Bottom fishing/VME Workshop
- 8. Development of SEAFO fishing footprint
- 9. The South Atlantic Mar-Eco Project
- 10. The Spanish/Namibia joint survey
- 11. Review and endorsement of TXOTX questionnaire
- 12. Report back of Scientific Co-ordinators
- 13. Scientific database
- 14. SEAFO identification key for sponges and corals
- 15. Impact of lost gear on habitat and biodiversity
- 16. Review of Conservation Measures
  - (i) Conservation Measure 10/07: Fixing catch limits of crabs and toothfish
  - (ii) Conservation Measure 05/06: On reducing incidental by-catch of seabirds in the SEAFO Convention Area.
  - (iii) Resolution 01/06: To reduce sea turtle mortality in SEAFO fishing operations.
- 17. Co-operation with other organisations/science programmes
  - GESAMP
  - CWP
  - FAO Deep-sea Project
- 18. Advice and recommendations to the Commission
- 19. 2010 work program
- 20. Budget for 2010
- 21. Any other matters
- 22. Adoption of the report
- 23. Date and place of the next meeting
- 24. Closure of the meeting

1.1.4.1.1.1.1 Annex II

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## REPORT OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE OF SEAFO SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

#### 21 - 25 SEPTEMBER 2009

# NATMIRC SWAKOPMUND, NAMIBIA

#### 1. INTRODUCTION

As recommended by the Scientific Committee (SC), the Commission decided during its 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting in 2006 to establish a Sub-Committee of the SC. The main objective of the Scientific Sub-Committee (SSC) is to carry out, among others, the analyses of existing fisheries data within the SEAFO Convention Area (CA).

The meeting in 2009 took place at NATMIRC in Swakopmund, Namibia from 21 to 25 September, and was chaired by Kumbi Kilongo (Angola). The meeting was attended by 8 scientists from Angola, EU (Spain and UK) and Namibia. One observer from Japan was also present. A list of participants is given in Annex II.

#### 2. WORKING PROCEDURE

The Chairperson opened the meeting by welcoming all the participants. The agenda (Annex I) was adopted after the SSC decided to work as a single group. SSC agreed to work from 08:30hrs to 17:00hrs each day. The Chair presented terms of reference (listed below) after which the meeting agreed on the working procedure. The first two days were spent on reviewing the existing data, identifying gaps as well as addressing the terms of reference. Specific assignments on data review and analyses were allocated to participants and reported back to the Group.

### Terms of Reference for the Scientific Sub-committee

- a. Source, analyse and compile catch and CPUE data for the main fish stocks (e.g. orange roughy, alfonsino, armourhead, deep sea red crab, Patagonian toothfish) in terms of quantity and geographical positions for the SEAFO region using all existing information including observer and VMS data
- b. Evaluate trends in the total catches and where possible CPUE for the stocks as outlined under point (a), and undertake stock assessments when appropriate.
- c. Evaluate and suggest reference points for deep-sea fish resources.
- d. Review of sampling/reporting protocols and requirements including fish identification keys.
- e. Complete FIRMS information fisheries sheets.
- f. Examine, where appropriate, assessments and research done by neighbouring assessment and management organisations (such as BCLME/BCC, CCAMLR, GCLME, ICCAT, SWIOFC).
- g. Review the distribution of reported catches of benthic organisms (corals, sponges etc.).
- h. Undertake review of submitted SEAFO research documents.
- i. Review historical fisheries data
- j. Make recommendations on lost fishing gear to SC
- k. Complete TXOTX questionnaire

#### 3. ADDRESSING THE TERMS OF REFERENCE

The terms of reference are addressed below in the same order as they appear above.

a.

b. Source, analyse and compile catch and CPUE data for the main fish stocks (e.g. orange roughy, alfonsino, armourhead, deep sea red crab, Patagonian toothfish) in terms of quantity and geographical positions for the SEAFO region using all existing information including observer and VMS data

The quality and quantity of data have improved in the last two years. Historically there was no distinction between landings and catches, however discard information was available for the two longline vessels fishing up to date in 2009. There is also a general lack of fishing effort and biological (length, sex ratio, and maturity) data.

For 2009, detailed catch positions for the crab fishery were not reported as specified in the new SEAFO logsheets and also no length frequency data were received. In contrast, the longline fishery provided relatively comprehensive data.

Historically, the following countries are known to have been fishing in the SEAFO Area viz. Spain, Portugal, Russia, Cyprus, Mauritius, Japan, Korea, Poland, Norway, South Africa and Namibia. In 2009, the only countries that have provided landings data for the SEAFO Area were Japan and Korea. VMS data suggest that these vessels were the only ones fishing for SEAFO species in the SEAFO CA.

Landings analyses were made on the most recent landings statistics provided to the Secretariat. The amount of Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing in the Area is unknown.

## **EU** (Spain):

Landings data were provided for the years 2001-2007. No landings were made in 2008 and 2009. Apart from 2006, catch positions were not provided. The reported species composition changed from year to year. From 2001 to 2003, landings were small with the exception of around 100 tonnes of Patagonian toothfish (*Dissostichus eleginoides*). In 2006, landings comprised 11 tonnes of toothfish, and, in 2005, 72 tonnes of alfonsino (*Beryx*)

spp.). In both years landings were by a single Spanish vessel. Fishing effort, discard and biological information (length data, sex ratios, maturity) was not available for all years.

#### **EU (Portugal):**

Landings data were provided for 2004 to 2007. No landings were made in 2008 and 2009. Data for 2007 includes landings from an exploratory trap survey, part of which was in the SEAFO Area. Catch positions, discard, fishing effort and biological data (length data, sex ratios, maturity) were not provided. Wreckfish (*Polyprion americanus*) landings of 0.5 tonnes were recorded in 2004, 6 tonnes in 2005 and 9 tonnes in 2007.

## Japan:

Landings data were provided from 2005 to 2009 to date (Table 2&5). Crab landings for 2007 have been revised from 509 to 770 tonnes. The total landings for 2009 were 170 tonnes of red crab. Landings records for 2009 were not fully compliant with the new SEAFO format.

#### Republic of Korea:

Landings data were provided from 2005 to 2009 to date (Table 2). The total landings for 2009 were 62 tonnes of toothfish. Landings records for 2009 were compliant with the new SEAFO format.

#### Namibia:

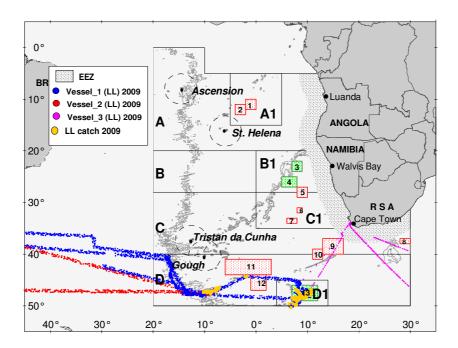
Landings data were provided from 1995 to 2007. No landings were made in 2008 and 2009.

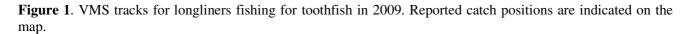
#### **Other Countries:**

Landings data for other countries are summarised in the various tables. No data for recent years are available. Whether this is the result of no fishing is unknown.

#### VMS data

The Scientific Sub-Committee was again in a position to present a summary of available VMS data for vessels fishing for SEAFO species. These data are available from 2007, but only data for 2009 are presented here (Figures 1&2) and have been anonymised so that Contracting Parties and individual vessels cannot be identified.





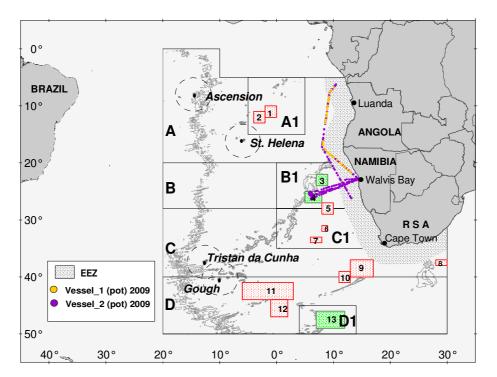


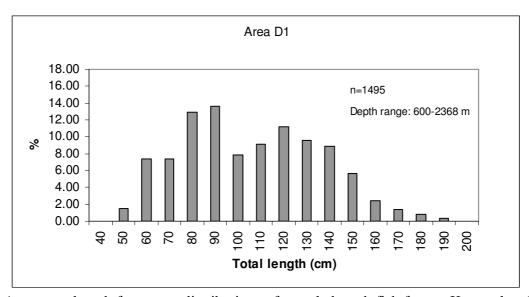
Figure 2. VMS tracks for vessels fishing for crab in 2009. No detailed catch positions were reported.

It has not been possible to exclude VMS signals when vessels are steaming so transit tracks are present in the plots. However, these vessels are using static gears and from scrutinising areas of intense VMS activity it is possible to identify likely fishing activity.

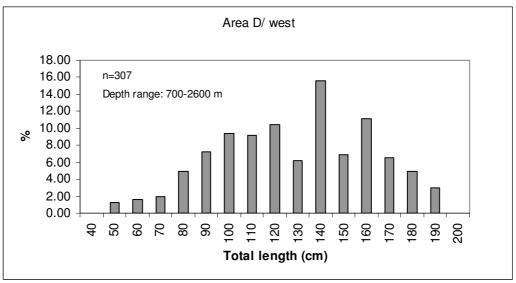
There was no evidence of fishing activity in closed areas during 2009 to date.

# 1.1.4.1.1.1.1.1Biological data

Figures 3 & 4 present length frequency distributions of toothfish landings from Korean longline vessels fishing in the SEAFO area in 2009. The data suggest that the fish caught in the western part of area D were larger than those caught in D1.



**Figure 3**. Aggregate length frequency distributions of sampled tooth fish from a Korean longline vessel fishing in area D1 in 2009.



**Figure 4**. Aggregate length frequency distributions of sampled toothfish from two Korean longline vessels fishing in the western part of D in 2009.

There were no biological data available from the crab fishery.

# b, Evaluate trends in the total catches and where possible CPUE for the stocks as outlined under point (a), and undertake stock assessments when appropriate.

Currently the commercially most important species in the SEAFO Area are Patagonian toothfish and deep-sea red crabs. The main species/groups in the SEAFO species list are given in Table 1. This list has been revised this year to include spiny dogfish (*Squalus acanthias*) and six named species of deep-sea sharks. It is likely that other species of deep-sea sharks are distributed in the SEAFO CA, however no information is available as yet for substantial areas of the CA.

Table 1. Some main species/groups in the revised SEAFO species List.

FAO 3 Alfa	Species	Latin Name	Transboundary
Code			
TOP	Patagonian toothfish	1.1.5 Dissostichus eleginoides	1.1.6 Yes
ORY	Orange Roughy	Hoplosthethus spp	Unknown
ALF	Alfonsino	Family Berycidae	Unknown
CGE	Deep-sea Red Crab	Chaceon maritae	Unknown
MAC	Mackerel	Scomber scombrus	Unknown
EDR	Armourhead	Pseudopentaceros spp.	Unknown
BOC	Boarfish	Capros aper	Unknown
ORD	Oreo dories	Family Oreosomatidae	Unknown
CDL	Cardinal Fish	Epigonus spp.	Unknown
OCZ	Octopus	Family Octopodidae	Unknown
SQC	Squid	Family Loliginidae	Unknown
WRF	Wreckfish	1.1.7 Polyprion americanus	1.1.8 Unknown
SKA	Skates	Family Rajidae	Unknown
DGS	Spiny Dogfish	Squalus acanthias	Unknown
ЕТВ	Blurred smooth lanternshark	Etmopterus bigelowi	Unknown
ЕТН	Shorttail lanternshark	Etmopterus brachyurus	Unknown
ETR	Great lanternshark	Etmopterus princeps	Unknown
ETP	Smooth lanternshark	Etmopterus pusillus	Unknown
APA	Ghost catshark	Apristurus manis	Unknown
SSQ	Velvet dogfish	Scymnodon squamulosus	Unknown
SKH	Other sharks (deep-sea)	Order Selachomorpha	Unknown

Catch statistics for the SEAFO Area are incomplete. A table with the available data from 1995 to 1998 was listed in the report of the 1<sup>st</sup> annual meeting of the commission (2004), Appendix III (Table II). These data were based on a report by Japp (1999).

Landings for the four main species are listed by country in Tables 2-5, as well as fishing method and management Area in which the catch was taken. Tables 6-8, list the bycatch species.

Some data were derived from the "1975-2005 FAO Southeast Atlantic capture production database" and added to the tables on landings. These are printed in bold. Only data from the oceanic divisions and for SEAFO species were taken into consideration.

**Table 2**: Landings in tonnes of Patagonian toothfish by Spain, Japan and Rep. of Korea (values in bold are from FAO).

	Patagonian					
Main species	toothfish					
Management Area	D		D		D	
	1					
Nations	Spain		Japan		Korea	
Fishing method	Longline		Longline		Longline	
	Catches (t) (whole weight)	Effort (1000 hooks)	Catches (t) (whole weight)	Effort (1000 hooks)	Catches (t) (whole weight)	Effort (1000 hooks)
1976						
1977						
1978						
1993						
1994						
1995						
1996						
1997						
1998						
1999						
2000						
2001						
2002	18.28	213.96				
2003	100.54 (14.13)	(134.94)			245.19	
2004	6.12	313.12				
2005			72.65		10	
2006	11.08	204.48	157			
2007			15.76			
2008			83.79 (75.10)	(618.07)	75.65	1313.6
2009 up to May					62.44	1036.6

<sup>()</sup> Partial effort data refers to partial catch in brackets

**Table 3:** Landings (tonnes) of orange roughy made by Namibia, Norway and RSA. Values in italics are taken from the Japp (1999).

1.1.8.1 Main						
species	Orange roughy					
Management Area			B1?			
Nations	Namibia	Norway	RSA			
Fishing method	Bottom trawl	Bottom trawl	Bottom trawl			
1976						
1977						
1978						
1993						
1994						
1995	40.3	No fishing	1.18			
1996	7.9	No fishing	0.04			
1997	5.2	22	27.30*			
1998	No fishing	12				
1999	0.3	No fishing				
2000	74.6	0				
2001	93.9	No fishing				
2002	9.0	No fishing				
2003	27.4	No fishing				
2004	14.7	No fishing				
2005	18.1	No fishing				
2006	No fishing	No fishing				
2007	No fishing	No fishing				
2008	No fishing	No fishing				
2009 up to May	No fishing	No fishing				

<sup>\*</sup>Sum of landings from 1993 to 1997

**Tables 4a, b** (below): Landings (tonnes) of alfonsino made by various countries. Values in italics are taken from the Japp (1999). Values in bold are from FAO.

	Alfonsino				
3.5	(Beryx				
Main species	spp.)				
Management					
Area	B1	A1	Unknown	_	
Nations	Namibia	Norway	Russia	Portugal	Ukraine
Fishing	Bottom	Bottom	Bottom		
method	trawl	trawl	trawl		
1976			252		
1977			2972		
1978			125		
1993					172
1994					
1995	1.2	No fishing	7		
1996	368	No fishing	7		747
1997	208	836	2800		392
1998	No fishing	1066	69		
1999	0.60	No fishing	7	3	
2000	0.05	242		1	
2001	0.63	No fishing	5	7	
2002	0.00	No fishing	7	1	
2003	0.00	No fishing	7	5	
2004	6.45	No fishing	210.44		
2005	0.71	No fishing	-		
2006		No fishing		0.3	
2007		No fishing			
2008		No fishing			
2009 up to	0		•		
May		No fishing	5		

	Alfonsin	<u> </u>				
Main species	o (contd	)				
Management Area	Spain	Pola	Unknown Cook	Unknown	Unknown	B1?
Nations	1	nd	Island	Mauritius	Cyprus	RSA
Fishing	MWT		Bottom		Bottom	Bottom
method	/BLL		trawl	trawl	trawl	trawl
Catches						
1976						
1977						
1978						
1993						
1994						
1995		1964				59.705
1996						109.181
1997	186					124
1998	402					
1999						
2000						
2001	1.96					
2002						
2003	2.34					
2004	4.16		141.55	114.88	436.97	
2005	72.34					
2006						
2007						
2008						
2009 up to	o					
May						

Table 5. Landings (tonnes) of deep-sea red crab made by Namibia and Japan.

Management Area	Seafo CA	<b>B</b> 1		A
Nations	Japan	Namibia	Spain	Portugal
Fishing method	Pots	Pots	Pots	Pots
Landings				
1976				
1977				
1978				
1993				
1994				
1995				
1996				
1997				
1998				
1999				
2000				
2001			0.07	
2002				
2003			5.10	
2004			23.84	
2005	234.34	54.33		
2006	390			
2007	770.46	4.1		35
2008	38.99			
2009 (Jan-Mar)	169.87*			

<sup>\*</sup>VMS data suggests catches were made in B1

**Table 6.** Landings (tonnes) of armourhead. Values in italics are taken from the Japp (1999). Values in bold are from FAO

Bycatch species	Armourh	nead				
Management						
Area	<b>B1</b>	<b>B</b> 1	Unknown	<b>B</b> 1	<b>B</b> 1	Unknown
Nations	Namibia	Russia	Ukraine	RSA	Spain	Cyprus
Fishing method	P travel	P troval	R troyal	B. trawl	B. trawl &	B. trawl
Catches	D. Hawi	D. Hawi	D. Hawi	D. Hawi	longline	D. Hawi
1976		108				
1977		1273				
1978		53				
1993		1000	435			
1994		1000	433			
1995	3		49	529.581		
1996	212		281	201.184		
1997	546		18	12		
1998	340		10	12		
1999						
2000						
2001						
2002						
2003						
2004						22
2005						
2006						
2007						
2008						
2009 up to May						

 Table 7: Landings (tonnes) of boarfish and oreo dories.

By-catch species	Boarfish		-		Oreo dories
Management Area Nations Fishing method	Russia	Cyprus	Mauritius		Namibia Bottom trawling
1.1.8.2 <b>Landings</b>					
1976					
1977					
1978					
1993					
1994					
1995				5.36	0.459
1996				71.67	0
1997				12.784	35.21
1998				No fishing	No fishing
1999				0	3.17
2000				79.19	32.853
2001				20.115	13.642
2002				0	0.5
2003				0	0.95
2004	0.081	21.312	25.164	4.4	0
2005				0	3.79
2006					
2007					
2008					
2009 up to May					

 Table 8. Landings (tonnes) of wreckfish.

Management Area Nations Fishing method	1.1.8.3 A Portugal Longline
Landings (bycatch)	
1996	
1997	
1998	
1999	
2000	
2001	
2002	
2003	
2004	0.5
2005	
2006	6
2007	9
2008	
2009 up to May	

# Orange roughy

The following text is unchanged from last year (there were no landings for orange roughy recorded during 2008 and 2009), and is included as Orange roughy is the only species in the SEAFO CA for which an abundance index is available.

To date, only the Namibian orange roughy dataset for Sub-Division B1 provided enough information to attempt to analyse trends. The fishery started in 1995, did not fish in 1998, but continued until 2005. During these 9 years, 7 Namibian vessels (Table 9) were fishing in the SEAFO Area for orange roughy and in total 1270 trawls were made and about 1000 tonnes of deep-sea species were landed. A total of 290 tonnes of orange roughy and 303 tonnes of alfonsino were landed over this time period. The total annual effort in number of trawls and the total number of deep-sea fish (orange roughy, alfonsino, boarfish, oreo dory, and cardinal fish) landed is illustrated in Table 10. The LPUE was the highest in 1995 and thereafter decreased rapidly to reach the lowest LPUE in 1999. Since then the LPUE seems to have stabilized at a low level (Figures 5 and 6).

