

Agenda

1. Opening of the meeting
2. Adoption of the Agenda and meeting arrangements
 - (a) Adoption of Agenda
 - (b) Meeting arrangements
 - (c) Observers
3. Review of the decisions of the twenty-eighth session of COFI relating to regional fishery bodies
4. Factors affecting fisheries management
 - (a) General
 - (b) IUU fishing
 - (c) Overcapacity
 - (d) UNGA Resolution 61/105
5. Responsible fisheries and management in aquatic, particularly marine, ecosystem
6. Role of regional fishery bodies – thematic session
 - (a) Presentation of the new FAO Fisheries Circular on the role of RFBs
 - (b) RFMO/RFB performance enhancement
 - (c) Small-scale and inland fisheries
7. Status of FIRMS and CWP developments
8. RSN webpage
9. Advice and future work
10. Election of the Chair and Vice-Chairs
11. Date and venue of the Third Meeting of Regional Fishery Body Secretariats Network (RSN 3)
12. Any other matters
13. Adoption of the report and closure of the meeting

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List of documents

RSN/II/2009/1	Agenda and timetable
RSN/II/2009/2	Draft Report of the twenty-eighth session of the FAO Committee on Fisheries, Rome, Italy, 2–6 March 2009
RSN/II/2009/3	Progress in the implementation of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, related International Plans of Action and Strategy (COFI/2009/2)
RSN/II/2009/4	Decisions and recommendations of the eleventh session of the Sub-Committee on Fish Trade, 2–6 June 2008, Bremen, Germany (COFI/2009/3)
RSN/II/2009/5	Decisions and recommendations of the fourth session of the Sub-Committee on Aquaculture, 6–10 October 2008, Puerto Varas, Chile (COFI/2009/4)
RSN/II/2009/6	Management of deep-sea fisheries in the high seas (COFI/2009/5)
RSN/II/2009/7	Combating IUU fishing, including through a legally-binding instrument on port State measures and the establishment of a global record of fishing vessels (COFI/2009/6)
RSN/II/2009/8	Securing sustainable small-scale fisheries: bringing together responsible fisheries and social development (COFI/2009/7)
RSN/II/2009/9	Climate change and fisheries and aquaculture (COFI/2009/8)
RSN/II/2009/10	Implementation of the Fisheries Resources Monitoring System (FIRMS) Partnership Agreement: status and prospects
RSN/II/2009/11	Compilation of information provided by Regional Fishery Body Secretariats for discussion
RSN/II/2009/Inf.1	List of documents
RSN/II/2009/Inf.2	List of participants
RSN/II/2009/Inf.3	Opening statement by Mr Ichiro Nomura, Assistant Director-General, FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Department
RSN/II/2009/Inf.4	Annotations on agenda items
RSN/II/2009/Inf.5	Report of the First Meeting of Regional Fishery Body Secretariats Network, Rome, 12–13 March 2007 (R837)

- RSN/II/2009/Inf.6 Report of the eleventh session of the Sub-Committee on Fish Trade, Bremen, Germany, 2–6 June 2008 (COFI/2009/Inf.8)
- RSN/II/2009/Inf.7 Report of the fourth session of the Sub-Committee on Aquaculture, Puerto Varas, Chile, 6–10 October 2008 (COFI/2009/Inf.9)
- RSN/II/2009/Inf.8 Report of the FAO Expert Workshop on Climate Change Implications for Fisheries and Aquaculture, Rome, 7–9 April 2008 (R870)
- RSN/II/2009/Inf.9 Report of the twenty-fifth session of the European Inland Fisheries Advisory Commission, Antalya, Turkey, 21–28 May 2008 (R871)
- RSN/II/2009/Inf.10 Final report of Coordinating Working Party on Fisheries Statistics (CWP) Ad Hoc Aquaculture Meeting, Puerto Varas, Chile, 3–4 October 2008
- RSN/II/2009/Inf.11 Regional Fishery Bodies Established Under the FAO Constitution: decisions and recommendations taken in 2007–08
- RSN/II/2009/Inf.12 Sustainable fisheries, including through the 1995 Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks, and related instruments (A/RES/61/105)
- RSN/II/2009/Inf.13 Sustainable fisheries, including through the 1995 Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks, and related instruments (A/63/L.43 or A /RES/63/112)
- RSN/II/2009/Inf.14 Compilation of the responses from RFBs to the questionnaire by the UN/DOALOS on A/RES/61/105
- RSN/II/2009/Inf.15 Managing bycatch and reducing discards: taking it to the next level (FIIT, FAO)

**Opening statement by Mr Ichiro Nomura,
Assistant Director-General, FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Department
for the Second Meeting of Regional Fishery Body Secretariats Network**

**FAO headquarters, Rome
9 March 2009**

Mr Chairman, Distinguished Representatives of Regional Fishery Body Secretariats, Colleagues, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I know some of the colleagues here also attended the twenty-eighth Session of FAO Committee on Fisheries (COFI) just held last week, but once again, I greatly appreciate the opportunity to be with you today at the opening of this Second Meeting of the Regional Fishery Body Secretariats Network and to extend to you all a warm welcome to Rome and to FAO on behalf of the Director-General.

