

G eneral F isheries C ommission for the M editerranean



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RAC-MED General Assembly (29/2/2012)
Task Force on the improvement and the
modernization of GFCM, including its 1st
Framework Programme

GFCM Performance Review

- Legal analysis of the GFCM Agreement and associated procedural and financial rules
- Strengths and weaknesses identified
- Main strength of GFCM: its unique nature, both fisheries and aquaculture; also relevance of environment
- Complexity of GFCM area, with a variety of actors, also a strength
- GFCM inter-sessional activities also a strength (de facto, GFCM operates by taking into account the need for a modern approach to fisheries and aquaculture)

Background on the Task Force

- ToRs of the Task Force agreed at the 35th session of the GFCM after GFCM performance review
- The Task Force is to ensure the adequate follow up to the recommendations elaborated by the Panel that reviewed GFCM performances
- Task Force will build upon strengths and make up for weaknesses identified by the Panel
- Under the guidance of the Chair and includes members of the Bureau and the Executive Secretary
- To identify the necessary modifications to the GFCM Agreement and associated procedural and financial rules (10 areas have been singled out)
- List of relevant international and regional agreements provided as points of reference for the work of the Task Force

Task Force – Some trends

Questionnaire + expert meeting + sub-regional meeting

- The objectives, functions and principles of the GFCM Agreement should be modernized
- Long term management plans should be developed for shared and straddling stocks
- EAF should be progressively implemented
- Ensuring sustainability in aquaculture activities
- Compliance and enforcement have to be dramatically improved
- Reorganization of GFCM committees
- Focus on extra-budgetary funds
- Emerging consensus towards the need to amend GFCM Agreement?

1st GFCM Framework Programme

- Strategic frame for the GFCM and in support of GFCM Task Force activities
- Platform to promote sustainable development of capture fisheries and aquaculture in the Mediterranean and Black Sea
- 5-year span: 2013-2018
- 2.5 million Euro/yr budget
- Multi-annual / multi-donor arrangements
- 7 identified Work Programmes based on actual issues and needs; will involve GFCM Committees

The Work Programmes

1. Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries (EAF)
2. Improving data collection and reporting capacity
3. Aquaculture and capture fisheries and Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM)
4. Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) and artificial reefs
5. Enhancing artisanal fisheries
6. Strengthening fisheries management in the Black Sea area
7. Supporting capture fisheries and aquaculture in the Southern Mediterranean Sea

The Strategy

- Focus on priorities at regional level in the context of sustainable development (Rio +20) e.g. food security, poverty alleviation, resource supply shortage, etc
- Foster strategic cooperation with partner organizations to implement joint initiatives
- Strengthen regional coordination and create synergies with on-going programmes



THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

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