**Table 9**. Orange roughy/alfonsino: Fleet information, Sub-Division B1.

Flag	ID	Name	Length	GRT	Built	HP	IRCS
Nam	L737	Southern	54		01/01/1974	3000	V5SH
		Aquarius					
Nam	L913	Emanguluko	31	483.00	01/01/1990	1850	V5SD
Nam	L892	Petersen	43	650.00	01/01/1979		V5RG
Nam	L861	Will Watch	69	1587.00	01/01/1972	2116	ZMWW
Nam	L918	Hurinis	37	784.00	01/01/1987	1680	V5SW
Maur	L1159	Bell Ocean II	57	1899.00	01/01/1990	3342	3BLG
Nam	L830	Seaflower	92	3179.75	01/01/1972	4800	V5HO

**Table 10**. Number of trawls made per year and the total landings of deep-sea species taken by the orange roughy fleet in Sub-Division B1.

	No	of Landings
	trawls	<b>(t)</b>
1995	20	47
1996	223	340
1997	188	110
1999	16	4
2000	327	196
2001	295	130
2002	40	10
2003	63	32
2004	46	28
2005	61	40
2006	0	0
Total	1279	937

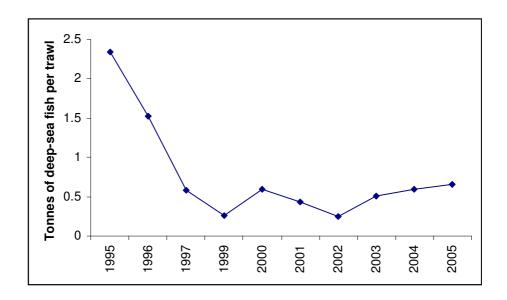


Figure 5. CPUE for the total deep-sea catch (all species) per trawl from 1995 to 2005 in Sub-Division B1.

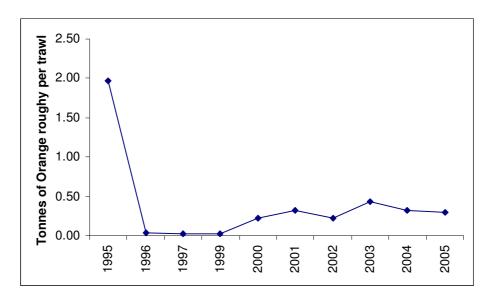


Figure 6. CPUE of orange roughy in tonnes per trawl in Sub-Division B1.

#### **Stock Assessments**

In view of the lack of data, stock assessments cannot be attempted now and in the foreseeable future.

# c. Evaluate and suggest reference points for deep-sea fish resources.

In 2007 the SSC agreed to categorise the commercially most important species in the SEAFO Convention Area into two categories (A and B) on the basis of available information of life history characteristics, perceived vulnerability to fishing and the fishing gear used. SSC in 2008 reviewed this information and revised the vulnerability to fishing of toothfish, wreck fish and red crab from low to high. In 2009 the SSC has made a minor revision to the estimated longevity of deepsea crab. Table 11 shows life history characteristics and revised vulnerability to fishing of commercially important species.

**Table 11**. Major life history characteristics and vulnerability to fishing for commercially most important species in the SEAFO Area (mostly using data presented in SEAFO 2006 Scientific Committee Report).

Species	Longevity (circa)	Growth rate	Aggregation s	Vulnerability To fishing	Bottom fishing gears
Orange roughy	150 years	Very slow	Yes	High	Trawl
Oreo dories	150 years	Very slow	Yes	High	Trawl
Alfonsino	17 years	Moderate	Yes	High	trawl/gill nets
Armourhead	14 years	Moderate	yes, in adult phase	High – but low fishing activity	trawl/gill nets
Patagonian toothfish	45 years	Slow	No	High	Longline
Cardinal fish	100 years	Very slow	Yes	High – but low fishing activity	Trawl
Wreckfish	80 years	Slow	No	High	Longline
Deep-sea red crab spp.	15-20 years	Slow	Only sporadically	High	Traps

Category A - considered to be long-lived, slow-growing and vulnerable to fishing

Orange roughy (Hoplostethus atlanticus)

Oreo dories (*Oreosomatidae* spp)

Alfonsino<sup>1</sup> (Beryx splendens)

Patagonian toothfish (Dissostichus eleginoides)

Wreckfish (*Polyprion americanus*)

Deep-sea red crab (*Chaceon* spp)

Cardinal fish (*Epigonus* spp)

Armourhead (Pseudopentaceros richardsoni)

**Category B** - considered to be moderate/short lived, faster-growing and less vulnerable to fishing. No SEAFO species are currently classified in Category B.

SEAFO SCR Doc 01/2009 (reviewed under SSC ToR h) describes a method (Cheung et. al., 2005 and 2007; Musick, 1999) to identify the productivity and vulnerability of individual species using data currently available.

Previously the Sub-Committee has attempted to identify reference points for all species. The only data available for use were LPUE data and these were sparse for most species and were considered unreliable especially where species were taken as bycatch. This situation remains unchanged.

<sup>1</sup> Although not long-lived or slow growing, alfonsino was placed in category A because fisheries on this species are mainly on aggregations associated with seamounts and historical data suggests that large catches have been taken and that these aggregations may have been fished out.

Previously it was agreed that an alternative option was to set catch thresholds and this SSC recommended that this approach again be used this year.

# d. Review of sampling/reporting protocols and requirements including fish identification keys.

Last year SEAFO introduced mandatory sampling forms for catches and other fishing details (including discards/benthos/seabirds/mammals) to be recorded by observers and also an observer summary form. These forms were based on CCAMLR protocols.

In 2009 these protocols have been followed in the toothfish fishery however a number of issues need to be addressed in the red crab fishery. Vessels fishing in the crab fishery have changed the format of the crab fishery forms, have not included detailed spatial catch and effort data and have not provided biological sampling information. Some summarised biological and coarse spatial information were included in the observer summary report, however the required format for this report was not followed. Identification keys are not yet in place for both fish and benthos (e.g. corals, sponges etc.). The latter will be addressed at the forthcoming SEAFO VME workshop.

# e. Complete FIRMS information fisheries sheets

The Sub-Committee updated the FIRMS stock inventories in accordance with FAO request.

f. Examine where appropriate assessment and research done by neighbouring assessment and management organization (such as BCLME/BCC, CCAMLR, GCLME, ICCAT, SWIOFC)

No assessments and results were received during this year.

# g. Reviewing the Distribution of Reported Catches of Benthic Organisms (corals, sponges etc.)

A second joint Spanish-Namibian survey was conducted in February/March 2009 on the Ewing seamount and Valdivia Bank to complete the work developed in 2008. It is expected that the combined results will be available in 2010.

The preliminary results from the survey in 2008 were summarised by SSC in the 2008 SSC report.

# h. Undertake review of the Submitted SEAFO Research Documents

SSC reviewed a working document (SEAFO WD 01/09) describing a part of the Portuguese fleet operating in the SEAFO area from 1998 to 2006 (Figueiredo and Moura, 2009). A summary of the abstract is given below.

"The SEAFO area has been commercially exploited by several countries but the information on the fisheries is sparse. Portugal has carried out commercial fishing activities in the SEAFO Convention Area and this paper summarizes the component of the fleet that fished mainly on the Vema Seamount (SEAFO Sub-Division C1). These fisheries are data poor and the information provided should be treated with caution".

SSC reviewed SRC Doc 01/09 entitled "Species profile proposal for the scientific bodies of SEAFO (López-Abellán, Figueiredo and Sarralde, 2009)".

"Some regional organisations similar to SEAFO have promoted and adopted the creation of templates for compiling and summarising the best information about fisheries and species within their management areas (e.g. CCAMLR, South Pacific RFMO). The aim of this species profile is to compile a document with the best available information about: i) the biology, ecology, productivity, vulnerability and population dynamics of the main species; ii) fisheries data; iii) factors or events affecting both the species and their environment; and iv) the evolution of their fisheries in the regional management area. The profiles provide a useful basis to update and extract key information related to the target species that could be used in assessment models, management advice and ecosystem modelling. Following the original model of standard template adopted by the South Pacific RFMO after several arrangements and simplifications, this paper presents a proposal to be analysed within SEAFO in

order to consider its suitability and the possibility of adoption. This proposal includes a species profile template which contains explanatory text to help to complete it, and two incomplete species profiles as examples."

SSC also received (1) a draft of a proposed Census of Marine Life initiative entitled "Patterns and Processes of the Ecosystems of the Southern Mid-Atlantic" and (2) an activities report of the joint Spanish-Namibian multi-disciplinary research cruise on the Walvis Ridge seamounts. These documents will be addressed by the SC.

#### i. Review historical fisheries data

Historical data were reviewed by SSC and updates made where necessary (changes are indicated in the text). SSC is of the opinion that historical data are now updated up to 2008 with all data currently available. The organisation of data within the SEAFO Secretariat is problematic because of the lack of a functional database.

#### j. Make recommendations on lost fishing gear to SC.

Much of the information presented below is a summary a *UNEP Regional Seas Reports and Studies*, No. 185; *FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Technical Paper*, No. 523 (Macfadyen *et al*, 2009).

Abandoned, lost or otherwise discarded fishing gear (ALDFG) is a problem that is increasingly of concern. Various United Nations General Assembly resolutions now provide a mandate for and require action to reduce ALDFG and marine debris in general (FAO Tech. Paper No. 523).

The impacts of ALDFG include: continued catching of target and non-target species (such as turtles, seabirds and marine mammals); alterations to the benthic environment; navigational hazards; beach debris/litter; introduction of synthetic material into the marine food web; introduction of alien species transported by ALDFG; and a variety of costs related to clean-up operations and impacts on business activities. In general, gillnets and pots/traps are the fishing gears most likely to "ghost fish" while other gear, such as trawls and longlines, are more likely to cause entanglement of marine organisms, including protected species such as corals, and habitat damage.

The factors which cause fishing gear to be abandoned, lost or otherwise discarded are numerous and include: adverse weather; operational fishing factors including the cost of gear retrieval; gear conflicts; illegal, unregulated and unreported (IUU) fishing; vandalism/theft; and access to and cost and availability of shoreside collection facilities. Weather, operational fishing factors and gear conflicts are probably the most significant factors, but the causes of ALDFG accumulation are poorly documented and not well understood.

#### Gillnet/tangle nets

Gillnetting/tangle netting, defined as fishing with nets in which all or a substantial part of the catch is retained by becoming enmeshed in one or more meshes (Potter and Pawson, 1991), is a fishing method attractive to fishers because, as a passive gear, gillnet use is fuel-efficient (Millner, 1985) and has less impact on the seabed and benthic organisms than active fishing methods such as trawling (Morgan and Chuenpagdee, 2003). Also, and depending on the mesh size used, gillnets can be highly selective and have little impact on small and juvenile fish (Millner, 1985). However, if gillnets are lost, discarded or abandoned, they can have a harmful effect on the marine environment by continuing to "ghost fish", defined as causing mortality of fish and other taxa after all control of the fishing gear is lost by a fisher (Brown and Macfadyen, 2007).

Research into ghost fishing in European waters indicated that ghost fishing in water shallower than 200 m was not a significant problem because lost, discarded and abandoned nets have a limited fishing life owing to their high rate of biofouling and, in some areas, their tangling by tidal scouring (Carr *et al.*, 1992; Erzini *et al.*, 1997; Pawson, 2003; Revill and Dunlin, 2003). No notable long-term research has been conducted on the effect of ghost fishing in deeper water (Davies *et al.*, 2007), but nets lost there are expected to stabilize to approximately 20% of the initial catch after 45 days (Humborstad *et al.*, 2003),

though may continue to "fish" for periods of at least 2–3 years and perhaps even longer (Furevik and Fosseidengen, 2000), largely as a result of lower rates of biofouling and tidal scouring in deep water.

Other than damage to coral reefs, effects on habitat by gillnets are thought to be minimal (ICES, 1991, 1995; Stephan *et al.*, 2000). The impact of lost gillnets on coral reefs can be more severe. Al-Jufaili n*et al.* (1999) found that ALD nets affected coral reefs at 49 percent of sites surveyed throughout the Sultanate of Oman and accounted for 70 percent of all severe human impacts. Donohue *et al.* (2001) have confirmed the threat of ALDFG to the coral reefs

of the northwestern Hawaiian Islands, where derelict fishing gear is threatening coral reef ecosystems by abrading and scouring living coral polyps and altering reef structure

#### Pots and traps

ALDFG pots and traps can also ghost fish. As they are usually baited when they are set, if the pot is lost, over time the bait attracts scavengers, some of which are commercially important species. These scavengers may become entrapped and subsequently die, forming new bait for other scavengers. Entrapped animals may escape over time. Animals captured in ALDFG traps die from starvation, cannibalism, infection, disease, or prolonged exposure to poor water quality (i.e. low dissolved oxygen) (Van Engel, 1982; Guillory, 1993). The continued fishing by ALDFG pots was evaluated experimentally by Bullimore *et al.* (2001). A fleet of 12 pots were set in a manner to simulate ghost fishing, off the coast of Wales, United Kingdom. The original bait was consumed within 28 days of deployment yet the pots continued to fish, mainly for spider crab (*M. squinado*) and brown crab (*Cancer pagurus*).

The catch declined over time, reaching a minimum between nine and ten months. The actual mortality of crustaceans was difficult to estimate, as some were able to escape and the pots were not under continual observation.

In general, traps are often advocated on an environmental basis for having a lesser impact on habitat than mobile fishing gear such as trawls and dredges (Rogers *et al.*, 1998; Hamilton, 2000; Barnette, 2001). The potential physical impacts of ALD traps depend upon the type of habitat and the occurrence of these habitats relative to the distribution of traps (Guillory, 2001). In general, sand- and mud-bottom habitats are less affected by crab and lobster traps than sensitive bottom habitats such as submergent aquatic vegetation beds or non-vegetated live bottom (stony corals, gorgonians, sponges) (Barnette, 2001). ALD traps, while individually occupying a small area, may impact benthic flora because of their large number and potential smothering effect (Guillory, 2001). A study of the impact of ALD traps and other fishing gear on the Florida Keys (Chiappone *et al.*, 2002) indicated that 64% of the stony corals were impacted, 22% of the gorgonians impacted and 29% of the sponges impacted.

#### **Trawls**

For trawl gear, the larger diameter synthetic multifilament twine common to trawl nets is the key factor that reduces ghost fishing mortality in lost gear. The material has a larger diameter than gillnet monofilament and is visible or of such a size that it can be sensed by the fish. Although lost trawl gear will often be suspended by floats and form a curtain that rises well above the bottom, many of the losses form additional habitat for such organisms as ocean pout, wolfish and cod, and substrate for attaching benthic invertebrates such as hydroids and sea anemone, again reducing their capacity to continue fishing (Carr and Harris, 1994).

### Longlines

The mortality rate from lost demersal longlines is usually low (ICES, 2000; Huse *et al.*, 2002). Such lost gear may persist in the environment, however, when it is constructed

of monofilament. Lost longline gear may continue to catch fish as long as bait exists on the hooks. Fish caught on the hooks may themselves become a form of bait for subsequent fish, both target and non-

target. ALD longlines will not stop fishing until all of the hooks are bare. The extent to which this occurs and its effects on community structure have not been analysed (NOAA, 2004).

While it is an important commercial gear, hook and line is also used by a large number of recreational and subsistence fishers, and therefore losses, especially within shallow inshore waters, may be very high. This of relevance in the SEAFO area as some seamount peaks has water depths of < 50m. In the Florida Keys, Chiappone *et al.* (2002) reported that the debris type causing the greatest degree of damage was hook and line gear (68%), especially monofilament line (58%), and that it accounted for the majority of damage to branching gorgonians (69%), fire coral (83%), sponges (64 percent), and colonial zoanthids (77%).

In studies of the impact of fishing on the coldwater corals of the northeast Atlantic, although lost longlines were observed on video surveys of coral areas, no evidence of actual damage to reefs was found, although it was supposed that coral branches might be broken off during the retrieval of longlines (ICES, 2002).

#### Effects of ALDFG on the marine environment

The longer-term fate of lost fishing gear is unclear. Modern plastics can last up to 600 years in the marine environment, depending upon water conditions, ultraviolet light penetration and the level of physical abrasion. Furthermore, the impact of microscopic plastic fragments and fibers, the result of the degradation of larger items, is not known.

#### **Review of measures to reduce ALDFG**

Measures to address ALDFG can be broadly divided between measures that *prevent* (avoiding the occurrence of ALDFG in the environment); *mitigate* (reducing the impact of ALDFG in the nenvironment) and *cure* (removing ALDFG from the environment). The examples presented also illustrate that many of these measures can be applied at a variety of levels (internationally, nationally, regionally, locally) and through a variety of mechanisms from legal requirement through to voluntary schemes.

#### Preventative measures

#### Gear marking

FAO Guidelines set out the marking system and the responsibilities of owners of gear and fisheries authorities. They also cover the recovery of lost and abandoned gear, salvage and the role of gear manufacturers. In addition liabilities, penalties and control are discussed. (FAO Fisheries Report No. 485, 1991). Following the expert consultation, FAO produced a set of technical recommendations for the marking of fishing gear (FAO Fisheries Report No. 485 Supplement, 1993) with regard to a standardized system for the type and location of unique identifying marks on tags for each gear type as well as rules to be observed in marking gear so that its presence and extent is obvious to other seafarers. In 1994, at an expert consultation on the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fishing.

The experts offered, *inter alia*, the following solutions:

- reporting of all lost gear in terms of numbers and location to national management entities. Industry and government should consider efforts and means to recover ghost fishing gear; and
- Regulatory framework to deal with violators.

They recommended that:

• all fishing gear should be marked, as appropriate, in such a way so as to uniquely identify the ownership of the gear.

At the RFMO level, CCAMLR has an active programme to combat marine debris, including debris from fishing activities such as large-scale trawl fisheries for krill and longline fishing for Patagonian toothfish (NRC, 2008). Conservation Measure 10-01 on the Marking of Fishing Gear requires all fishing gear such as pots, marker buoys and floats to be marked with the vessel name, call sign and flag state. ICCAT does not have measures concerning ALD fishing gear, but Contracting Parties have to ensure that fishing gear is marked in accordance with generally accepted standards. Some nations have, however, already introduced gear marking requirements with explicit recognition of ALDFG issues. The Republic of Korea introduced a gear-marking initiative in 2006 as part of its National Integrated Management Strategy for Marine Litter. In 2006, the EC introduced regulations requiring the marking of passive gears (static longlines, gillnets and trammel nets) and beam trawls with the vessels' port licence number as a clear identifier.

This applies to all vessels fishing this gear in Community waters outside of member state territorial waters (EC, 2006). However, worldwide there are few examples of requirements for gear marking intended to address the problem of ALDFG, i.e. marking to prohibit the deliberate abandonment of gear through enabling identification of ownership.

#### On-board technology to avoid or locate gear

The increasing use of GPS and sea-bed mapping technology by fishing vessels affords benefits in terms of both reducing initial loss and improving the location and subsequent recovery of lost gear. With improvements in sea-bed imaging technology, some mobile gear can be towed close to the sea bed or known obstacles, enabling reduced direct impact/contact with the sea bed or these obstacles, thereby reducing the risk of gear snagging and loss. For static gear, technology can also enable the more accurate setting and subsequent location and retrieval of gear.

The main determinant of successful recovery appears to be the reason for the initial loss of fishing gear; fishers report that where nets are trawled away, it is virtually impossible to recover them at sea.

Transponders are now a common feature in many large-scale fisheries with the satellite tracking of vessels for safety and MCS purposes, and the use of transponderson gear such as marker buoys or floats is becoming more readily available. The fitting of transponders to gear improves the ability to locate gear in the water.