Regional fishery bodies play a unique role in facilitating international cooperation for the conservation and management of fish stocks. Regional Fishery Bodies represent the only realistic means of governing highly migratory fish stocks and straddling or shared stocks. Regional fishery bodies also promote regional and global cooperation toward sustainable and responsible fisheries and aquaculture by providing advice and common platforms to exchange views and information.

The essential contributions by RFBs in implementation of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (the Code) are also recognized and appreciated by the Organization through the Margarita Lizárraga Medal Award. This is awarded biennially by the FAO Conference to a person or organization that has served with distinction in the application of the Code. The medal has been awarded five times since it was instituted in 1997 and last two winners were RFBs, namely the Agreement on the International Dolphin Conservation Program (AIDCP) in 2005, for which the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC) provides the Secretariat, and the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC) in 2007.

The twenty-seventh session of the FAO Committee on Fisheries (COFI 27) held in March 2007 discussed the regional fishery bodies related matter, as a stand-alone agenda item, if my understanding is correct, for the first time in the history of COFI. Many Members requested that FAO continue supporting regional fishery bodies. While the same agenda item did not come up as a stand-alone agendum this time in the twenty-eighth session of COFI (COFI 28) just held, this of course does not mean at all that we degrade the level of importance situated in this matter. On the contrary, it should be interpreted that regional fishery bodies are heavily involved in many issues which cannot be discussed under the single agenda item. In fact, under several substantial agenda items of COFI last week, 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 regional fishery bodies are repeatedly underscored. I also wish to touch upon the positive role of Regional Fishery Bodies in the small-scale fisheries, aquaculture and inland fisheries as well. In this highly internationalized fisheries arena, it is

now almost impossible for FAO to work on global and regional or even national fisheries issues without cooperation from you. Therefore, I would like to reaffirm FAO's strong expectation and commitment to work with Regional Fishery Bodies continuously and in a collaborative manner.

This relationship between regional fishery bodies and FAO works in both directions. In this respect, I wish to take this opportunity to express our gratitude for the high level of cooperation lent to FAO by you, a contribution of which is highly valued and of significant importance to FAO in the implementation of its activities³.

Since the responsibility of regional fishery bodies is increasing as well as the expectations vested in them, their further strengthening and the improvement of regional and global fisheries governance is continuously required.

I wish to reiterate that cooperation and coordination among regional fishery bodies is one of the most effective ways to strengthen regional fisheries governance. As far as I know, this meeting is the unique and only opportunity for all regional fishery bodies to get together regularly and exchange their views and information. As in the previous ones, since this meeting is being held just after the conclusion of COFI, you may review the relevant conclusions and recommendations made by COFI and elaborate further implication for your own activities as regional fishery bodies. This, however, never prejudices the consideration of specific matters on your own agenda which are directly related to the work of your bodies.

As usual, FAO will pay particular attention to the discussions throughout your meeting, provide technical input, as necessary, and, following its conclusion, will endeavour to collaborate further with you in order to facilitate the implementation of the recommendations that you might agree. For this purpose, relevant staff of the Fisheries and Aquaculture Department will remain fully available during the meeting.

Lastly I would like to touch upon the possible change of the date of a next session of COFI, which was discussed last week during COFI. The Resolution 1/2008 and Immediate Plan of Action for FAO Renewal (IPA) recommended that the date of FAO Conference will move to June starting from 2011 with a corresponding shift in the dates of all other meetings including COFI in the reforming process of FAO. COFI, as one of technical committees, was recommended to be convened before the FAO Conference in the third quarter of the first year of the next biennium, 2010. Many COFI Members did not like this idea and preferred to the current schedule, namely February/March in the second year of each biennium, because it conflicts with the timings of various important RFBs' meetings as well as the UNGA resolution consultations. I am not optimistic about this matter, but the COFI's view will be conveyed to the Conference Committee on Follow-up to the Independent External Evaluation of FAO.

In conclusion, I wish you the greatest success in your deliberations during this Second Meeting of Regional Fishery Body Secretariats Network.