#### **Port State measures**

Port State measures are seen to be critical in addressing IUU fishing, which is a significant contributor to ALDFG problems as illegal fishers are unlikely to comply with regulation including any measures to reduce ALDFG. Those engaged in IUU fishing are also assumed to be key contributors to abandoned gear prompted by MCS activity. In 2001, FAO Members, recognizing the threat of IUU fishing, developed within the framework of the 1995 FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, an International Plan of Action (IPOA) to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing (IPOA-IUU).

A scheme was devised to address IUU fishing at the port state level. In addition to a reduction in IUU fishing having a positive influence on reducing ALDFG in general, the scheme proposes port inspections that will enable "examination of any areas of the fishing vessel that is required, including ...the nets and any other gear, equipment...to verify compliance with relevant conservation and management measures". FAO is encouraging the strengthening of port State measures in order to combat IUU. One of the inspection processes being proposed (relating to gear inspection and the marking of gear) is gear inventories for vessels in international waters.

#### Onshore collection/reception and/or payment for old/retrieved gear

The provision of appropriate collection facilities is a preventative measure, as it can reduce the likelihood that a fisher will discard unwanted gear at sea. MARPOL Annex V Regulation 7 requires that "the Government of each Party to the Convention undertakes to ensure the provision of facilities at ports and terminals for the reception of garbage, without causing undue delay to ships, and according to the needs of the ships using them." (IMO, 2006). There has, however, been international recognition that there are scale and capacity issues that have prevented the provision of adequate reception facilities at small ports and harbours, many of which are fishing harbours.

While vessel crews docking at these berths well understand that such a service is not usually provided free of charge, vessel crews, ready and willing to pay for disposal services either directly from the facility or via independent entities, are not always able to secure these services. Although "rational" tariffs are recommended, any additional tariff for reception of waste such as fishing gear may be a disincentive to fishers compared to burning or dumping at no immediate direct cost. Numerous initiatives have since been developed that provide free waste reception facilities for solid waste such as fishing gear, or these costs are incorporated into general berthing charges or landing fees. In some circumstances where ALDFG gear is perceived to be a particular problem, authorities have created positive incentives through reward schemes for disposal of old and unwanted gear in appropriate facilities.

The Korean Government Department, Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (MOMAF), purchases waste fishing gear returned to port by fishers; this is reported to be highly effective in terms of recovery and disposal of gear.

#### **Reduced fishing effort**

Effort reduction measures can affect the causes and levels of ALDFG in different ways, depending on the type of input restriction. For static gear, the amount of gear in the water and the time it is left in the water (soak time), both influence the probability that gear will be lost or discarded, with greater gear use and longer soak times increasing the chances of lost gear.

Many fisheries already limit fishing efforts by monitoring use of pots or number of net hours where soak time is included as a key variable. The European Commission (EC) introduced an emergency temporary ban on gillnet fishing at depths >200 m in ICES Divisions VI and VIIb-k and Sub-area XII east of 27°W (EC Regulation No 51/2005). These measures for deep-water gillnets were revised in 2006 and now include a permanent ban on all deep-water gillnet fisheries at depths >600 m and imposing maximum limits on the length of nets deployed (10 km) and the soak time (72 hrs) in the remaining fisheries at depths <600 m (EC Regulation No 41/2006).

#### Mitigating (reducing impacts) measures

Technology can be used to reduce the impacts of ALDFG, particularly through alterations to the gear itself to minimize the potential to ghost fish, but also through ways to better manage gear in the water.

#### Reduced ghost catches through the use of biodegradable nets and pots

A number of shellfish fisheries are required to use degradable escape panels in traps. For example, Florida's spiny lobster fishery has had such a requirement since 1982 (Matthews and Donahue, 1996). In Canada, recreational fishing traps require features "to ensure that if the trap is lost, the section secured by the cord will rot, allowing captive crabs to escape and to prevent the trap from continuing to fish". (DFO, 2007). Also in Canada, the PacificRegion Integrated Fisheries Management Plan for crab by traps, 2008, includes various requirements related to biodegradable escape mechanisms. The use of biodegradable materials is less evident in net fisheries.

There have been some efforts to develop biodegradable and oxy-degradable plastics for use in the fishing industry. For example, the Australian and New Zealand Environment Conservation Council (ANZECC) was instrumental in promoting a national approach towards the use of biodegradable materials in bait bag manufacture (Kiessling, 2003).

# Reduced ghost catches of incidental catch species

Fishing gears with the potential to capture significant bycatch of non-target species (cetaceans, pinnipeds, turtles, seabirds) when actively fishing, also have the potential to result in non-target species bycatch once gear is abandoned, lost or discarded. Mitigating against such ghost fishing of bycatch can be effected by using the same measures as in active fishery, such as acoustic beacons ("pingers"), reflectors in gillnet and set net fishing gears. But it should be recognized that the effectiveness of such measures can rapidly decrease when gear is no longer actively being fished and the pingers run out of power over time.

Of perhaps greater significance to ALDFG reduction are mitigation measures that are effective even when fishing gear is not being actively fished. Trials are progressing with substances that reflect sound, such as barium sulphate, with such substances being added to nylon net during production. The additive does not affect the performance or the look of the net in any way, but it reflects sound waves in ranges used by echo-locating animals (Schueller, 2001). Other developments supported by WWF's International Smart Gear Competition (<a href="www.smartgear.org">www.smartgear.org</a>) have produced weak ropes that are operationally sound, but break with the action of marine mammals, and magnets attached to longlines to repel sharks. Innovative solutions such as the passive pinger should retain effectiveness even when the gear is lost.

#### Clean-up/curative measures

# Locating lost gear

Generally fishers will make every possible attempt to locate and recover their own gear as it has a significant economic cost in most fisheries. However in some circumstances, gear location surveys may be needed. Sea-based surveys can be used to locate lost fishing gear that may still be ghost fishing or damaging habitats.

Where no accurate information on location of gear is available, the use of modeling techniques, local knowledge and anecdotal information to identify potential hotspots is essential in order to better target a survey intended for gear retrieval. Side scan sonar (SSS) is a sea-bed mapping technology that has become more accurate and more affordable in recent years. However, SSS is likely to be applicable where relatively large or readily distinguishable items such as pots or traps are to be located. Other possible sources of information might include skipper interviews and the interpretation of VMS plots.

#### Gear recovery programmes

Curative measures often take the form of gear retrieval programmes, which typically entail using a creeper or grapnel to snag nets. Gear retrieval programmes have been undertaken in net fisheries in Sweden and Poland (Brown and Macfadyen, 2007). Retrieval programmes are also routinely employed by Norway, which led to Norwegian, English and Irish collaborative projects to recover ALDFG from the Northeast deepwater Atlantic gillnet fishery (Large *et al*, 2009). However, the efficacy of such surveys is largely reliant on information on the position of ALDFG provided by and collected from fishers.

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#### **Implications for SEAFO**

It is important that fishers record the nature and location of ALDFG. The SEAFO longline fishery form introduced last year has provision for this information, but this is not the case for the Crab or trawl fishery forms. SSC recommends to SC that all SEAFO fishery forms include fields for ALDFG to include gear dimensions and geographical position.

It is the view of the SSC that gillnets should be prohibited as is done in CCAMLR. There are currently no gillnet fisheries in the SEAFO CA and SSC recommends to SC that gillnetting be banned in the SEAFO CA. However if a ban is not implemented it seems sensible from a precautionary standpoint to introduce limitations on the length of fleets, soak-times and depth of fishing. As an interim measure SSC recommends to SC that SEAFO adopts the current measures applied to EU fleets in the NE Atlantic (EC Regulation 41/2006) and limits the maximum length of individual fleets to 10 km, soak time to 72 hrs and prohibits gillnet fishing at depths greater than 600m. Vessels should not carry more than 100 km of nets at any one time.

The only fisheries that currently pose potential ALDFG problems are longline fisheries for Patagonian toothfish and trap fisheries for deep-water red crab. In the absence of information from fishers, SSC recommends to SC that the SEAFO Secretariat carries out a consultation with SEAFO fishing nations to determine the maximum limits on the length of individual fleets, soak time, and vessel gear capacity.

Many of the preventative and mitigation measures described above, in the opinion of SSC, are outside the Committee's expertise and SSC recommends to SC Sethat these should be considered by the SEAFO Compliance Committee.

#### k. Complete TXOTX questionnaire

SSC completed the report with the exception of issues relating to PET spp and Socio-economics section. These will be addressed by the SEAFO Secretary.

#### 4. ANY OTHER MATTERS

There were no other matters raised.

#### 5. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

The report was presented and adopted by the meeting.

# 6. DATE AND PLACE FOR THE NEXT MEETING OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE

This was referred to the SC.

#### 7. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

On Friday at 17:30hrs October 1, the Chairperson declared the closure of the meeting after all items have been completed. In his closing remarks, the Chair expressed his satisfaction for the work accomplished and thanked all participants for their valuable contributions.

#### Annex 7

# REPORT OF THE 2<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE 2009

The Secretariat

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This document is produced in the official languages (English and Portuguese). Copies area available from the Secretariat and on the website

# 1. Opening of the Meeting

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting of the Compliance Committee was convened in Swakopmund, Namibia from 5-6 October 2009. The Meeting was called to order by the Chairperson, Mr. B. Amuste (Namibia). In his opening remarks, the Chairperson warmly welcomed the delegates and expressed his wishes for a successful meeting. He further noted the absence of the delegation of Republic of South Africa.

#### 2. Appointment of Rapporteur

The Executive Secretary was appointed as Rapporteur.

#### 3. Adoption of Agenda and Meeting Arrangements

The meeting reviewed the agenda and changes were made to agenda as follows:

- 3.1Delete agenda point 10: Review Resolution 01/06 to reduce Sea Turtle Mortality in the SEAFO Fishing Operation (Annex 1).
- 3.2 Insert new agenda points: (a) Discussion on CM 08/06, and
  - (b) Reflect on ALDFG gear in the SEAFO CA
- 3.3The adopted agenda is presented in Annex 1.

# 4 Introduction and Opening Statements of Parties and Signatories

- 4.1Four Contracting Parties namely Angola, EU, Namibia and Norway were present. The Head of Delegations introduced members of their respective delegations. List of participants is provided in Annex 2.
- 4.2No opening Statements were made by Head of Delegations in the Compliance Committee.

#### 5 Introduction and Admission of Observers

Observers from Japan, Korea, USA and the FAO were present. List of participants is provided in Annex 2.

# 6 Status of Compliance of Parties concerning SEAFO Conservation Measures

- 6.1The Executive Secretary introduced this item on the basis of document DOC/CC/MEETING/03/2009.
- 6.2The meeting was informed that the EU vessels fished in the SEAFO Convention Area were fishing for ICCAT species and therefore not obliged to submit fisheries data to the Secretariat.

#### 7 Status of Compliance of Non-Parties concerning SEAFO Conservation Measures

- 7.1The Executive Secretary introduced this item on the basis of document DOC/CC/MEETING/03/2009.
- 7.2The meeting agreed that the future Compliance Reports shall include a section on compliance of any obligation to provide data to the Secretariat. Furthermore, the report shall reflect on trends regarding fishing operations. The 2009 NAFO Compliance Report could serve as an example.
- 7.3The Committee expressed satisfaction that the Japanese and Korean fishing vessels are complying with the SEAFO Conservation Measures.

#### 8 Report on requirements to implement a Catch Documentation Scheme (CDS) in SEAFO

- 8.1The Executive Secretary introduced this item on the basis of document DOC/CC/MEETING/04/2009.
- 8.2The meeting was informed that all members of CCAMLR have to comply with the CDS irrespective of area of catch. The SEAFO members EU, Namibia, Norway and South

- Africa are also members of CCAMLR. It was also noted that both Japan and Korea are members of CCAMLR and have to comply with the CDS.
- 8.3The Committee noted that Angola is the only SEAFO CP not member to CCAMLR and could consider implementing the CCAMLR CDS on a voluntary basis.
- 8.4The meeting agreed that is not necessary to implement a CDS in SEAFO, but to rely on CCAMLR adopted measures regarding toothfish.
- 9 Review of Conservation Measure 03/06 on Interim Prohibition of Transshipments-at-Sea in the SEAFO Convention Area and to Regulate Transshipment in Port.
  - 9.1The Executive Secretary introduced the agenda point on the basis of DOC/CC/MEETING/06/2009.
  - 9.2The meeting was informed by the Secretariat that no notifications of transshipments were received during 2009.
  - 9.3The meeting discussed the Conservation Measure and proposed one amendment to the text. Paragraph 6 "The Commission shall review these measures at its Annual Meeting in 2009" should be deleted. The revised Conservation Measure is provided in Annex 3.

#### 10 Discussion on Conservation Measure 08/06

- 10.1 In implementing paragraphs 18 and 19, the Secretariat shall incorporate the lists established by NAFO, NEAFC and CCAMLR into the SEAFO IUU vessel list following the procedures set out in those paragraphs.
- 10.2 The meeting furthermore agreed that before the SEAFO IUU vessel list is put on the webpage the protocols contained in the Conservation Measure shall be followed.

#### 11 Document on UN Review Conference on RFMO's

11.1 The Executive Secretary introduced DOC/CC/MEETING/08/09 on the outcome of the review. The Review Conference took place in May 2006 in New York. The Review Conference considered four topics namely Conservation and management of stocks, Mechanisms for international cooperation and non-members, Monitoring, control and surveillance and compliance and enforcement as well as Developing States and non parties. The SEAFO Secretariat has been requested by the United Nations to provide information on the implementation of the above mentioned topics.

The information obtained from the questionnaire will form the basis for the discussion in the resumed Review Conference in May 2010.

11.2 The meeting agreed that the Chairperson should refer to the document during his presentation of the report to the Commission.

# 12 Advice on ALDFG gear ( 2009 SC report point (h) page 36)

At the request of the SC the meeting considered the point on lost and abandoned gear. Since the Commission had already banned the use of gillness it was considered that further regulations to limit the negative effects of ALDFG gear would have very little effect.

#### 13 Recommendations on additional Measures on Compliance

The meeting agreed to await the outcome of the 2010 SEAFO Performance review.

#### 14 Any other Matters

There were no other matters.

### 15 Adoption of the Report

The report was presented and adopted by the meeting.

#### 16 Venue and date of next meeting

The CC agreed not to set a date and await the agreed date for the 2010 Commission meeting. CC expressed the view that Compliance Committee meetings be convened during the 2010 annual Commission meeting, as in this and previous years.

# 17 Closure of meeting

On Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> October at 13h00 hrs the Chairperson declared the closure of the meeting after all items had been concluded. In his closing remarks, the Chair expressed his satisfaction for the work accomplished and thanked all participants for their valuable contributions.

#### Annex 1

- 1. Opening of the Meeting
- 2. Appointment of Rapporteur
- 3. Adoption of Agenda and Meeting Arrangements
- 4. Introduction and Opening Statements of Parties and Signatories
- 5. Introduction and Admission of Observers
- 6. Status of Compliance of Parties concerning SEAFO Conservation Measures
- 7. Status of Compliance of Non-Parties concerning SEAFO Conservation Measures
- 8. Report on requirements to implement a Catch Documentation Scheme (CDS)in SEAFO
- 9. Review of Conservation Measure 03/06 on Interim Prohibition of Transshipments-at-Sea in the SEAFO Convention Area and to Regulate Transshipment in Port.
- 10. Discussion on Conservation Measure 08/06
- 11. Document on UN Review Conference on RFMO's
- 12. Advice on ALDFG gear (2009 SC report point (h) page 36)
- 13. Recommendations on additional Measures on Compliance
- 14. Any other Matters
- 15. Adoption of the Report
- 16. Venue and date of next meeting
- 17. Closure of meeting

#### Annex 2

#### **List of Participants**

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#### Annex 3

Conservation Measure 03/06 on an Interim Prohibition of Transshipments - at - Sea in the SEAFO Convention Area and to Regulate Transshipments in Port The Parties to the SEAFO Convention:

Taking account of the need to ensure the control of catches by fishing vessels and to combat IUU activities,

*Recognising* the lack of a comprehensive monitoring, control and surveillance system, in particular, at sea,

Taking account of the need to collect catch data of fishing vessels to improve the scientific assessments of stocks within the Convention Area,

# Have agreed as follows:

# 1. Prohibition of Transshipments in the Convention Area

Each Contracting Party shall prohibit transshipments at sea by vessels flying their flag in the Convention Area fishing for species covered by the SEAFO Convention.

#### 2. Port State authorisation

Fishing vessels which catch species covered by the Convention in the Convention Area shall only transship in port of a Contracting Party if they have prior authorisation from the Contracting Party in whose port the operation will take place. The fishing vessels shall be permitted to carry out transshipments only if they have obtained such a prior authorisation to transship from the flag State and port State.

# 3. Flag State authorisation

Each Contracting Party shall ensure that their duly licensed fishing vessels obtain a prior authorisation from their Flag State to engage in in-port transshipments. They shall also ensure that transshipments are consistent with the reported catch amount of each vessel and require the reporting of transshipment.

#### 4. Notification obligations

# (a) Fishing vessel:

The master of a fishing vessel who transships in port to another vessel, hereinafter referred to as "the receiving vessel", any quantity of catches of

species covered by the Convention fished in the Convention Area shall, at the time of the transshipment inform the flag State of the receiving vessel of the species and quantities involved, of the date of the transshipment and the location of catches. He shall submit to his flag State a SEAFO transshipment declaration in accordance with the format set out in annex. The master of the fishing vessel shall notify, at least 24 hours in advance, the following information to the Contracting Party in whose port the transshipment will take place:

- the names of the transshipping fishing vessels,
- the names of the receiving vessels,
- the tonnage by species to be transshipped,
- the day and port of transshipment.

# (b) Receiving vessel:

Not later than 24 hours before the beginning of the transshipment, and at the end of a transshipment, the master of the receiving vessel shall inform the competent authorities of the port state, of the quantities of catches of species covered by the Convention on board his vessel. He shall transmit the SEAFO transshipment declaration to these competent authorities within 24 hours. The master of the receiving vessel shall, 48 hours before landing, submit a SEAFO transshipment declaration to the competent authorities of the port State where the landing takes place.

# 5. Follow-up by Contracting Parties

Each Contracting Party referred to in paragraphs 3, 6 and 7 shall take the appropriate measures to verify the accuracy of the information received and shall cooperate with the flag State to ensure that landings are consistent with the reported catches amount of each vessel. Each Contracting Party shall notify annually to SEAFO the details of transshipments by its flag vessels in accordance with paragraphs 2, 3, 4 and 5.

# SEAFO TRANSSHIPMENT DECLARATION

				External identification:	In case of	
transshipment Call sign if any: call sign,				SEAFO number:		Name and/or
identification and						external
nationality of recipie	nt vessel:					
	Day	Month	Hour	Year  2_ 0_	Agent's name:	
Master's name:						
Departure		_ _		from		
Return	_	_	_	to	Signature:	
Signature:						
Transshipment	_ _	_ _	_	ll		

Indicate the weight in kilograms or the unit used (e.g. box, basket) and the landed weight in kilograms of this unit: |\_\_\_\_\_| kilograms (3) (4)

Species	Port of	Presentation									
	Transshipme	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
	nt <sup>(2)</sup>										
	Name of	Whole	Gutted	Head off	Filleted						
	Port,										
	Country										

#### TRANSSHIPMENT DECLARATION

#### (1) General rule

In the case of transshipment, the master of the fishing vessel shall enter the quantities on the transshipment declaration. A copy of the transshipment declaration shall be handed to the master of the recipient vessel.