Thank you very much for your attention.

³ For example, 14 regional fishery bodies responded to the Code Questionnaire 2008, which were reflected to the COFI/2009/2. Those which responded are APFIC, CCAMLR, CCSBT, CPPS, GFCM, IATTC, IPHC, MRC NASCO, NEAFC, NPAFC, RECOFI, SEAFO and WCPFC.

**Statement by Mr Andre Tahindro,
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to the United Nations Fish Stocks Agreement
for the Second Meeting of Regional Fishery Body Secretariats Network**

**FAO headquarters, Rome
9 March 2009**

Mr Chairman, distinguished colleagues,

It is my pleasure to address you today on behalf of the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea (DOALOS), and in my capacity as the Secretary of the Informal Consultations of States parties to the United Nations Fish Stocks Agreement (UNFSA), in order to highlight several developments in the work of DOALOS that are directly relevant to the work of regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements (RFMO/As).

STATUS OF UNFSA

I am pleased to report that participation in the UNFSA continues to increase at an encouraging pace. Since the beginning of 2008, seven States have become party to the Agreement, raising the number of States parties to 75. The current States parties include many of the major fishing States, as well as an increasing number of developing coastal States, which may now benefit from the Assistance Fund established under Part VII of the Agreement. In this connection, we would appreciate it if RFMO/As could draw the attention of their member States to the availability of this Fund to developing States parties to the Agreement, which can be used to defray expenses related to participation in fisheries-related meetings or to provide financial assistance for capacity-building activities and programmes.

REVIEW CONFERENCE OF UNFSA

I would like to bring to your attention that, following the recommendations of the seventh round of the informal consultations of States parties to the Agreement, in March 2008 (ICSP-7), as endorsed by the General Assembly in resolution 63/112 of 5 December 2008, the Secretary-General will resume the Review Conference pursuant to article 36 of UNFSA in New York in the first part of 2010, with a view to assessing the effectiveness of the Agreement in securing the conservation and management of straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks. The Secretariat has already begun its preparations for the resumed Review Conference and, in this connection, it will be preparing a report on behalf of the Secretary-General to assist delegations in the review process. As in the case of the report of the Secretary-General for the Review Conference in 2006, this report will be based on contributions from States, RFMO/As and other international organizations. Given the key role that RFMO/As play in the implementation of the Agreement, we would be particularly grateful to receive contributions from all of you for inclusion into that report. As DOALOS has done in the past, requests for contributions to the report will be conveyed to RFMO/As through the FAO in due course.

EIGHTH ROUND OF INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS OF STATES PARTIES

During this year's eighth round of informal consultations of States parties to the Agreement (ICSP-8), which will take place next week (from 16 to 19 March), delegations are expected to begin initial preparatory work for the resumed Review Conference. Chief among the preparatory work is the guidance to be given to DOALOS for the preparation of the report of the Secretary-General to be presented to the Review Conference. In addition, the first two days of this year's informal consultations will be dedicated to a "continuing dialogue" to promote participation in the Agreement, which will feature panel presentations and open discussions on various key issues of importance, with a view to encouraging further participation in the Agreement.

IMPLEMENTATION OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY 61/105

As you may know, the General Assembly at its 64th session this fall will be undertaking a review of the actions taken by States and RFMO/As to give effect to paragraphs 83 to 90 of its resolution 61/105 of 8 December 2006, addressing the impacts of bottom fishing on vulnerable marine ecosystems, with a view to further recommendations, where necessary. A report of the Secretary-General, to be prepared by DOALOS, will provide the basis for these discussions. In January of 2009, FAO, on behalf of DOALOS, requested all RFMO/As to provide information on their activities relevant to the implementation of General Assembly resolution 61/105. DOALOS wishes to thank those organizations that have already provided it with information, and looks forward to receiving additional contributions.

INFORMAL CONSULTATIVE PROCESS ON OCEANS AND THE LAW OF THE SEA (ICP)

The tenth meeting of the United Nations Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea, to be held 17 to 19 June 2009, will be dedicated to a review of "the implementation of the outcomes of the Consultative Process, including a review of its achievements and shortcomings in its first nine meetings". As you will recall, the Consultative Process has, over the years, contributed significantly to discussions on oceans and the law of the sea, including matters pertaining to fisheries policy and governance. The General Assembly, in particular, has benefited from these discussions, as the global institution having competence to undertake annual consideration and review of these issues, I would invite you to actively participate in the meeting of the Consultative Process this summer.

I thank you.