# (2) Procedure for completion

- (a) Entries on transshipment declaration shall be legible and indelible.
- (b) No entry on the transshipment declaration may be erased or altered. If a mistake is made, the incorrect entry shall be struck out with a line and followed by a new entry initialled by the master or his agent.
- (c) One transshipment declaration should be completed for each transshipment operations.
- (d) Each page of the transshipment declaration shall be signed by the master.

# (3) Responsibilities of the master in respect of the landing declaration and the transshipment declaration

The master of the vessel shall certify with his initials and signature that the estimated quantities entered on the transshipment declaration are reasonable. The copies of the transshipment declaration must be kept for one year.

## (4) Information to be provided

The estimates of the quantities trans-shipped are to be indicated as follows, for each species, on one of the declaration forms in respect of a particular voyage:

# • **Presentation of fish** (reference n° 1)

"Presentation" means the way fish has been processed. Indicate the nature of this processing if any: GUT for gutting, HEAD for heading, FILLET for filleting, etc ... Where no processing has taken place, WHOLE for whole fish.

#### • Measurement unit for landed quantities (reference n° 3)

Give the unit of weight used (e.g. basket, box, etc.) for landing fish and the weight of the unit in kilograms. This unit may be different from that used in the logbook.

# • Total weight species trans-shipped (reference n° 4)

Give the weight or quantities actually trans-shipped for all species covered by the SEAFO Convention.

The weight should correspond to the weight of fish as landed, i.e. after any processing on board.

Conversion coefficients will be applied subsequently by the appropriate authorities in the CPC to calculate the corresponding live weight.

#### • Name of Port (reference n° 2)

Name of Port, Country refers to the port and country in which the transshipment will take place.

# (5) Procedure of transmission

- (a) In the case of transshipment to a vessel flying the flag of a Contracting Party or registered in a Contracting Party, the first copy of the transshipment declaration shall be handed over to the master of the recipient vessel. The original shall be handed over or dispatched, as the case may be, to the authorities of the Contracting Party whose flag the vessel is flying or in which it is registered, within 48 hours of completion of landing or on arrival in port.
- (b) In the case of transshipment to a vessel flying the flag of a non-member country, the original document shall be handed over or sent, as the case may be, as soon as possible to the Contracting Party whose flag the fishing vessel is flying or in which it is registered.
- (c) In cases where it is impossible for the master to dispatch the original of the transshipment declarations to the authorities of the Contracting Party whose flag the vessel is flying or in which it is registered within the time limits specified, the information required in respect of the declaration shall be transmitted by radio or by other means to the authorities concerned.

The information shall be transmitted via the radio stations usually used, preceded by the name, the call sing and external identification of the vessel, and the name of its master. In

cases where it is not possible for the message to be transmitted by the vessel, it may be transmitted on the vessel's behalf by another vessel or by any other method. The master shall ensure that information transmitted to radio stations is passed on in writing to the relevant authorities.

# REPORT OF THE 1<sup>st</sup> ANNUAL MEETING OF THE STANDING COMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

2009

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# 4. Opening of the Meeting

The 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting of the Standing Committee on Administration and Finance was convened in Swakopmund, Namibia from 6-7 October 2009. The Meeting was called to order by the Executive Secretary, Dr. B. Van Zyl. In his opening remarks, the Chairperson warmly welcomed the delegates and expressed his wishes for a successful meeting. He further noted the absence of the delegation of the Republic of South Africa. He explained the protocol regarding the convening of the first meeting of SCAF.

# 5. Appointment of Rapporteur

Mr. Ruben Hamunyela was appointed as Rapporteur to the meeting.

# 6. Adoption of Agenda and Meeting Arrangements

The agenda was adopted with two changes. The revised agenda is provided as Annex 1.

# 7. Introduction of Parties' Delegations

Four Contracting Parties namely Angola, EU, Namibia and Norway were present. The Head of Delegations introduced members of their respective delegations. List of participants is provided in Annex 2.

#### 8. Introduction and Admission of Observers

Observers from Japan, Korea, USA, the FAO and Benguela Current Commission were present. List of participants is provided in Annex 2.

#### 9. Election of Office Bearers

A request to nominate the chairperson and vice chairperson of the committee was put on the table. Namibia was nominated to take chairmanship of the committee while the EC was nominated for the position of the vice-chairperson. Ms G. D'Almeida was appointed by the Namibian Head of Delegation to take up chairmanship while Mr. Alan Gray was appointed by the Head of the EC delegation to a vice-chairperson.

# 10. Standing Committee on Administration and Finance Terms of Reference (TOR)

The members of SCAF have familiarised themselves with the TOR established and adopted by the Commission during the 2008 Annual Meeting (Annex 3).

#### 11. Rules and Procedures for SCAF

SCAF members revised the document provided by the Secretariat on Rules of Procedures: Standing Committee on Administration and Finance and adopted the amended document (Annex 4).

## 12. Report on Administration and Finance

- 9.1 The Executive Secretary presented a report on administration and finance with the following documents:
  - Doc 05/2009: Preliminary Report on Administration and Finance October 2008-September 2009
  - Doc 06/2009: Auditor s' Report for 2008 Financial Statements from PricewaterhouseCoopers.
  - Doc 07/2009: Draft Budget 2010 and Draft Budget Forecast 2011

- 9.2 The Executive Secretary presented the contributions by contracting parties to SEAFO as reflected on doc 05/2009. The Executive Secretary informed the meeting that two countries namely Angola and South Africa were in arrears with their contributions. The rest of the contracting parties were in the clear.
- 9.3 The Executive Secretary also brought up the issue of tax payable by SEAFO to the Namibia government. He informed the meeting that SEAFO had to pay a large amount of PAYE tax that accrued over the years. The meeting was informed that as a result of the amount paid, the PAYE for 2008 had been settled but 2009 was still to be paid. He asked guidance from the members on the issue of PAYE as it could have a negative effect on the Organisation s' finances.

# 10 Consideration of the Executive Secretary report

- 10.1 The meeting considered the Executive Secretary report as presented.
- 10.2 The EC and Norway called on contracting parties to pay their arrears, the finances of the organisation could be in better position. The other member countries agreed that member countries that were in arrears should pay their dues to improve the financial position of the organisation.
- 10.3 All members agreed that a strong message should be sent to the members in arrears to pay their contributions. SCAF recommended as a matter of urgency that the Chairperson of the Commission together with Secretariat draft a letter demanding payment from those parties.
- 10.4 Angola informed the meeting that it will follow up on the payment of contributions and will make sure that payment is made as soon as possible but did not specify when the payment was going to be made.

#### 11. Audit Report

The audited financial statements were presented by the Executive Secretary as document DOC/SCAF/Meeting/06/2009 to the Committee. The meeting took note of the report and expressed satisfaction.

# 12. Review of staff working contracts

Following review and discussion of the draft contracts provided by the Executive Secretary as per document DOC/SCAF/MEETING/08/2009, the Committee forwarded to the Commission revised draft contracts for the Commission s' approval.

## 13. Proposed Budget

SCAF reviewed the draft budget provided by Executive Secretary as per document DOC/SCAF 07/2009 and recommends that the commission adopts the revised budget (Annex 5).

# 14. Special Requirements Fund

- 14.1 The Executive Secretary introduced this item on the basis of document DOC/SCAF/MEETING/10/2009.
- 14.2 The meeting emphasized the need for the creation of a fund to assist developing Parties in line with the SEAFO Convention. Furthermore, the meeting took note that contribution to the fund is on a voluntary basis.
- 14.3 The meeting has considered the proposed text and recommends the adoption thereof by the Commission (Annex 6).

# 15. Review formula of contribution by parties.

- 15.1 The meeting were informed that the review of the formula is based on Article 13 of the SEAFO Convention. The current formula is only an interim formula and should be revised to more fair to developing Parties.
- 15.2 The meeting discussed a formula of contribution based on a proposal submitted by the EU. The new formula is based on three part system namely (a) 30% equal contribution, (b) contribution according to Gross National Income and (c) participation in the fisheries in the SEAFO CA.
- 15.3 The meeting agreed that the formula maintain a good balance between developed and developing Parties.
- 15.4 The meeting recommends that the Commission adopts the formula (Annex 7)

#### 16 Any other Matters

There were no other matters.

#### 17 Adoption of the Report

The report was presented and adopted by the meeting.

# 18 Venue and date of next meeting

The SCAF agreed not to set a date and await the agreed date for the 2010 Commission meeting. SCAF expressed the view that Standing Committee on Administration and Finance meetings be convened during the 2010 annual Commission meeting, as in this and previous years.

# 19 Closure of meeting

On Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> October at 18h00 hrs the Chairperson declared the closure of the meeting after all items had been concluded. In her closing remarks, the Chair expressed satisfaction for the work accomplished and thanked all participants for their valuable contributions. SCAF expressed satisfaction on the leadership and guidance provided by the chair.

# Agenda of the 1st Meeting of the Standing Committee on Administration and Finance

- 18. Opening of the meeting
- 19. Appointment of Rapporteur
- 20. Adoption of the agenda and meeting arrangements
- 21. Introduction of Parties Delegations
- 22. Introduction of Admission of Observers
- 23. Election of Office Bearers
- 24. Terms of Reference: Standing Committee on Administration and finance
- 25. Rules of procedures: Standing Committee on Administration and finance
- 26. Report on Administration and Finance: Executive Secretary
- 27. Consideration of Executive Secretary report
- 28. Audit Report
- 29. Review of staff working contracts
- 30. Proposed Budget 2010
- 31. Special Requirements Fund
- 32. Review of formula of contribution by Parties
- 33. Any other matters
- 34. Adoption of the report
- 35. Venue and date of next meeting
- 36. Closure of meeting

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# TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE OF THE SOUTH EAST ATLANTIC FISHERIES ORGANIZATION

# The TOR of SCAF is:

- 1. examine the audited statements, examining draft budgets for ensuing year, and make such recommendations as may be relevant in this respect,
- 2. propose amendments to the Rules of Procedures, Staff and Financial Regulations when necessary,
- 3. recommend time and place of the meeting of the Commission and subsidiary bodies,
- 4. advice on publications of the Organisation,
- 5. draw the attentions of the Commission on any matter of administrative and financial nature, and
- 6. perform such other matters as the Commission may direct



# RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON

# ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE OF SOUTH EAST ATLANTIC FISHERIES ORGANISATION (SEAFO)

# PART I REPRESENTATION

1. Each Member of the Commission shall be represented by one representative who may

be accompanied by alternate representatives and advisers. However, at its discretion, the Standing Committee on Administration and Finance may restrict its deliberations to representatives/heads of delegation only, and such other persons that the Standing Committee on Administration and Finance Commission may invite.

# PART II MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS

2. The Chairperson shall put to the Standing Committee on Administration and Finance questions and proposals [to be recommended to the Commission. The recommendations shall be taken according to the following provisions:

- a) Recommendations of the Standing Committee on Administration and Finance on matters of substance shall be taken by consensus. The question of whether a matter is one of substance shall be treated as a matter of substance.
- b) Recommendations on matters other than those referred to in paragraph (a) above shall be taken by a simple majority of the Members of the Standing Committee on Administration and Finance present and voting.
- 3. At a meeting of the Standing Committee on Administration and Finance, unless it decides otherwise, the Standing Committee on Administration and Finance shall not discuss or take a decision on any item that has not been included in the provisional agenda for the meeting in accordance with Part IV of these Rules.

# PART III CHAIRPERSON, VICE-CHAIRPERSON AND EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

- 4. The Standing Committee on Administration and Finance shall elect from among its Members a Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson, each of whom shall serve for a term of two years and shall be eligible for re-election for one additional term. The Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson shall not be representatives of the same Contracting Party.
- 5. A person representing a Member of the Commission as its Representative who is elected as Chairperson shall cease to act as a Representative upon assuming office and, whilst holding this office, shall not act as Representative, Alternate Representative or Adviser at meeting of the Standing Committee on Administration and Finance The Member of the Commission concerned shall appoint another person to replace the one who was hitherto its Representative.
- 6. The Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson shall take office at the conclusion of the meeting at which they have been elected, except for

the first Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson who shall take office immediately upon their election.

# 7. The Chairperson shall have the following powers and responsibilities:

- a) convene the regular and extraordinary meetings of the Standing Committee on Administration and Finance;
- b) preside at each meeting of the Standing Committee on Administration and Finance;
- open and close each meeting of the Standing Committee
   on Administration and Finance;
- d) make rulings on points of order raised at meetings of the Standing Committee on
- e) Administration and Finance, provided that each representative retains the right to request that any such decision be submitted to the Commission for approval;
- f) approve a provisional Agenda for the meeting after consultation with representatives and the Executive Secretary;
- g) sign, on behalf of the Standing Committee on Administration and Finance, the reports of each meeting for transmission to the Commission as official documents of the proceedings; and
- h) exercise other powers and responsibilities as provided in these Rules and make such decisions and give such directions to the Executive Secretary as will ensure that the business of the Standing Committee on Administration and Finance is carried out effectively and in accordance with its decisions.
- 8. Whenever the Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Administration and Finance is unable to act, the Vice-Chairperson shall assume the powers and responsibilities of the Chairperson. The Vice-

Chairperson shall act as Chairperson until the Chairperson resumes his or her duties. Whilst acting as Chairperson, the Vice-Chairperson will not act as Representative.

9. In the event of the office of Chairperson falling vacant due to resignation or permanent inability to act, the Vice-Chairperson shall act as Chairperson until the Standing Committee on Administration and Finance's next meeting on which occasion a new Chairperson shall be elected. Until the election of a new Chairperson, the Vice-Chairperson will not act as Representative, Alternate Representative or Adviser.

# PART IV PREPARATION FOR MEETINGS

- 10. The Executive Secretary shall prepare, in consultation with the Chairperson, a preliminary agenda for each meeting of the Standing Committee on Administration and Finance. He or she shall transmit this preliminary agenda to all Members of the Standing Committee on Administration and Finance Commission not less than 65 days prior to the beginning of the meeting.
- 11 .Members of the Standing Committee on Administration and Finance proposing supplementary items for the preliminary agenda shall inform the Executive Secretary thereof no later than 45 days before the beginning of the meeting and accompany their proposal with an explanatory memorandum.
- 12. The Executive Secretary shall prepare, in consultation with the Chairperson, a provisional agenda for each meeting of the Standing Committee on Administration and Finance. The provisional agenda shall include:
  - a) all items which the Standing Committee on Administration and Finance has previously decided to include in the provisional agenda;

- b) all items the inclusion of which is requested by any Member of the Standing Committee on Administration and Finance:
- 13. The Executive Secretary shall transmit to all Members of the Standing Committee on Administration and Finance, not less than one month in advance of the Standing Committee on Administration and Finance meeting, the provisional agenda and explanatory memoranda or reports related thereto.

# PART V CONDUCT OF BUSINESS AT MEETINGS

- 14. The Chairperson shall exercise his or her powers of office in accordance with customary practice. He/she shall ensure the observance of the Rules of Procedure and the maintenance of proper order. The Chairperson, in the exercise of his or her functions shall remain under the authority of the meeting.
- 15. No representative may address the meeting without having previously obtained the permission of the Chairperson. The Chairperson shall call upon speakers in the order in which they signify their desire to speak. The Chairperson may call a speaker to order if his or her remarks are not relevant to the subject under discussion.
- 16. Proposals and amendments shall normally be submitted in writing to the Executive Secretary, who shall circulate copies to all delegations. As a general rule, no proposal shall be discussed at any meeting of the Standing Committee on Administration and Finance unless copies have been distributed to all delegations in a reasonable time in advance. The Chairperson may, however, permit the discussion and consideration of proposals even though such proposals have not been circulated.
- 17. As a general rule proposals which have been rejected may not be reconsidered until the next meeting of the Standing Committee on Administration and Finance.

- 18. A representative may at any time make a point of order and the point of order shall be decided immediately by the Chairperson in accordance with the Rules of Procedure. A representative may appeal against the ruling of the Chairperson. A representative making a point of order shall not speak on the substance of the matter under discussion.
- 19. A representative may at any time move the suspension or the adjournment of the session. Such motions shall not be debated, but shall be put to the vote immediately. The Chairperson may limit the time to be allowed to each speaker putting such a motion.
- 20. A representative may at any time move the adjournment of the debate on the item under discussion. In addition to the proposer of the motion, two representatives may speak in favour of, and two against the motion, after which the motion shall be put to the vote immediately. The Chairperson may limit the time to be allowed to speakers.
- 21.A representative may at any time move the closure of the debate on the item under discussion. In addition to the proposer of the motion, two representatives may speak against the motion, after which the motion shall be put to the vote immediately. If the meeting is in favour of the closure, the Chairperson shall declare the closure of the debate and a decision shall be taken immediately on the item under discussion. The Chairperson may limit the time to be allowed to speakers under this rule.
- 22 .Subject to Rule 27 the following motions shall have precedence in the following order over all other proposals or motions before the session:
  - a) to suspend the session;
  - b) to adjourn the session;
  - c) to adjourn the debate on the item under discussion;
  - d) or the closure of the debate on the item under discussion.

23 .With the exception of recording devices for use by the Secretariat, the use of film, video, sound and any other media devices to record meeting proceedings shall be prohibited for all participants in Standing Committee on Administration and Finance meetings.

# PART VI LANGUAGES

24. The official and working languages of the Standing Committee on Administration and Finance shall be English and Portuguese.

# PART VII REPORTS AND NOTIFICATIONS

25 .Reports of meetings of the Standing Committee on Administration and Finance shall be prepared by the Executive Secretary in conjunction with the Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Administration and Finance. A draft report of such meetings shall be considered by the Standing Committee on Administration and Finance before it is adopted at the end of the meeting. The Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Administration and Finance shall present the report to the plenary during the Commission meetings.

Annex 5

REVIEW OF 2008 AND 2009 BUDGETS DRAFT 2010 AND FORECAST 2011

Budgetline	Activity description	Allocation	Revised	Ехр	Allocation	Allocation	Allocation	Allocation
		2008	2008	Actual	2009	2009 Rev	2010	2011
3000/000	Accounting Fees	27000	27000	28604	30000	62000	30000	30000
3050/000	Advertising & Promotions	10000	10000	10000	10000	10000	10000	10000
3100/000	Consultant				80000	80000	26000	0
3150/000	Performance Review						80000	0
3200/000	Bank Charges	12000	12000	7343	12000	12000	12000	12000
3300/000	Computer Expenses	4000	4000	317	4000	4000	4000	4000
3301/000	Software Upgrade	5000	5000	1728	5000	5000	14200	5000
3302/000	Internet lease Line	62000	62000	54803	62000	62000	62000	62000
3303/000	Rent - Internet	5000	5000	4282	5000	5000	5000	5000
3304/000	VMS - Related Costs	78000	78000	97821	83840	83840	92224	101446
3310/000	Security/Alarm	1200	1200	1176	1200	5000	1350	1450
3355/000	Contigency	8000	8000	6490	8000	8000	8000	8000
3400/000	Courier & Postage	6500	6500	6420	6500	6500	7150	7900
3700/000	Miscellaneous	2400	2400	732	2400	2400	2650	2900
3850/000	Insurance	15900	15900	11492	13000	15900	17500	19300
4051/000	Reports and Translation	50000	50000	27259	30000	30000	33000	36300
4070/000	Meetings & Conferences	130000	130000	196507	143000	200000	220000	242000
4200/000	Printing & Stationery	6000	6000	366	6000	6000	6600	7300
4300/000	Rent Paid	96200	87785	79350	96200	96200	105820	116400
4310/000	Maintenance Switchboard	7000	7000	4957	7000	7000	7700	8500
4315/000	Maintenance Copier/Fax	2550	2550	2807	2550	3000	3300	3700
4400/001	Salaries Paid Cash	833175	833175	724064	916493	916493	1133064	1108956
4400/001	Removal Expenses	0	100000		0	0	0	0
4400/002	Installation grant	0	50000		0	0	0	0
4500/000	Office expenses	1800	1800	1260	1800	1800	2000	2200
4600/000	Telephone and Fax	21000	21000	14778	21000	21000	23100	25500
4650/000	Travel - Flights	100000	100000	71978	120000	140000	154000	170000
4700/000	Wages - Casual	15000	15000	15180	16500	16500	18200	20000
4710/000	Car Allowance	18900	18900	11025	18900	18900	23100	25500
6250/010	Computer Equipment	3000	0		0	0	0	10000
6300/000	Office Equipment	3000	3000	2944	0	0	3000	0
8300/000	Petty cash	5000	5000	500	5000	5000	5500	6000
000/000	Staff costs		641017	715283	0	0	0	0
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		1529625	2309227	2099466	1707383	1823533	2110458	2051352
	SEAFO Staff PAYE	108684			108684	0	0	0
	Contributions by Parties	1420941			1598699	1598699	2110458	2051352
TOTAL INCOME		1529625			1707383	1598699	2110458	2051352



# PRINCIPLES, GUIDELINES AND OPERATIONAL PROCEDURES FOR THE SEAFO SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS FUND

The South East Atlantic Fisheries Organization has adopted the following principles, guidelines and operational procedures to support the capacity-building work of the Organization and the selection of activities to be supported under the Organization's Special Requirements Fund.

# **Principles**

# i) Development of technical capacity

The purpose of the Fund, as provided for in the Financial Regulations of the Organization, is to:

- assist developing State Party members of the Organization and, where appropriate, territories and possessions, with human resources development, technical assistance and transfer of technology in relation to conservation and management of fisheries resources in the SEAFO Convention Area and development of fisheries for such stocks; and
- build capacity for activities in key areas such as effective exercise of flag
   State responsibilities, monitoring, control and surveillance, data
   collection and scientific research relevant to fisheries resources on a
   national and/or regional level. Preference will be given to activities that
   improve the capacity of individuals within the Organization's developing
   State Party members to help States fulfil their obligations under the

Convention and participate effectively in its work, rather than expenditure on other items such as hardware and software, unless these are specifically linked to the development of technical capacity of State Party members.

## ii) Filling gaps in programmes

The Special Requirements Fund will be applied to areas of national priority not currently covered by existing arrangements, or through collaboration in order to avoid duplication and extend the scope or coverage of existing arrangements. The selection process will be rigorous enough to ensure that assistance from the Fund reflect national priorities and is complementary to current activities.

# iii) Ease of administration

The Fund should be simple to administer and have procedures and guidelines that are sufficiently clear as to make prioritisation, decision making and reporting as free from lengthy research, negotiation and dispute as possible.

# iv) Equity

The Fund will be balanced across eligible Organization members. Activities should, wherever possible, aim at building coherent and cohesive approaches at the Organization and avoid those that exacerbate national or sub-regional differences in capacity and access to benefits from the fishery.

# v) Sustainable interventions

Applications for funding and decision making processes that underpin the use of the Special Requirements Fund should embody the sustainability principles of the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness, as well as the following:

- activities might be co-funded by the Special Requirements Fund and other donors, either members of the Organization or others;
- application of capacity-building activities to the full range of stakeholders - industry, NGOs, etc. - in order to increase national-level awareness and understanding of States' rights and obligations under the Convention, and promote greater public commitment to them;

 development of a longer-term work plan and strategy by the Organization, with regular monitoring and evaluation to ensure effective delivery and outcomes rather than just outputs. Where possible activities should not be ad-hoc but should meet defined priorities and align with national plans.

As far as possible the Organization should ensure that those individuals benefiting from capacity-building activities are in positions where they can make best use of the skills/ knowledge/ qualifications they gain, and be suitably resourced with operational support such as computer hardware and software.

# vi) Extended participation

Wherever possible, capacity-building should target the maximum number of individuals, across various stakeholder groups, including Government, the private sector and NGO.

# vii) Partnerships with existing regional organisations

Where possible maximum use should be made of existing regional organisations to coordinate and assist with capacity development.

# viii) Accountability

The use of the Funds shall be underpinned by the principles of transparency and accountability.

#### **Guidelines and Operational Procedures**

- 1) Pursuant to Article 21 of the Convention the Organization has established a Special Requirements Fund to facilitate the effective participation of developing States Parties, and, where appropriate, territories and possessions, in the work of the Organization, including its meetings and those of its subsidiary bodies.
- 2) Regulation VII [editorial note: New VII to be inserted] of the Financial Regulations, details the purposes of the Special Requirements Fund which include:

- Assisting developing State Parties to the Organization, and where appropriate, territories and possessions, with human resources development, technical assistance and transfer of technology in relation to conservation and management of fisheries resources in the Convention Area and development of fisheries for such stocks; and
- Building capacity for activities in key areas such as effective exercise of flag State responsibilities, monitoring, control and surveillance, data collection and scientific research relevant to fisheries resources on a national and/or regional level.
- 3) Drawing from guidance provided in Financial Regulation VII guidelines for applying for assistance from the Special Requirements Fund have been have been adopted by the Organization [Appendix A]. Only proposals received in the format described in Appendix A will be considered for support from the Fund.
- 4) By the 30th June each year, the Executive Secretary will write to members, cooperating non members or other sources of potential support for the Special Requirements Fund seeking voluntary contributions to the Fund for the subsequent financial year.
- 5) The Executive Secretary will notify members of the level of available funds in the Special Requirements Fund during the Annual Meeting as part of the report on the status of funds. The invitation to access the available funds for any particular period will remain open for as long as funding is available for drawdown in that financial year. Members will be advised if funds reach 50%, and then 25%, of the amount advised as available, or if significant new contributions are received.
- 6) Submissions seeking support from the Special Requirements Fund should be addressed to the Executive Secretary.
- 7) A review of proposals received from developing State Parties or participating territories to access funds from the Special Requirements Fund may involve senior staff of the Organization, the chairperson of subsidiary bodies of the

Organization, affiliate institutions providing advisory services to the Organization or independent experts. Proposals will be reviewed on an as received basis.

- 8) The Organization will make best efforts to complete an initial assessment of proposals received, and communicate the result of that assessment, within 45 days of the receipt of the proposal by the Organization.
- 9) In assessing a proposal, the Organization will take into account the criteria shown in Attachment 1 to Appendix A [Selection and Evaluation Criteria].
- 10) For each project funded under the SRF, a member of the Secretariat will be nominated as Project Liaison Officer.
- 11) Project monitoring and evaluation will be undertaken through:
  - submission of quarterly narrative and financial reports by the applicant;
  - submission of a final narrative and financial report at the end of the project;
  - written and verbal communication as necessary with the Project Liaison
     Officer or other staff of the Secretariat.
- 12) If considered necessary by the Executive Secretary, a post-completion evaluation of the project may be commissioned by the Executive Secretary, in order to verify project results and outcomes, and improve on the design and implementation of future projects funded by the SRF.
- 13) The Special Requirements Fund will be administered according the Financial Regulations of the Organization.

# Appendix A

# Application for funding from the Special Requirements Fund (SRF)

- Proposals should be prepared in Times Roman 12 font.
- Proposal content should be succinct, unambiguous, and descriptive.
- Proposals must be signed by the relevant Commissioner or appropriately authorized alternate (or, in the case of a regional organisation or an organisation which is not incorporated in an eligible SEAFO member country or participating territory, the Chairman of the Scientific Committee or the Technical and Compliance Committee).
- Proposals that do not meet these criteria may be returned unprocessed.

# I. Proposal Cover Sheet [Check List] [check to ensure that the following are included in the proposal]

- Date of formal submission to the Organization
- Required signatures
- Proposal Summary (250 words)
- Contact details for the Project Manager
- Introduction: Current situation needs assessment, relationship to the Convention and participation in the work of the Organization, previous activity related to the proposal, objectives, impact, importance and potential benefits.
- Methods and approach, description of major tasks, partnership roles and responsibilities, fisheries and environmental impact, long-term planned related work.
- Project Management roles and responsibilities (particularly that of the project manager), narrative and financial reporting schedule.
- Support Arrangements, relations with other institutions, agencies or organizations.
- Expected Results and Outcomes
- Itemized Budget, Co-financing and audit arrangements
- Personnel overview
- Reference Literature

## II. Date of Submission

The date the submission is forwarded to the Organization.

# III. Project Summary (250 words)

A Project Summary must be completed and inserted immediately behind the Proposal Cover Sheet [Check List].

# IV. Proposal Narrative (6 pages maximum)

#### A. Introduction

- 1. Situation, Need, and Previous Efforts Describe gaps in knowledge or capabilities, why the proposed project should be performed, review significant work related and how the project is relevant to the purpose of the Special Requirements Fund.
- 2. Objective(s) State the anticipated outcome(s).
- 3. Applications, Benefits, and Importance Describe how the anticipated results relate to the purpose/objectives of the Convention, the expected benefits, including the utility of the results to other Members of the Organization.

# B. Methods and Approach

- 1. Description of Major Tasks- Divide the proposed effort into a meaningful set of tasks that must be performed to accomplish the objective(s) and describe each task.
- 2. Environmental Impact State and explain any possible impact that your project will have on the environment and fisheries in the South East Atlantic.
- 3. Future Efforts If there are future efforts that should be performed in order for the project to be meaningful, or of major significance, please describe briefly the type, extent, and timing of those efforts. Is this a multi-year project? If possible, the individual parts (i.e., each year's effort) should stand alone be described and reported upon.

#### C. Project Management

1. Administration - Describe the administrative responsibilities and authority of those involved in the execution of the Proposal -

particularly those of the overall project manager (including full contact details).

2. Roles/Assignments and Participation Time - Describe the team composition (including names and affiliations of key individuals) and the assignments of team members to major tasks. Provide specific estimates of the time (in hours, days, etc., not percent) that each member will work on the project.

## D. Support Requirements and Conditions

- 1. Cooperation From Other Organizations- If a clearance or permit(s) from any government agency is required for execution of the project, please provide the name of the agency, the method of obtaining the clearance or permit, and the time required or state "none".
- 2. Data or Facility Access If access is required to data or facilities held by another organization, please identify the data or facility, the nature and type of access required, the methods of obtaining such access, and the effect of being denied access or state "none".

#### E. Results and Deliverables

Two types of reports are required.

- 1. Quarterly Narrative and Financial Progress Reports The project manager shall provide quarterly narrative and financial progress reports to the Organization. The reports will consist of updates on progress toward work objectives, justification, approach, results to date, any problems encountered, actions taken to resolve problems, discussion of remaining tasks, funds received (including co-financing), expenditure to date (including from co-financing sources), funds on hand, etc.. Quarterly reports will be due within 30 days after the end of each quarter.
- 2. Final Report The project manager shall prepare a draft final report summarizing the objectives, methods, approach, results, significance and lessons learned from the study. The draft final report will be submitted to the Organization within 45 days of the scheduled completion of the project unless prior approval for an

extension has been received in writing by the project manager. The draft final report may be reviewed by the Organization and returned with comments proposing means to address outstanding issues or gaps within 30 days of its receipt at the Organization. The project manager will address the comments and submit the final report with revisions within 30 days of receiving the Organization's comments.

3. Deliverable Items and Schedule - Describe what is to be delivered with the successful implementation of the proposal. Provide a schedule for all deliverables.

#### F. Literature Cited

References used in the proposal narrative.

# G. Budget Summary

1. General Information - F	Partners in this request have previo	usly
benefited from N\$	_ disbursed under the Special	
Requirements Fund. N\$	to fund special require	ments
was received in 200? and	an additional N\$ was re	ceived
in 200?		

- 2. Detailed Itemized Budget including co-financing and funding in-kind attach a detailed monthly budget identifying all sources of funding and items of anticipated expenditure. A cash flow summary will provide a schedule of anticipated disbursement of funds from the SRF.
- 3. Audit detail when, and by whom, the audit of funds received will be conducted and the submission date for the audit to the Organization.

# H. Biographies and Qualifications

Provide a brief biography for each team member that highlights education, experience, and publications related to the proposed project.

#### I. References

Cite any literature that is directly related to the proposal.

# Attachment 1 to Appendix A

# Selection and Evaluation Criteria to be used by the Secretariat

- Has a clear need for the project been identified?
- What are the outcomes sought?
- Who will benefit from the project?
- Does the project clearly seek to complement or improve existing fisheries conservation and management tools or capabilities in a way that will improve the ability of one or more developing member States to implement its obligations under the SEAFO?
- Does the project duplicate existing assistance programmes being delivered bilaterally or through by regional organisations?
- Will the project benefit more than just the individual or country (i.e. can the activity be extended to other stakeholders/ countries)
- Are the proposed costs of the activity reasonable and in proportion to the likely benefits?
- Is there an appropriate financial contribution from the national government?
- Has the applicant received prior support from the Fund? If so, was the activity successful?
- Are the project outcomes and objectives clearly set out?
- Are the approach and methods well described?
- Does the applicant/ beneficiary have the demonstrated capacity to benefit fully from the project and ensure the outputs are fully utilised?
- Does the project involve a broad range of stakeholders from the fishery sector?
- Is there provision for disseminating information on the project's activities and results to an appropriate range of stakeholders or the general public?
- How will the success of the intervention be measured?
- Who is responsible for ensuring the success of the intervention?



Decision on the Calculation of

# **Contracting Parties Contributions to the SEAFO Budget**

**Noting** that Article 12 of the Convention calls for the Commission to adopt annually the Organisation's budget;

Further noting that each Contracting Party shall contribute to the budget;

**Considering** that the current method of calculation of Contracting Parties contribution is of a temporary nature and that the contribution of each Contracting Party shall be equal while this temporary method is in force;

**Recognising** the need to modify the calculation method for the contribution by each Contracting Party according to a combination of an equal basic fee, a fee based on participation in fishing in the Convention Area of fishery resources covered by the Convention, as well as taking into account the economic status of each Contracting Party; and

**Further recognizing** the importance of equity and stability in the calculation of the contributions of Parties to the Commission's budget, and of fully funding the work of the Commission to enable it to fulfil its duties and responsibilities.

# The SEAFO Commission has decided that:

The calculation of the annual contribution of each Contracting Party shall be on the following basis:

• 30% of the budget shall be divided equally among all the Parties and

 60% of the budget shall be divided among the Parties according to their respective Gross National Income per capita, as defined by the World Bank, as follows:

75% divided equally among the Parties with an annual *per capita* GNI<sup>1</sup> exceeding \$ 10,000, and 25% divided equally among the Parties with an annual *per capita* GNI below \$ 10,000

• 10% of the budget shall be divided equally among the Members having participated in fishing in one of the three previous years for fishery resources covered by the Convention.

In the event that no Contracting Party has participated in fishing in one of the previous three years for fishery resources in the Convention Area, the 10% share of the budget for this component shall be equally distributed between the other two components.

This formula shall be applied to the budget for FY 2011, and shall continue in use until the Commission may decide otherwise.

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World Development Indicators database, World Bank.

## **SEAFO Rules of Procedures**

#### PART I REPRESENTATION

1. Each Member of the Commission shall be represented by one representative who may be accompanied by alternate representatives and advisers. However, at its discretion, the Commission may restrict its deliberations to representatives/heads of delegation only, and such other persons that the Commission may invite.



- 2. Each Member of the Commission shall notify the Executive Secretary as far as possible in advance of any meeting of the name of its representative and before or at the beginning of the meeting the names of its alternate representatives and advisers.
- 3. Each Member of the Commission shall nominate a correspondent who shall have primary responsibility for liaison with the Executive Secretary between meetings.

#### PART II TAKING OF DECISIONS

- 4. The Chairperson shall put to all Members of the Commission questions and proposals requiring decisions. Decisions shall be taken according to the following provisions:
- a) Decisions of the Commission on matters of substance shall be taken by consensus. The question of whether a matter is one of substance shall be treated as a matter of substance.
- b) Decisions on matters other than those referred to in paragraph (a) above shall be taken by a simple majority of the Members of the Commission present and voting.
- 5. At a meeting of the Commission, votes shall be taken by a show of hands. However, a roll call or a secret ballot vote shall be taken at the request of a Member of the Commission. In the case of conflicting requests as between a roll call or a secret ballot vote, a secret ballot vote shall be used. A roll call vote shall be taken by calling the names of the Members of the Commission entitled to vote in alphabetical order of the language of the country in which the meeting is held, beginning with the Member which has been chosen by lot.
- 6. At a meeting of the Commission, unless it decides otherwise, the Commission shall not discuss or take a decision on any item that has not been included in the provisional agenda for the meeting in accordance with Part IV of these Rules.
- 7. When necessary, the taking of decisions and votes on any proposal made during the period between meetings may be carried out by post or by other means of textual communication.
- a) The Chairperson or a Member which requests the application of the procedure laid down by this Rule shall convey with the proposal a recommendation as to whether the decision should be taken in accordance with Rule 4(a) or Rule 4(b).

Any disagreement on this matter shall be resolved in accordance with the provisions of Rule 4, and the following provisions.

- b) The Executive Secretary shall distribute copies of the proposal to all Members.
- c) If the decision is to be taken in accordance with Rule 4(a):
- i. Members shall immediately acknowledge receipt of the Executive Secretary's communication and respond within 60 days of the date of acknowledgment of the proposal, indicating whether they wish to support it, reject it, abstain on it, refrain from participating in the taking of the decision, or whether they require additional time to consider it, or whether they consider that it is not necessary for the decision to be taken during the period between meetings. In the latter case the Chairperson shall direct the Executive Secretary to inform all Members accordingly and the decision shall be remitted to the next meeting.
- ii. If there are no rejections and if no Member either seeks additional time or objects to the decision being taken between meetings, the Chairperson shall direct the Executive Secretary to inform all Members that the proposal has been adopted.
- iii. If the responses include a rejection of the proposal, the Chairperson shall direct the Executive Secretary to inform all Members that the proposal has been rejected, and provide them with a brief description of all individual responses.
- iv. If the initial responses do not include a rejection of the proposal or an objection to the decision being taken between meetings, but a Member requests additional time to consider it, a further 30 days shall be allowed. The Executive Secretary shall inform all Members of the final date by which responses must be lodged. Members who have not responded by that date
- shall be deemed to be in support of the proposal. After the final date, the Chairperson shall direct the Executive Secretary to proceed in accordance with subparagraphs (ii) or (iii), as the case may be.
- v. The Executive Secretary shall distribute to each Member copies of all responses as they are received.
- d) If the decision is to be taken in accordance with Rule 4(b):
- i. Members shall immediately acknowledge receipt of the Executive Secretary's communication and respond within 60 days of the date of acknowledgment of the proposal, indicating whether they wish to support it, reject it, abstain on it or refrain from participating in the taking of the decision.
- ii. At the end of the 60-day period, the Chairperson shall count the votes and direct the Executive Secretary to inform all Members of the result.
- iii. The Executive Secretary shall distribute to each Member copies of all responses as they are received.
- e) A proposal that has been rejected may not be reconsidered by way of postal voting until after the following meeting of the Commission, but may be considered at that meeting.

# PART III CHAIRPERSON, VICE-CHAIRPERSON AND EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

- 8. The Commission shall elect from among its Members a Chairperson and Vice- Chairperson, each of whom shall serve for a term of two years and shall be eligible for reelection for one additional term. The first Chairperson shall, however, be elected for an initial term of three years. The Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson shall not be representatives of the same Contracting Party.
- 9. A person representing a Member of the Commission as its Representative who is elected as Chairperson shall cease to act as a Representative upon assuming office and, whilst holding this office, shall not act as Representative, Alternate representative or Adviser at meeting of the Commission. The Member of the Commission concerned shall appoint another person to replace the one who was hitherto its Representative.
- 10. The Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson shall take office at the conclusion of the meeting at which they have been elected, except for the first Chairperson and Vice- Chairperson who shall take office

immediately upon their election.