**Statement of the Regional Fishery Body Secretariats Network
to the Informal Consultation of States Parties to the United Nations Fish Stocks
Agreement (UNFSA)**

**UN headquarters, New York
18 March 2009**

The Regional Fishery Body Secretariats Network (RSN) is an informal consortium of secretariats representing up to 46 regional fisheries bodies (RFBs)⁴ responsible for inland, coastal and oceanic fisheries. It provides a forum for promoting dialogue and consultation. In executing its function the RSN serves to underpin the important role played by RFBs in the conservation and management of fish stocks.

This role has been stressed in international law and instruments and UNGA resolutions. RFBs face similar challenges in their efforts to support collaborative processes that assist their members in their collective and individual endeavours to achieve sustainable resource use, conservation and management. They reflect the consensus policy position of their Contracting Parties. RFB mandates are varied and include one or more of the following:

- Organizations with a management mandate and organizations that simply support cooperative arrangements for information sharing;
- Convention-based, informal agreement or FAO-affiliated bodies;
- Development and provision of scientific advice;
- Highly migratory oceanic pelagic stocks, demersal and pelagic straddling stocks, shared inland and riverine stocks and anadromous stocks;
- Single species organizations, to organizations dealing with a large number of target species and species taken incidentally, to organizations that address entire ecosystems and multiple industry sectors;
- Artisanal, small-scale fisheries or high technological, capital intensive, large-scale fisheries.

The members of the institutions participating in the RSN include most States with an economic interest in marine or freshwater fisheries; these states account for the vast majority of the annual global harvest of wild-caught fish. Many inter-governmental and non-government organizations participate as observers in the work of these bodies. .

Members of the RSN are undertaking performance review as a mechanism for improving transparency as well as performance. Six fisheries organizations have concluded a performance review and at least six others have commenced or have ongoing review processes. The review processes employed have been similar, largely drawing on the uniform set of criteria drafted at the Review Conference in 2006, but taking into account unique characteristics that may be associated with individual organizations. Each review process involved external experts who were either tasked to carry out the assessment or who reviewed the assessment carried out by an internal panel; in one case, the review was performed by stakeholders and NGOs. Members of those organizations that have completed a review are

⁴ The term RFB is used in this document to encompass regional fishery bodies, regional fishery management organizations and regional arrangements.

now actively engaged in programmes of work to assess and implement their Review's recommendations and advice.

The most recent meeting of the RSN took place 9-10 March at FAO Headquarters in Rome, Italy. One of the important agenda items was an exchange of ideas and experience of network members in combating IUU fishing. The discussion identified several important factors that should be considered in the design of strategies to combat IUU fishing:

- Port State measures
- Establishment of fishing and fish transport vessel "black lists"
- Catch documentation schemes to enhance traceability of fish products
- The establishment of a global record of fishing vessels
- The capacity of developing countries
- Regional cooperation and information sharing


Issues discussed during RSN biennial meetings include:

- The role of RFBs
- External factors affecting fisheries management
- Global fisheries governance
- IUU fishing
- Overcapacity
- Incorporating ecosystem considerations into management arrangements
- Relations between RFBs and other multi-lateral agencies with shared interests
- Market and trade-related issues
- Small-scale fisheries
- Inland fisheries
- Aquaculture
- Capacity development in developing countries

FAO serves as the secretariat to the RFB Secretariats Network that meets biennially immediately after FAO's Committee on Fisheries meeting. The RSN provides a valuable international resource for disseminating information relating to the Agreement and discussing regional and sub-regional experiences associated with it. More information can be found at www.fao.org/fishery/rsn.

Presentation by the RSN Working Group on Small-scale Coastal and Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture


RSN working group
Small-scale coastal and inland fisheries
Aquaculture



- Yugraj Yadava, BOBP-IGO (chair)
- Simon Funge-Smith, Secretary APFIC (secretary)
- Somboon Sirisaksophon, SEAFDEC
- Dick Nyeko, Secretary LVFO
- Dedi Nadjé Seraphin, Secretary FCWC
- Bissessar Chakkalal, Secretary, WECAFC
- Piero Manini, Secretary, RECOFI
- Xaypladeth Choulamany, Programme Coordinator, MRC
- Aubrey Harris, Secretary SWIOFC
- Al Haji Jallow, Secretary, CECAF
- Jorge De la Rocha, Secretary COPESCAL
- Alessandro Lovatelli (FAO, FIMA)

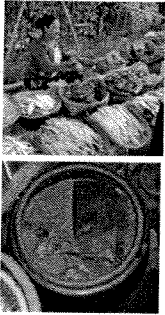
Small-scale fisheries

- Most coastal fisheries have significant small-scale component.
- Few/no substantive small-scale fisheries undertaken on the high sea or in international waters
 - e.g. Sri Lankan multi day boats <17-20m
- The issues of definition for small-scale
 - causes headaches (e.g. PSM, IUU, subsidies etc.)
 - small family operations can still be highly powered vessels capable of operating offshore
 - where do we draw the line?
- Inland fisheries are largely small-scale therefore issues of small scale fisheries cross cut.
 - They have also been largely ignored in terms of fishery management.
 - Many of the RFB's do not have a mandate in inland fisheries.
- Aquaculture takes place inland or close to shore.
- Climate change effects
 - probably going to have a greater impact on the coastal/inland fisheries
 - may be more immediately felt.