- 11. The Chairperson shall have the following powers and responsibilities:
- a) convene the regular and extraordinary meetings of the Commission;
- b) preside at each meeting of the Commission;
- c) open and close each meeting of the Commission;
- d) make rulings on points of order raised at meetings of the Commission, provided that each representative retains the right to request that any such decision be submitted to the Commission for approval;
- e) put guestions and notify the Commission of the results of votes;
- f) approve a provisional Agenda for the meeting after consultation with representatives and the Executive Secretary;
- g) sign, on behalf of the Commission, the reports of each meeting for transmission to its Members, representatives and other interested persons as official documents of the proceedings; and h) exercise other powers and responsibilities as provided in these Rules and make such decisions and give such directions to the Executive Secretary as will ensure that the business of the Commission is carried out effectively and in accordance with its decisions.
- 12. Whenever the Chairperson of the Commission is unable to act, the Vice-Chairperson shall assume the powers and responsibilities of the Chairperson. The Vice-Chairperson shall act as Chairperson until the Chairperson resumes his or her duties. Whilst acting as Chairperson, the Vice-Chairperson will not act as Representative.
- 13.In the event of the office of Chairperson falling vacant due to resignation or permanent inability to act, the Vice-Chairperson shall act as Chairperson until the Commission's next meeting on which occasion a new Chairperson shall be elected. Until the election of a new Chairperson, the Vice-Chairperson will not act as Representative, Alternate Representative or Adviser.
- 14. The Commission shall appoint an Executive Secretary to serve the Commission, Compliance Committee and Scientific Committee, according to such procedures and on such terms and conditions as the Commission may determine. His or her term of office shall be for four years and he/she may be eligible for re-appointment.
- 15. The Commission shall authorise such staff establishment for the Secretariat as may be necessary and the Executive Secretary shall appoint, direct and supervise such staff according to such rules, and procedures and on such terms and conditions as the Commission may determine.
- 16. The Executive Secretary and Secretariat shall perform the functions entrusted to them by the Commission.

# PART IV PREPARATION FOR MEETINGS

- 17. The Executive Secretary shall prepare, in consultation with the Chairperson, a preliminary agenda for each meeting of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies. He or she shall transmit this preliminary agenda to all Members of the Commission not less than 65 days prior to the beginning of the meeting.
- 18. Members of the Commission proposing supplementary items for the preliminary agenda shall inform the Executive Secretary thereof no later than 45 days before the beginning of the meeting and accompany their proposal with an explanatory memorandum.

- 19. The Executive Secretary shall prepare, in consultation with the Chairperson, a provisional agenda for each meeting of the Commission. The provisional agenda shall include:
- a) all items which the Commission has previously decided to include in the provisional agenda;
- b) all items the inclusion of which is requested by any Member of the Commission;
- c) proposed dates for the next regular annual meeting following the one to which the provisional agenda relates.
- 20. The Executive Secretary shall transmit to all Members of the Commission, not less than one month in advance of the Commission's meeting, the provisional agenda and explanatory memoranda or reports related thereto.
- 21. The Executive Secretary shall:
- a) make all necessary arrangements for meetings of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies;
- b) issue invitations to all such meetings to Members of the Commission and to such states and organisations as are to be invited in accordance with Rule 33;
- c) take all the necessary steps to carry out the instructions and directions given to him by the Chairperson.

#### PART V CONDUCT OF BUSINESS AT MEETINGS

- 22. The Chairperson shall exercise his or her powers of office in accordance with customary practice. He/she shall ensure the observance of the Rules of Procedure and the maintenance of proper order. The Chairperson, in the exercise of his or her functions, shall remain under the authority of the meeting.
- 23. No representative may address the meeting without having previously obtained the permission of the Chairperson. The Chairperson shall call upon speakers in the order in which they signify their desire to speak. The Chairperson may call a speaker to order if his or her remarks are not relevant to the subject under discussion.
- 24. The Chairperson or Vice-Chairperson of the Compliance Committee, Scientific Committee and Standing Committee on Administration and Finance may attend all meetings of the Commission. They shall be entitled to present the report of the Compliance Committee, the Scientific Committee and the Standing Committee on Administration and Finance to the Commission and to address the Commission with regard to it. The Commission shall take full account of the reports of the Compliance Committee, the Scientific Committee and Standing Committee on Administration and Finance.
- 25. Proposals and amendments shall normally be submitted in writing to the Executive Secretary, who shall circulate copies to all delegations. As a general rule, no proposal shall be discussed or put to the vote at any meeting of the Commission unless copies have been distributed to all delegations in a reasonable time in advance. The Chairperson may, however, permit the discussion and consideration of proposals even though such proposals have not been circulated.
- 26. As a general rule proposals which have been rejected may not be reconsidered until the next meeting of the Commission.

- 27.A representative may at any time make a point of order and the point of order shall be decided immediately by the Chairperson in accordance with the Rules of Procedure. A representative may appeal against the ruling of the Chairperson. The appeal shall be put to a vote immediately and the Chairperson's ruling shall stand if upheld by a majority of the representatives present and voting. A representative making a point of order shall not speak on the substance of the matter under discussion. A point of order made during voting may concern only the conduct of the vote.
- 28.A representative may at any time move the suspension or the adjournment of the session. Such motions shall not be debated, but shall be put to the vote immediately. The Chairperson may limit the time to be allowed to each speaker putting such a motion.
- 29.A representative may at any time move the adjournment of the debate on the item under discussion. In addition to the proposer of the motion, two representatives may speak in favour of, and two against the motion, after which the motion shall be put to the vote immediately. The Chairperson may limit the time to be allowed to speakers.
- 30.A representative may at any time move the closure of the debate on the item under discussion. In addition to the proposer of the motion, two representatives may speak against the motion, after which the motion shall be put to the vote immediately. If the meeting is in favour of the closure, the Chairperson shall declare the closure of the debate and a decision shall be taken immediately on the item under discussion. The chairperson may limit the time to be allowed to speakers under this rule.
- 31. Subject to Rule 27 the following motions shall have precedence in the following order over all other proposals or motions before the session:
- a) to suspend the session;
- b) to adjourn the session;
- c) to adjourn the debate on the item under discussion;
- d) for the closure of the debate on the item under discussion.
- 32. With the exception of recording the devices for use by the Secretariat, the use of film, video, sound and any other media devices to record meeting proceedings shall be prohibited for all participants in Commission or subsidiary body meetings.

## **PART VI OBSERVERS**

- 33. The Commission may:
- a) extend an invitation to any signatory of the Convention to participate, in accordance with Rules 36, 37 and 38 below, as observers in meetings of the Commission;
- b) invite as appropriate, any non-Contracting Party to attend, in accordance with Rules 36, 37 and 38 below, as observers in the meetings of the Commission; c) invite, as appropriate, organisations referred to in Article 18(1) and (2) of the Convention to attend, in accordance with Rules 36, 37 and 38 below, as observers in the meetings of the Commission;

- d) invite, as appropriate, non-governmental organisations referred to in Article 8(8) of the Convention, to attend in accordance with Rules 36, 37 and 38 below, as observers in the meetings of the Commission unless the majority of the Contracting Parties object. Invitations to these organisations shall be issued in accordance with the procedure set forth in Rule 39 below.
- 34. The Executive Secretary may, when preparing with the Chairperson the preliminary agenda for a meeting of the Commission, draw to the attention of Members of the Commission his or her view that the work of the Commission would be facilitated by the attendance at its next meeting of an observer referred to in Rule 33, an invitation to which was not considered at the previous meeting. The Executive Secretary shall so inform Members of the Commission when transmitting to them the preliminary agenda under Rule 17. The Chairperson shall request the Commission to take a decision on the Executive Secretary's suggestion in accordance with Rule 7 and the Executive Secretary shall so inform Members of the Commission when transmitting to them the provisional agenda under Rule 19.
- 35. Observers may be present at public and private sessions of the Commission. If a Member of the Commission so requests, sessions of the Commission at which a particular agenda item is under consideration shall be restricted to its Members and Observers referred to in Rule 33(a) and Rule 33(b). With respect to any session so restricted, the Commission may also agree to invite Observers referred to in Rule 33(c).
- 36. The Chairperson may invite observers to address the Commission unless a Member of the Commission objects. Observers are not entitled to participate in the taking of decisions.
- 37. Observers may submit documents to the Secretariat for distribution to Members of the Commission as information documents. Such documents shall be relevant to matters under consideration in the Commission. Unless a Member or Members of the Commission request otherwise such documents shall be available only in the language or languages and in the quantities in which they were submitted. Such documents shall only be considered as Commission documents if so decided by the Commission.
- 38. Observers shall be granted timely access to documents subject to the terms of the confidentiality rules that the Commission may decide. Invitations to these organisations shall be issued in accordance with the following procedure:
- a) Any non-governmental organisation concerned with the stocks found in the Convention area, which desires to participate as an observer in meetings of the Commission, shall notify an application for observer status to the Executive Secretary at least 60 days in advance of the meeting. This application must include:
- b) name, address, telephone, fax number and e-mail address of the organisation and the person(s) proposed to represent the organisation;
- c) address of all its national/regional offices;
- d) aims and purposes of the organisation and a statement that the organisation generally supports the objectives of the Convention;
- e) information on the organisation's total number of members, its decision making process and its funding;

- f) a brief history of the organisation and a description of its activities;
- g) representative papers and other similar resources produced by or for the organisation on the conservation, management, or science of fishery resources to which the Convention applies;
- h) a history of SEAFO observer status granted/revoked, where appropriate;
- i) information or input that the organisation plans to present at the meeting in question and that it would wish to be circulated by the Executive Secretary for review by Contracting Parties prior to the meeting, supplied in sufficient quantity for such distribution.
- j) The Executive Secretary shall review applications received within the prescribed time and, at least 50 days before the meeting for which the application was received, shall notify the Contracting Parties of the names and qualifications of non-governmental organisations having fulfilled the requirements stipulated this Rule. Contracting Parties shall reply in writing within 20 days of the date at which the notification was sent, stating whether they approve or object to the application and giving reasons thereon. The application shall be considered accepted unless a simple majority of the Contracting Parties that replied objects. An organisation whose application has been rejected may submit a new complete application prior to any subsequent meeting of the Commission.
- k) Any Contracting Party may propose, giving its reasons in writing, that the observer status granted to a non-governmental organisation be revoked. Decisions to revoke observer status shall be taken by a simple majority of the Contracting Parties present and voting. The Commission may agree that this decision becomes effective at its following meeting.

#### **PART VII SUBSIDIARY BODIES**

39. The Commission may determine the composition and terms of reference of any subsidiary body established by it. Insofar as they are applicable these Rules of Procedure shall apply to any subsidiary body of the Commission unless the Commission decides otherwise.

#### **PART VIII LANGUAGES**

40. The official and working languages of the Commission shall be English and Portuguese.

#### PART IX REPORTS AND NOTIFICATIONS

41.Reports of meetings of the Commission shall be prepared by the Executive Secretary as required by the Commission before the end of each meeting. A draft report of such meetings shall be considered by the Commission before it is adopted at the end of the meeting. The Executive Secretary shall transmit reports of meetings of the Commission to all Members of the Commission, and to Observers that have attended the meeting, as soon as possible after the meeting.

#### 42. The Executive Secretary shall:

- a) notify each Member of the Commission immediately after each meeting of all decisions, measures or recommendations made or adopted by the Commission;
- b) notify each Member of the Commission of any notification by a Member of the Commission pursuant to Article 23
- c) of the Convention that it is unable to accept any conservation measure, in whole or in part, adopted by the Commission or of the withdrawal of any such notification.

#### Annex 10

#### SOUTH EAST ATLANTIC FISHERIES COMMISSION

## CONTRACT BETWEEN SOUTH EAST ATLANTIC FISHERIES COMMISSION AND THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

#### 1. Preamble

- 1.1 This contract is made between South East Atlantic Fisheries (hereinafter refers to as the Commission) and XXXX (name) (hereinafter refers to as Executive Secretary)
- 1.2 Upon accepting the employment, the Executive Secretary becomes an international civil servant and pledges himself to discharge his duties faithfully and to conduct himself with the interests of the Commission in mind.
- 1.3 This contract spells out all conditions and principles of employment and the responsibilities of the Executive Secretary.

#### 2. Duration of Contract and Commencement of Work

- 2.1 This contract will expire on XXXXX (date, 4 years)
- 2.2 The Executive Secretary may be eligible for re-appointment upon expiry of the contract subject to the approval of the Commission of the Organization..

#### 3. Place of Work

3.1 The duty station of the Executive Secretary is SEAFO Secretariat in Namibia.

#### 4. Duties, Responsibilities and Obligations

- 4.1 The Executive Secretary shall:
- Undertakes all necessary arrangements for annual and other meetings of SEAFO and its constituent bodies and committees, including the preparation and transmission of draft provisional agendas and provisional agendas for the respective bodies and committees in consultation with their respective Chairpersons
- Manages and controls the Secretariat's expenses and appropriations according to the Financial Regulations and decisions of SEAFO
- Prepares annual budget estimates and forecasts, annual financial statements and other documents as required by SEAFO

- Conduct on behalf of SEAFO, correspondence on routine and miscellaneous matters involving questions of policy previously determined by SEAFO, and future programs which have been formally adopted by SEAFO
- Address communications to the Depository, FAO
- Appoints and manages the Secretariat's staff
- Records the proceedings, resolutions, proposals, decisions and recommendations adopted by all meetings as required
- Maintains the official files of SEAFO and keeps the record of all meetings of SEAFO and its constituent bodies and committees
- Oversees the preparation, publication and distribution of reports of SEAFO
- Exercises leadership and innovation in the application of computer services and information and communications technology
- Liaise with governments and international fisheries organisations
- Represents SEAFO at meetings of other international organisations as required
- Assists officers of SEAFO generally in the performance of their duties, when requested
- Performs such other functions as may be assigned to him / her by the Commission or its Chairperson

### 5. Medical Clearance

- 5.1 The offer of appointment is subject to the Executive Secretary undergoing a medical examination and presenting a certificate stating that they have no medical conditions which might prevent him from performing their duties or which might endanger the health of others.
- 5.2 The prescribed medical form is attached as Annex A to this Contract.
- 5.3 At the expense of the Commission, the Executive Secretary may be required to undergo further medical examination from time to time as the Commission may decide.

### 6. Code of Conduct

- 6.1 The Executive Secretary will conduct himself at all times with the fullest regard for the purposes and principles of the Commission and in a manner befitting his relationship with the Commission under the contract.
- 6.2 The Executive Secretary may not seek or accept instructions from any government or authority other than the Commission.

- 6.3 The Executive Secretary shall observe maximum discrete on regarding official matters and shall abstain from making private use of information he possess by reason of his position, except as required by the assignment or upon authorization by the Commission.
- 6.4 While the Executive Secretary is not expected to renounce any national sentiments or political and religious convictions, he will at all times bear in mind the tact required by reason of the relationship with the Commission.
- 6.5 The Executive Secretary shall, in general, have no employment other than with the Commission.
- 6.6 In special cases, the Executive Secretary may accept other employment, provided that it does not interfere with his duties at the Secretariat and that prior authorization shall be obtained from the Chairperson of the Commission.
- 6.7 The Executive Secretary may not be associated with the management of a business, industry or other enterprise, or have a financial interest therein if, as a result of the official position held in the Secretariat, he may benefit from such association or interest.
- 6.8 The Executive Secretary shall enjoy the privileges and immunities to which he is entitled under the Headquarters Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Namibia and the Commission pursuant to Article 5 of the Convention.

#### 7. Remuneration

- 7.1 The Commission will pay a grosst lump sum monthly salary of XXXX and additional benefits as set forth in the written offer by the Organization for the service performed by the Executive Secretary under the terms of this contract under terms of this contract.
- 7.2 The gross salary payment shall include all allowances provided by the Organization and shall include the provision for the payment of income tax, social security and pension contributions.
- 7.3 The Executive Secretary is not entitled to overtime or compensatory leave.
- 7.4 The salary and benefit conditions of the Executive Secretary will be subject to review, on annual basis, taking into account, among others, the evolution of cost of living in Namibia and the performance of the Executive Secretary.
- 7.5 The Commission shall pay duly justified representation expenses incurred by the Executive Secretary in the performance of his duties within the limits prescribed annually in the budget.

#### 8. Income Tax

8.1 The Executive Secretary, as a citizen of Namibia, shall not be exempted from the normal income tax rules applied by Namibia regarding Namibian citizens..

#### 9. Hours of Work

9.1 The normal working day shall be eight hours, Monday through Friday for a total of forty-two hours per week.

## 10. National / Public Holidays

- 10.1 The Executive Secretary shall be entitled to the holidays celebrated traditionally in Namibia:
  - 1 January New Year's Day
  - 21 March Independence Day
  - Good Friday
  - Easter Monday
  - 1<sup>st</sup> May Worker's Day
  - 4<sup>th</sup> May Cassinga Day
  - Ascension Day
  - 25<sup>th</sup> May Africa Day
  - 26<sup>th</sup> August Heroes' Day
  - 10 December Human Rights Day
  - 25 December Christmas Day
  - 26 December Family Day
- 10.2 If under special circumstances the Executive Secretary is required to work on one of the aforementioned holidays, or if any of the above holidays falls on a Sunday, the holiday shall be observed on another day to be set by him, taking into account the needs of the Organzation.

#### 11. Annual Leave

- 11.1 The Executive Secretary shall be entitled to annual leave to be accrued at the rate of 2.5 workdays for each full month of service.
- 11.2 When considering taking leave, the Executive Secretary shall take due consideration so as not to cause undue disruption to normal Secretariat operations.
- 11.3 Leave dates that may be taken in one or more periods shall be approved by the Chairperson.
- 11.4 Annual leave is cumulative, but at the end of each calendar year, not more than 30 workdays may be carried over to the following year.
- 11.5 The Executive Secretary, when terminated his appointment, and has accumulated annual leave that has not been taken, shall receive the cash equivalent estimated on the basis of the last salary received.

11.6 Unauthorised leave days taken by the Executive Secretary shall be deducted from annual leave days.

#### 12. Sick Leave

- 12.1 The Executive Secretary is entitled to certified sick leave not exceeding 12 months for any four consecutive years.
- 12.2 The first six months shall be on full salary and the second six months on half salary, except that no more than four months on full salary shall normally be granted in any period of twelve consecutive months.
- 12.3 Any absence of more than three consecutive working days and more than a total of 7 working days in any calendar year must be supported by a medical certificate.

## 13. Travel / Transport

- 13.1 All official travel outside Namibia by the Executive Secretary shall be authorized by the Chairperson in advance within the limits of the budget, and the itinerary and traveling conditions shall be those best suited for maximum effectiveness in the fulfillment of duties assigned.
- 13.2 A travel allowance, generally consistent with United Nations practice, shall be paid in advance for fares, accommodation, and daily living expenses.
- 13.3 Economy class shall be utilized for trips less than four hours for air travel. Trips exceeding four hours in duration, business class may be used.
- 13.4 First class may be utilized for land travel, but not for travel by sea or air
- 13.5 Following the completion of official trip, the Executive Secretary shall repay any travel allowances to which, in the event, he was not entitled.
- 13.6 Where Executive Secretary has incurred expenses above and beyond those for which travel allowances have been paid, he shall be reimbursed, against receipts and vouchers, as long as such expenses were necessarily incurred in pursuit of their official duties.
- 13.7 In special circumstance, and when conducting official duties outside the duty station, the Executive Secretary may hire a car to enable him to conduct official duties efficiently and taking into account the budget allocation.
- 13.8 On taking up an appointment the Executive Secretary shall be eligible for an installation grant equivalent to one month net salary
- 13.8 The Executive Secretary is entitled to receive reimbursement for the use of private motor vehicle in performing his duties. The reimbursement of the cost involved should be in line with that available to members of the Government Service in Namibia.

13.10 The costs associated with normal daily travel to and from place of work shall not be reimbursed.

## 14. Social Security

- 14.1 The Executive Secretary is entirely responsible for the payment into the national security plan, for coverage of old-age and health benefits.
- 14.2 The Commission is exempted from any liabilities regarding national social security of the Executive Secretary.

#### 15. Compensation from Injury, Disability or Death

- 15.1 Executive Secretary shall contribute to a recognized retirement fund and have adequate medical, hospital, life and disability insurance covers that include cover for the dependants.
- 15.2 In the event of death of the Executive Secretary following illness or surgery not resulting from an accident covered by the appropriate insurance, the right to salary and any applicable benefits shall cease on the day which death occurs, unless the deceased leaves dependants, in which case these shall be entitled to mortality allowance (as contained in the Staff Regulations).
- 15.5 The Commission shall pay for transport of the Executive Secretary's mortal remains from the place of death to the place designated by the spouse.

#### 16. Termination of Employment

- 16.1 Executive Secretary may terminate this contract at any time upon three months notice or such lesser period as may be approved by the Chairperson or the Commission, as the case may require.
- 16.3 The appointment of the Executive Secretary may be terminated if:
  - He does not give satisfactory service;
  - Fails to comply with the duties and obligations set out in the Staff Regulations and Financial Regulations;
  - Is incapacitated for service.
- 16.4 To effect paragraph 16.2 above, the Chairperson after consultation with the Parties, and taking into account Article 17 of the Convention, shall serve a written termination notice at least three months in advance to the Executive Secretary.
- 16.5 In the event of separation from service with the Secretariat, the Executive Secretary shall be compensated at a rate of one-month base pay for each year of service, beginning the second year, unless the cause of termination has been gross dereliction of duties.

## 17. Settlement of Disputes

17.1 Any doubt or dispute arising from application of this contract shall be resolved by the Commission.

## 18. Amendments

18.1 Subject to the provision of the Convention, this contract may be amended by the Commission in accordance with its Rules of Procedure.

	Signed By			
Xxx Chairperson of SEAFO	xxx Executive Secretary of SEAFO			
Date:	Date:			

 $\label{eq:Annex11} \textbf{REVIEW OF 2008 AND 2009 BUDGETS DRAFT 2010 AND FORECAST 2011}$ 

Budgetline	Activity description	Allocation	Revised	Ехр	Allocation	Allocation	Allocation	Allocation
		2008	2008	Actual	2009	2009 Rev	2010	2011
3000/000	Accounting Fees	27000	27000	28604	30000	62000	30000	30000
3050/000	Advertising & Promotions	10000	10000	10000	10000	10000	10000	10000
3100/000	Consultant				80000	80000	26000	0
3150/000	Performance Review						80000	0
3200/000	Bank Charges	12000	12000	7343	12000	12000	12000	12000
3300/000	Computer Expenses	4000	4000	317	4000	4000	4000	4000
3301/000	Software Upgrade	5000	5000	1728	5000	5000	14200	5000
3302/000	Internet lease Line	62000	62000	54803	62000	62000	62000	62000
3303/000	Rent - Internet	5000	5000	4282	5000	5000	5000	5000
3304/000	VMS - Related Costs	78000	78000	97821	83840	83840	92224	101446
3310/000	Security/Alarm	1200	1200	1176	1200	5000	1350	1450
3355/000	Contigency	8000	8000	6490	8000	8000	8000	8000
3400/000	Courier & Postage	6500	6500	6420	6500	6500	7150	7900
3700/000	Miscellaneous	2400	2400	732	2400	2400	2650	2900
3850/000	Insurance	15900	15900	11492	13000	15900	17500	19300
4051/000	Reports and Translation	50000	50000	27259	30000	30000	33000	36300
4070/000	Meetings & Conferences	130000	130000	196507	143000	200000	220000	242000
4200/000	Printing & Stationery	6000	6000	366	6000	6000	6600	7300
4300/000	Rent Paid	96200	87785	79350	96200	96200	105820	116400
4310/000	Maintenance Switchboard	7000	7000	4957	7000	7000	7700	8500
4315/000	Maintenance Copier/Fax	2550	2550	2807	2550	3000	3300	3700
4400/001	Salaries Paid Cash	833175	833175	724064	916493	916493	1133064	1108956
4400/001	Removal Expenses	0	100000		0	0	0	0
4400/002	Installation grant	0	50000		0	0	0	0
4500/000	Office expenses	1800	1800	1260	1800	1800	2000	2200
4600/000	Telephone and Fax	21000	21000	14778	21000	21000	23100	25500
4650/000	Travel - Flights	100000	100000	71978	120000	140000	154000	170000
4700/000	Wages - Casual	15000	15000	15180	16500	16500	18200	20000
4710/000	Car Allowance	18900	18900	11025	18900	18900	23100	25500
6250/010	Computer Equipment	3000	0		0	0	0	10000
6300/000	Office Equipment	3000	3000	2944	0	0	3000	0
8300/000	Petty cash	5000	5000	500	5000	5000	5500	6000
000/000	Staff costs		641017	715283	0	0	0	0
TOTAL EXP	ENDITURE	1529625	2309227	2099466	1707383	1823533	2110458	2051352
	SEAFO Staff PAYE	108684			108684	0	0	0
	Contributions by Parties	1420941			1598699	1598699	2110458	2051352
TOTAL INCO	DME	1529625			1707383	1598699	2110458	2051352

#### Annex 12

# PRINCIPLES, GUIDELINES AND OPERATIONAL PROCEDURES FOR THE SEAFO SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS FUND

The South East Atlantic Fisheries Organization has adopted the following principles, guidelines and operational procedures to support the capacity-building work of the Organization and the selection of activities to be supported under the Organization's Special Requirements Fund.

#### **Principles**

### i) Development of technical capacity

The purpose of the Fund, as provided for in the Financial Regulations of the Organization, is to:

- assist developing State Party members of the Organization and, where appropriate, territories and possessions, with human resources development, technical assistance and transfer of technology in relation to conservation and management of fisheries resources in the SEAFO Convention Area and development of fisheries for such stocks; and
- build capacity for activities in key areas such as effective exercise of flag State responsibilities, monitoring, control and surveillance, data collection and scientific research relevant to fisheries resources on a national and/or regional level. Preference will be given to activities that improve the capacity of individuals within the Organization's developing State Party members to help States fulfil their obligations under the Convention and participate effectively in its work, rather than expenditure on other items such as hardware and software, unless these are specifically linked to the development of technical capacity of State Party members.

## ii) Filling gaps in programmes

The Special Requirements Fund will be applied to areas of national priority not currently covered by existing arrangements, or through collaboration in order to avoid duplication and extend the scope or coverage of existing arrangements. The selection process will be rigorous enough to ensure that assistance from the Fund reflect national priorities and is complementary to current activities.

## iii) Ease of administration

The Fund should be simple to administer and have procedures and guidelines that are sufficiently clear as to make prioritisation, decision making and reporting as free from lengthy research, negotiation and dispute as possible.

## iv) Equity

The Fund will be balanced across eligible Organization members. Activities should, wherever possible, aim at building coherent and cohesive approaches at the Organization and avoid those that exacerbate national or sub-regional differences in capacity and access to benefits from the fishery.

#### v) Sustainable interventions

Applications for funding and decision making processes that underpin the use of the Special Requirements Fund should embody the sustainability principles of the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness, as well as the following:

- activities might be co-funded by the Special Requirements Fund and other donors, either members of the Organization or others;
- application of capacity-building activities to the full range of stakeholders industry, NGOs, etc. in order to increase national-level awareness and understanding of States' rights and obligations under the Convention, and promote greater public commitment to them;
- development of a longer-term work plan and strategy by the Organization, with regular monitoring and evaluation to ensure effective delivery and outcomes rather than just outputs. Where possible activities should not be ad-hoc but should meet defined priorities and align with national plans.

As far as possible the Organization should ensure that those individuals benefiting from capacity-building activities are in positions where they can make best use of the skills/knowledge/ qualifications they gain, and be suitably resourced with operational support such as computer hardware and software.

## vi) Extended participation

Wherever possible, capacity-building should target the maximum number of individuals, across various stakeholder groups, including Government, the private sector and NGO.

## vii) Partnerships with existing regional organisations

Where possible maximum use should be made of existing regional organisations to coordinate and assist with capacity development.

#### viii) Accountability

The use of the Funds shall be underpinned by the principles of transparency and accountability.

## **Guidelines and Operational Procedures**

- 1) Pursuant to Article 21 of the Convention the Organization has established a Special Requirements Fund to facilitate the effective participation of developing States Parties, and, where appropriate, territories and possessions, in the work of the Organization, including its meetings and those of its subsidiary bodies.
- 2) Regulation VII of the Financial Regulations, details the purposes of the Special Requirements Fund which include:
  - Assisting developing State Parties to the Organization, and where appropriate, territories and possessions, with human resources development, technical assistance and transfer of technology in relation to conservation and management of fisheries resources in the Convention Area and development of fisheries for such stocks; and
  - capacity for activities in key areas such as effective exercise of flag State responsibilities, monitoring, control and surveillance, data collection and scientific research relevant to fisheries resources on a national and/or regional level.
- 3) Drawing from guidance provided in Financial Regulation VII guidelines for applying for assistance from the Special Requirements Fund have been have been adopted by the Organization [Appendix A]. Only proposals received in the format described in Appendix A will be considered for support from the Fund.
- 4) By the 30th June each year, the Executive Secretary will write to members, cooperating non members or other sources of potential support for the Special Requirements Fund seeking voluntary contributions to the Fund for the subsequent financial year.

- 5) The Executive Secretary will notify members of the level of available funds in the Special Requirements Fund during the Annual Meeting as part of the report on the status of funds. The invitation to access the available funds for any particular period will remain open for as long as funding is available for drawdown in that financial year. Members will be advised if funds reach 50%, and then 25%, of the amount advised as available, or if significant new contributions are received.
- 6) Submissions seeking support from the Special Requirements Fund should be addressed to the Executive Secretary.
- 7) A review of proposals received from developing State Parties or participating territories to access funds from the Special Requirements Fund may involve senior staff of the Organization, the chairperson of subsidiary bodies of the Organization, affiliate institutions providing advisory services to the Organization or independent experts. Proposals will be reviewed on an as received basis.
- 8) The Organization will make best efforts to complete an initial assessment of proposals received, and communicate the result of that assessment, within 45 days of the receipt of the proposal by the Organization.
- 9) In assessing a proposal, the Organization will take into account the criteria shown in Attachment 1 to Appendix A [Selection and Evaluation Criteria].
- 10) For each project funded under the SRF, a member of the Secretariat will be nominated as Project Liaison Officer.
- 11) Project monitoring and evaluation will be undertaken through:
  - submission of quarterly narrative and financial reports by the applicant;
  - submission of a final narrative and financial report at the end of the project;
  - written and verbal communication as necessary with the Project Liaison Officer or other staff of the Secretariat.
- 12) If considered necessary by the Executive Secretary, a post-completion evaluation of the project may be commissioned by the Executive Secretary, in order to verify project results and outcomes, and improve on the design and implementation of future projects funded by the SRF.
- 13) The Special Requirements Fund will be administered according the Financial Regulations of the Organization.

#### Appendix A

#### **Application for funding from the Special Requirements Fund (SRF)**

- Proposals should be prepared in Times Roman 12 font.
- Proposal content should be succinct, unambiguous, and descriptive.
- Proposals must be signed by the relevant Commissioner or appropriately authorized alternate (or, in the case of a regional organisation or an organisation which is not incorporated in an eligible SEAFO member country or participating territory, the Chairman of the Scientific Committee or the Technical and Compliance Committee).
- Proposals that do not meet these criteria may be returned unprocessed.

## I. Proposal Cover Sheet [Check List] [check to ensure that the following are included in the

#### proposal]

- Date of formal submission to the Organization
- Required signatures
- Proposal Summary (250 words)
- Contact details for the Project Manager
- Introduction: Current situation needs assessment, relationship to the Convention and participation in the work of the Organization, previous activity related to the proposal, objectives, impact, importance and potential benefits.
- Methods and approach, description of major tasks, partnership roles and responsibilities, fisheries and environmental impact, long-term planned related work.
- Project Management roles and responsibilities (particularly that of the project manager), narrative and financial reporting schedule.
- Support Arrangements, relations with other institutions, agencies or organizations.
- Expected Results and Outcomes
- Itemized Budget, Co-financing and audit arrangements
- Personnel overview
- Reference Literature

## II. Date of Submission

The date the submission is forwarded to the Organization.

### III. Project Summary (250 words)

A Project Summary must be completed and inserted immediately behind the Proposal Cover Sheet [Check List].

#### IV. Proposal Narrative (6 pages maximum)

A. Introduction

- 1. Situation, Need, and Previous Efforts Describe gaps in knowledge or capabilities, why the proposed project should be performed, review significant work related and how the project is relevant to the purpose of the Special Requirements Fund.
- 2. Objective(s) State the anticipated outcome(s).
- 3. Applications, Benefits, and Importance Describe how the anticipated results relate to the purpose/objectives of the Convention, the expected benefits, including the utility of the results to other Members of the Organization.

#### B. Methods and Approach

- 1. Description of Major Tasks- Divide the proposed effort into a meaningful set of tasks that must be performed to accomplish the objective(s) and describe each task.
- 2. Environmental Impact State and explain any possible impact that your project will have on the environment and fisheries in the South East Atlantic.
- 3. Future Efforts If there are future efforts that should be performed in order for the project to be meaningful, or of major significance, please describe briefly the type, extent, and timing of those efforts. Is this a multi-year project? If possible, the individual parts (i.e., each year's effort) should stand alone be described and reported upon.

## C. Project Management

- 1. Administration Describe the administrative responsibilities and authority of those involved in the execution of the Proposal particularly those of the overall project manager (including full contact details).
- 2. Roles/Assignments and Participation Time Describe the team composition (including names and affiliations of key individuals) and the assignments of team members to major tasks. Provide specific estimates of the time (in hours, days, etc., not percent) that each member will work on the project.

#### D. Support Requirements and Conditions

- 1. Cooperation From Other Organizations- If a clearance or permit(s) from any government agency is required for execution of the project, please provide the name of the agency, the method of obtaining the clearance or permit, and the time required or state "none".
- 2. Data or Facility Access If access is required to data or facilities held by another organization, please identify the data or facility, the nature and type of access required, the methods of obtaining such access, and the effect of being denied access or state "none".

#### E. Results and Deliverables

Two types of reports are required.

- 1. Quarterly Narrative and Financial Progress Reports The project manager shall provide quarterly narrative and financial progress reports to the Organization. The reports will consist of updates on progress toward work objectives, justification, approach, results to date, any problems encountered, actions taken to resolve problems, discussion of remaining tasks, funds received (including co-financing), expenditure to date (including from co-financing sources), funds on hand, etc.. Quarterly reports will be due within 30 days after the end of each quarter.
- 2. Final Report The project manager shall prepare a draft final report summarizing the objectives, methods, approach, results, significance and lessons learned from the study. The draft final report will be submitted to the Organization within 45 days of the scheduled completion of the project unless prior approval for an extension has been received in writing by the project manager. The draft final report may be reviewed by the Organization and returned with comments proposing means to address outstanding issues or gaps within 30 days of its receipt at the Organization.

The project manager will address the comments and submit the final report with revisions within 30 days of receiving the Organization's comments.

3. Deliverable Items and Schedule - Describe what is to be delivered with the successful implementation of the proposal. Provide a schedule for all deliverables.

#### F. Literature Cited

References used in the proposal narrative.

## G. Budget Summary

1. General Infor	mation – Partners in this request have previously benefited
from N\$	_ disbursed under the Special Requirements Fund.
N\$	to fund special requirements was received in 200? and an
additional N\$_	was received in 200?

- 2. Detailed Itemized Budget including co-financing and funding in-kind attach a detailed monthly budget identifying all sources of funding and items of anticipated expenditure. A cash flow summary will provide a schedule of anticipated disbursement of funds from the SRF.
- 3. Audit detail when, and by whom, the audit of funds received will be conducted and the submission date for the audit to the Organization.

## H. Biographies and Qualifications

Provide a brief biography for each team member that highlights education, experience, and publications related to the proposed project.

#### I. References

Cite any literature that is directly related to the proposal.

#### Attachment 1 to Appendix A

#### Selection and Evaluation Criteria to be used by the Secretariat

- Has a clear need for the project been identified?
- What are the outcomes sought?
- Who will benefit from the project?
- Does the project clearly seek to complement or improve existing fisheries conservation and management tools or capabilities in a way that will improve the ability of one or more developing member States to implement its obligations under the SEAFO?
- Does the project duplicate existing assistance programmes being delivered bilaterally or through by regional organisations?
- Will the project benefit more than just the individual or country (i.e. can the activity be extended to other stakeholders/ countries)
- Are the proposed costs of the activity reasonable and in proportion to the likely benefits?
- Is there an appropriate financial contribution from the national government?
- Has the applicant received prior support from the Fund? If so, was the activity successful?
- Are the project outcomes and objectives clearly set out?
- Are the approach and methods well described?
- Does the applicant/ beneficiary have the demonstrated capacity to benefit fully from the project and ensure the outputs are fully utilised?
- Does the project involve a broad range of stakeholders from the fishery sector?
- Is there provision for disseminating information on the project's activities and results to an appropriate range of stakeholders or the general public?
- How will the success of the intervention be measured?
- Who is responsible for ensuring the success of the intervention?

#### Annex 13

## **SEAFO Financial regulations**

#### PART I: APPLICABILITY

1. These Regulations shall govern the financial administration of the Commission for the Conservation and Management of Fishery Resources in the South East Atlantic Ocean (hereinafter referred to as 'the Commission') and the Compliance and Scientific Committees for the Conservation and Management of Fishery Resources in the South East Atlantic Ocean (hereinafter referred to as 'the Compliance and Scientific Committees') established under Articles 9 and 10 of the Convention on the Conservation and Management of Fishery Resources in the South East Atlantic Ocean (hereinafter referred to as 'the Convention').



#### **PART II: FINANCIAL YEAR**

2. The financial year shall be for 12 months commencing 1 January and ending 31 December, both dates inclusive.

#### PART III: THE BUDGET

- 3. A draft budget comprising estimates of receipts by the Commission and of expenditures by the Commission, the Compliance Committee and the Scientific Committee and any subsidiary bodies established pursuant to Articles 9 (6) and 10 (8) of the Convention shall be prepared by the Executive Secretary for the ensuing financial year.
- 4. The draft budget shall include a statement of the significant financial implications for subsequent financial years in respect of any proposed work programs presented in terms of administrative, recurrent and capital expenditure.
- 5. The draft budget shall be divided by functions into items and, where necessary or appropriate, into sub- items.
- 6. The draft budget shall be accompanied by details both of the appropriations made for the previous year and estimated expenditure against those appropriations, together with such information annexures as may be required by Members of the Commission or deemed necessary or desirable by the Executive Secretary. The precise form in which the draft budget is to be presented shall be prescribed by the Commission.
- 7. The Executive Secretary shall submit the draft budget to all Members of the Commission at least 60 days prior to the annual meeting of the Commission, as provided for in Article 12 (2) of the Convention. At the same time, and in the same form as the draft budget, he or she shall prepare and submit to all Members of the Commission a forecast budget for the subsequent financial year.

- 8. The draft budget and the forecast budget shall be presented in Namibian dollars.
- 9. At each annual meeting, the Commission shall adopt by consensus its budget and the budget of the Compliance Committee and Scientific Committee.

#### PART IV: APPROPRIATIONS

- 10. The appropriations adopted by the Commission shall constitute an authorisation for the Executive Secretary to incur obligations and make payments for the purposes for which the appropriations were adopted.
- 11.Unless the Commission decides otherwise, the Executive Secretary may also incur obligations against future years before appropriations are adopted when such obligations are necessary for the continued effective functioning of the Commission, provided such obligations are restricted to administrative requirements of a continuing nature not exceeding the scale of such requirements as authorised in the budget of the current financial year. In other circumstances the Executive Secretary may incur obligations against future years only as authorised by the Commission.
- 12. Appropriations shall be available for the financial year to which they relate. At the end of the financial year all appropriations shall lapse. Commitments remaining undischarged against previous appropriations at the end of a financial year shall be carried over and be included in the budget for the next financial year, unless the Commission otherwise decides.
- 13. The Chairperson may authorise the Executive Secretary to make transfers of up to 10 per cent of appropriations between items. The Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Administration and Finance may authorise the Executive Secretary to make transfers of up to 10 per cent of appropriations between categories within sub-items and/or indivisible items. The Executive Secretary may authorise the transfer of up to 10 per cent of appropriations between sub-items of an item. All transfers must be reported by the Executive Secretary to the next annual meeting of the Commission.
- 14. The Commission shall prescribe the conditions under which unforeseen and extraordinary expenses may be incurred.

### **PART V: PROVISION OF FUNDS**

- 15. Each Member of the Commission shall contribute to the budget in accordance with Article12 of the Convention.
- 16.Staff Assessment Levy paid by an employee of the Commission shall be regarded by the Commission as payment towards the annual budget contribution for the year.
- 17. On approval of the budget for a financial year, the Executive Secretary shall

send a copy thereof to all Members of the Commission notifying them of their contributions and requesting them to remit their contributions due. A Member of the Commission that fails to pay its contributions for two consecutive years shall not, during the period of its default, have the right to participate in the taking of decisions in the Commission.

18.All contributions shall be made in Namibian dollars or the equivalent amount in United States dollars.

19. Except in the first financial year, a new Member of the Commission whose membership becomes effective during the first six months of the financial year shall be liable to pay the full amount of the annual contribution which would have been payable had it been a Member of the Commission when assessments were made under Article 12 of the Convention. A new Member, whose membership becomes effective during the last six months of the financial year, shall be liable to pay half of the amount of the annual contribution referred to above. In the first financial year all Members whose membership becomes effective during the first nine months of the year shall be liable to pay the full amount of the annual contributions. A Member whose membership becomes effective during the last three months of the first financial year shall be liable to pay half the amount of the first annual contribution;

20. Where contributions are received from new Members the contributions of existing Members shall be adjusted in accordance with Regulation 26.

21.Except in the first financial year when contributions shall be paid within 90 days of the end of the first Commission meeting, contributions shall be due for payment on the first day of the financial year (i.e. the due date) and shall be paid not later than 60 days after that date. The Commission has the authority to permit extensions to the due date of up to 90 days for individual Members who are unable to comply with this regulation due to the timing of the financial years of their governments. However, in the case referred to in Regulation 19, contributions by a new Member shall be made within 90 days following the date on which its membership becomes effective. If payment is made after the due date in United States dollars, the net payment received by the Commission shall be equivalent to the amount of Namibian dollars payable on the due date.

22. The Executive Secretary shall report to each meeting of the Commission on the receipt of the contributions and the position of arrears.

#### **PART VI: FUNDS**

- 23. There shall be established a General Fund for the purpose of accounting for the income and expenditure of the Commission and Compliance and Scientific Committees and any subsidiary bodies established pursuant to the Convention;
- 24. Contributions paid by Members under Regulation 15 and miscellaneous income to finance general expenditure shall be credited to the General Fund;

- 25. Any cash surplus in the General Fund at the close of a financial year that is not required to meet undischarged commitments in terms of Regulation 12 shall be divided in proportion to the contributions made by existing Members under Regulation 15 in the current financial year and used to offset such Members' contributions for the ensuing financial year. This provision shall not apply at the end of the first financial year when surplus funds other than those resulting from contributions by new Members may be carried over into the following financial year;
- 26. Where contributions are received from new Members after the commencement of the financial year and such funds have not been taken into account in formulating the budget, appropriate adjustment shall be made to the level of the assessed contributions of existing Members and such adjustments recorded as advances made by such Members;
- 27. Advances made by Members shall be carried to the credit of the Members that have made such advances.
- 28. Trust and Special Funds may be established by the Commission for the purpose of receiving funds and making payments for purposes not covered by the regular budget of the Commission.

## PART VII: SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS FUND

- 29. A Special Requirements Fund shall be established for the purposes identified in article 21 of the Convention, including:
- (a) assisting developing States Party members and, where appropriate, territories and possessions, with human resources development, technical assistance and transfer of technology in relation to conservation and management of highly migratory fish stocks in the Convention Area and development of fisheries for such stocks; and
- (b) building capacity for activities in key areas such as effective exercise of flag State responsibilities, monitoring, control and surveillance, data collection and scientific research relevant to highly migratory fish stocks on a national and/or regional level.
- 30. The Special Requirements Fund shall be financed from voluntary contributions and such other sources as the Commission may identify. The fund will be administered by the Executive Secretary, in accordance with the same financial controls as regular budget appropriations.
- 31. The Executive Secretary shall establish a process for notifying the members of the Commission annually of the level of available funds in the Special Requirements Fund, which shall include a timeline and a format for the submission of applications for assistance.
- 32. In accordance with the provisions of Article 21, paragraph 4, of the Convention, developing States Parties, and, where appropriate, territories and

possessions, will be eligible to receive assistance from the Special Requirements Fund.

- 33. Those eligible, in accordance with Regulation 32, may submit an application for assistance from the fund. An application may also be submitted by an appropriate subregional or regional organization or arrangement on behalf of one or more of those eligible. Any application should specify how it relates to the purposes identified in Regulation 29 and include a description of the desired outputs of the project or expenditure and an itemization of anticipated costs.
- 34. The Commission shall consider the applications for assistance. The Commission shall be guided by the purposes of the fund, the provisions of the Convention, the financial needs of the applicant and the availability of funds. Assistance shall be provided on an impartial basis. Consideration of applications shall also include an assessment of whether any existing sources of assistance are available. Decisions by the Commission on assistance from the fund shall take into account the size of the fund and the need for cost-effectiveness.
- 35. The Executive Secretary shall submit an annual report to the Commission on the status of the fund, including a financial statement of contributions to an disbursements from the fund. Recipients of assistance shall be required to provide to the Executive Secretary a report on the purpose and outcome of each approved project and a summary of expenditures.

#### PART VIII: OTHER INCOME

- 36. All income other than contributions to the budget under Regulation 15 and that referred to in Regulation 38 below, shall be classified as Miscellaneous Income and credited to the General Fund. The use of Miscellaneous Income shall be subject to the same financial controls as activities financed from regular budget appropriations.
- 37. Voluntary contributions above and beyond Members' budget contributions may be accepted by the Executive Secretary provided that the purposes for which the contributions are made are consistent with the policies, aims and activities of the Commission. Voluntary contributions offered by non-Members may be accepted, subject to agreement by the Commission that the purposes of the contribution are consistent with the policies, aims and activities of the Commission.
- 38. Voluntary contributions shall be treated as Trust or Special Funds under Regulation 28.

#### PART IX: CUSTODY OF FUNDS

39. The Executive Secretary shall designate a bank or banks in Namibia in which the funds of the Commission shall be kept and shall report the identity of the bank or banks so designated to the Commission.

- 40. The Executive Secretary may make short-term investments of moneys not needed for the immediate requirements of the Commission. Such investments shall be restricted to securities and other investments issued by Namibian institutions or Government bodies with current ratings, provided by a rating body approved by the Commission's auditor, indicating a strong capacity to pay. The details of investment transactions and income derived shall be reported in the documents supporting the budget.
- 41. With regard to moneys held in Trust or Special Funds for which use is not required for at least 12 months, longer-term investments may be authorised by the Commission provided such action is consistent with the terms under which the moneys were lodged with the Commission. Such investments shall be restricted to securities and other investments issued by Namibian institutions or Government bodies with current ratings, provided by a rating body approved by the Commission's auditor, indicating a strong capacity to pay.
- 42. Income derived from investments shall be credited to the Fund from which the investment was made.

#### PART X: INTERNAL CONTROL

- 43. The Executive Secretary shall:
- a) establish detailed financial rules and procedures after consultation with the external auditor to ensure effective financial administration and the exercise of economy in the use of funds;
- b) cause all payments to be made on the basis of supporting vouchers and other documents which ensure that the goods or services have been received and that payment has not previously been made;
- c) designate officers who may receive moneys, incur obligations and make payments on behalf of the Commission; and
- d) maintain and be responsible for internal financial control to ensure:
- (i) the regularity of the receipt, custody and disposal of all funds and other financial resources of the Commission;
- (ii) the conformity of obligations and expenditures with the appropriations adopted by the annual meeting; and
- (iii) the economic use of the resources of the Commission.
- 44. No obligations shall be incurred until allotments or other appropriate authorizations have been made in writing under the authority of the Executive Secretary.
- 45. The Executive Secretary may propose to the Commission, after full investigation by him or her, the writing off of losses of assets, provided that the external auditor so recommends. Such losses shall be included in the annual accounts.

- 46. Tenders in writing for equipment, supplies and other requirements shall be invited by advertisement, or by direct requests for quotation from at least three persons or firms able to supply the equipment, supplies, or other requirements, if such exist, in connection with all purchases or contracts, the amounts of which exceed N\$10,000 (Namibian dollars). For amounts less than \$10,000, competition shall be obtained either by the above means or by telephone or personal enquiry. The foregoing rules, shall, however, not apply in the following cases:
- a) where it has been ascertained that only a single supplier exists and that fact is so certified by the Executive Secretary;
- b) in case of emergency, or where, for any other reason, these rules would not be in the best financial interests of the Commission, and that fact is so certified by the Executive Secretary.

#### PART XI: THE ACCOUNTS

- 47. The Executive Secretary shall ensure that appropriate records and accounts are kept of the transactions and affairs of the Commission and shall do all things necessary to ensure that all payments out of the Commission's moneys are correctly made and properly authorised and that adequate control is maintained over the assets of, or in the custody of, the Commission and over the incurring of liabilities by the Commission.
- 48. The Executive Secretary shall submit to the Members of the Commission, not later than 31 March immediately following the end of the financial year, annual financial statements showing, for the financial year to which they relate:
- a) the income and expenditure relating to all funds and accounts;
- b) the situation with regard to budget provisions, including:
- i. the original budget provisions;
- ii. the approved expenditure in excess of the original budget provisions;
- iii. any other income:
- iv. the amounts charged against these provisions and other income;
- c) the financial assets and liabilities of the Commission;
- d) details of investments;
- e) losses of assets proposed in accordance with Regulation 45.
- 49. The Executive Secretary shall also give such other information as may be appropriate to indicate the financial position of the Commission. These financial statements shall be prepared in a form approved by the Commission after consultation with the external auditor.
- 50. The accounting transactions of the Commission shall be recorded in the

currency in which they took place but the annual financial statements shall record all transactions in Namibian dollars.

- 51. Appropriate separate accounts shall be kept for all Special and Trust Funds.
- 52. The annual financial statements shall be submitted by the Executive Secretary to the external auditor in accordance with Article 12 of the Convention at the same time as they are submitted to Members of the Commission under Regulation 48.

#### PART XII: EXTERNAL AUDIT

- 53. The Commission shall appoint an external auditor who shall be the Auditor-General or equivalent statutory authority from a Member of the Commission and shall serve for a term of two years with the possibility of re-appointment. The Commission will ensure respect for the external auditor's independence of the Commission, the Compliance Committee and the Scientific Committee, their subsidiary bodies and the Commission's staff, fix the terms of office, appropriate funds to the external auditor and may consult him or her on the introduction or amendment of any financial regulations or detailed accounting methods as well as on all matters affecting auditing procedures and methodology.
- 54. The external auditor or a person or persons authorised by him or her shall be entitled at all reasonable times to full and free access to all accounts and records of the Commission relating directly or indirectly to the receipt or payment of moneys by the Commission or to the acquisition, receipt, custody or disposal of assets by the Commission. The external auditor or a person or persons authorised by him or her may make copies of or take extracts from any such accounts or records.
- 55. If required by the Commission to perform a full audit, the external auditor shall conduct his or her examination of the statements in conformity with generally accepted auditing standards and shall report to the Commission on all relevant matters, including:
- a) whether, in his or her opinion, the statements are based on proper accounts and records;
- b) whether the statements are in agreement with the accounts and records;
- c) whether, in his or her opinion, the income, expenditure and investment of moneys and the acquisition and disposal of assets by the Commission during the year have been in accordance with these Regulations; and
- d) observations with respect to the efficiency and economy of the financial procedures and the conduct of business, the accounting system, internal financial controls and the administration and management of the Commission.

- 56. If required by the Commission to perform a review audit, the external auditor shall review the statements and accounting controls in operation. He or she shall report to the Commission whether anything has come to his or her attention which would cause him or her to doubt whether:
- a) the statements are based on proper accounts and records;
- b) the statements are in agreement with the accounts and records; or
- c) the income, expenditure and investment of moneys and the acquisition and disposal of assets by the Commission during the year have been in accordance with these Regulations.
- 57. The Executive Secretary shall provide the external auditor with the facilities he or she may require in the performance of the audit.
- 58. The Executive Secretary shall provide to the Members of the Commission a copy of the audit report and the audited financial statements within 30 days of their receipt.
- 59. The Commission shall, if necessary, invite the external auditor to attend discussions on any item under scrutiny and consider recommendations arising out of his or her findings.

#### PART XIII: ACCEPTANCE OF ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

60. The Commission shall, following consideration of the audited annual financial statements and audit report submitted to its Members under the Regulations relating to External Audit, signify its acceptance of the audited annual financial statements or take such other action as it may consider appropriate.

## **PART XIV: INSURANCE**

61. The Commission may take out suitable insurances with a reputable financial institution against normal risks to its assets.

#### PART XV: GENERAL PROVISION

- 62. Subject to the provisions of the Convention, these Regulations may be amended by the Commission in accordance with its Rules of Procedure.
- 63. Where the Commission, the Compliance Committee or the Scientific Committee are considering matters that may lead to a decision which has financial or administrative implications, it shall have before it an evaluation of those implications from the Executive Secretary.

#### Annex 14

Resolution for the calculation of Contracting Parties Contributions to the SEAFO Budget

**Noting** that Article 12 of the Convention calls for the Commission to adopt annually the Organisation's budget:

**Further noting** that each Contracting Party shall contribute to the budget; **Considering** that the current method of calculation of Contracting Parties contribution is of a temporary nature and that the contribution of each Contracting Party shall be equal while this temporary method is in force;

**Recognising** the need to modify the calculation method for the contribution by each Contracting party according to a combination of an equal basic fee, a fee based on participation in fishing in the Convention Area of fishery resources covered by the Convention, as well as taking into account the economic status of each Contracting Party; and

**Further recognizing** the importance of equity and stability in the calculation of the contributions of Parties to the Commission's budget, and of fully funding the work of the Commission to enable it to fulfill its duties and responsibilities.

The SEAFO Commission has decided that:

The calculation of the annual contribution of each Contracting Party shall be on the following basis:

- 30% of the budget shall be divided equally among all the Parties and
- 60% of the budget shall be divided among the Parties according to their respective Gross National Income per capita, as defined by the World Bank as follows:

75% divided equally among the Parties with an annual per capita GNI<sup>1</sup> exceeding \$10,000, and

25% divided equally among Parties with an annual per capita GNI<sup>1</sup> below \$10,000

• 10% of the budget shall be divided equally among the Members having participated in fishing in one of three previous years for fisheries resources covered by the Convention.

In the event that no Contracting party has participated in fishing in one of the previous three years for fishery resources in the Convention Area, the 10% share of the budget for this component shall be equally distributed between the other two components.

The formula shall be applied to the budget for FY 2011, and shall continue in use until the Commission may decide otherwise.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> World development Indicators database, World Bank

## Annex 15

## Japan Statement

"Japan reserved its position with respect to the contribution calculation formula "Decision on the Calculation of Contracting Parties Contributions to the SEAFO Budget "which was adopted by the organization without consultation with Japan. Therefore, Japan reserved its right to propose amendment, if necessary, to the formula after Japan join the Organization"

Annex 16

Korea Statement To be inserted

## Annex 17: Work plan for 2009/2010

No	Tasks	Reference	Deadline	Action Required by		
		to Reports		Secretariat	Members	
1	Science					
1.1	Compile and distribute new Conservation Measures	COM 10,2; 10,3; 10,5; 10,8; 12,4	Nov 2009	Implement	Note	
1.2	Revise catch forms	SC 18c; COMM 10,8	Dec 2009	Implement	SC to assist	
1.3	Produce turtle identification guide	COM 10,3	Dec 2009	implement	Note	
1.4	Turtle identification card circulated to CP and FP	COM 10,3	Jan 2010	Implement	Note	
1.5	Request data in new format for fishing footprint from CP and FP	COM 10,4	Dec 2009	Implement	Assist	
1.6	Compile a contract and liaise with NOCS regarding the mapping of Seamounts in the SEAFO CA	COM 10,6	Dec 2009	Implement	Assist	
1.7	Produce Coral and Sponges identification guide	COM 10,7	Jan 2010	Implement	Note	
1.8	Circulate Coral and Sponges identification guide to CPs and FPs	COM 10,7	Jan 2010	Implement	Note/Assist with distribution	
1.9	Request to CPs and FPs for information to determine the maximum limits on the length of individual fleets/sets, soak time, and vessel gear capacity	COM 10,8	Dec 2009	Implement	Assist	
1.10	Produce Species profile for the main commercially exploited species		On going	Implement	Assist	
1.11	Remind CPs and FPs to	COM 10,10	On going	Implement	Assist	

	submit names of scientific co-ordinators				
1.12	Improve the SEAFO website to make access to catch and sampling forms easier	COM 10,11	Jan 2010	Implement	Assist
1.13	Develop an access scientific database	COM 10,12	March 2010	Implement	Namibia to assist
1.14	The Secretariat to liaise with the FAO to obtain historical Russian data	COM 10,14	On gonging	Implement	Note
1.15	SC to compile a formal protocol for referencing scientific documents and working papers discussion on the 2010 Commission meeting	COM 10,15	August 2010	Implement	SC assist
2	Compliance				
2.1	Compile SEAFI IUU vessel list and post on the SEAFO website	COM 12,5	Jan 2010	Implement	Note
3	Administration and Finance				
3.1	Secretariat to contact FAO and ICES requesting names for members to serve on the Performance Review Panel	COM 8,3	Nov 2009	Implement	Note
3.2	Secretariat to arrange for meetings of the Review Panel	Com 8,6	Feb/March 2010	Implement	Note
3.3	Circulate Performance Review Report to Parties	COM 8,8	Sep 2010	Implement	Note
3.4	Circulate memo to those Parties who are in arrears with annual contributions	СОМ			
3.4	Full audit for 2008	Com 14,4	March 2010	Implement	Note

3.5	Open a Special Requirements Fund account	COM 14,8	Dec 2009	Implement	Note
3.8	Notify RFMO's of SEAFO representation at meetings	COM 18	Dec 2010	Implement	Note
3.7	Circulate memo's to Japan and Korea regarding the listing of fishing vessels	COM 19	Nov 2009	Implement	Note