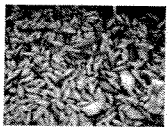

Fisheries and policy

- (Small-scale/inland) Fisheries are poorly integrated into national planning such as the Poverty Reduction Strategies Papers.
 - support to the role of fisheries is undervalued or remains unaddressed.





Some issues that relate to the work of RSN?

- Interactions between large and small-scale sectors
- Combating IUU fishing both national and trans-boundary
 - PSM, EU measures etc.
- Trans-boundary small-scale fisheries issues between countries
- Impact of by-catch and discarding on small-scale fisheries
 - larger scale fishery impacts on systems
- Interactions between small-scale fisheries and species covered by the RFMO's
 - e.g. juveniles, migratory species, spawning grounds, anadromous species,
- Closures, MPA's and conservation measures
 - impacts on small-scale
- Aquaculture and fisheries interactions

Linkages to RFMO's

- The catch of artisanal fisheries (within coastal/national waters)
 - may be of significance to the RFMO's
 - are clear links in sharing information on the extent of these fisheries.
 - coastal pelagics taken by SSF
 - management of territorial waters as they are a matter of national sovereignty.
- Overlapping responsibilities between the RFMO's and those RFB's that work with members and their EEZ fisheries.
 - share information
 - obtain more detailed national information for use in decision making by RFMO's
 - e.g. IUU, vessel lists, registers, access arrangements).

Inland fisheries

- Inland fisheries issues relate to the competition for water resources and use of water bodies for other purposes
 - (e.g. hydro-power, irrigation, agriculture runoff)
- Addressing inland fisheries often means addressing shared resources
 - water (basins/rivers/watersheds/ecosystems)
 - trans-boundary or migratory stocks.
- This also typically requires a cross-sectoral approach
 - issues may lie outside of the fishery sector.
- The large rivers often have commissions that deal with the water aspect
 - e.g. MRC, Lake Victoria Basin Commission
 - how do fisheries interact with this?
- **FAO could play a role** in sensitization of the agriculture sector for fisheries.
 - Use multidisciplinary teams of FAO.



Market chains and value chains

- Market chain is poorly understood in terms of valuation of the fisheries.
- Taking a market chain approach significantly increases the total value of the fishery
 - often only valued at the point of production
- small-scale fisheries contributes to poverty reduction
 - look at value chains, eco-labelling, processing and post harvest value addition
 - nutrition



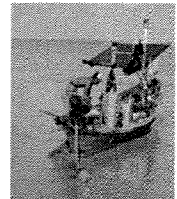
Access

- Resource and access rights-management arrangement.
- Most countries have an open access regime.
- Co-management is increasing in interest.
- Closure of access is also required
 - how do you do this in an equitable manner
- Access rights and rights to fisheries have to be addressed through group-based approaches.



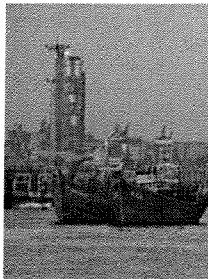
IUU fishing

- IUU poorly understood in the small scale and inland fisheries
 - but there are widespread examples.
- unregulated or unreported fishing is also a significant issue for small-scale fisheries
 - typically very small-scale or trans-border type operations.
- The matter of transshipment is clearly a major issue
- The activities may be legal but
 - maybe contraventions of access agreements
 - scale of the operation is almost impossible to enforce.
- When combating IUU, blacklisted vessels (or IUU vessels) may enter the EEZ waters of developing countries due to loss of access to RFMO areas.
 - This also then leads to interactions with the small-scale sector.



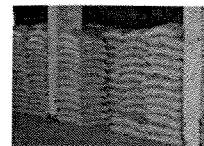
Port state measures

- Small-scale fisheries providing products based on trans-boundary fishing and landing in neighboring states.
- The Port State Measures agreement is largely targeted at high seas fishing and larger scale of operations.
 - leaves some significant grey areas with respect to how application may be extended to the matter of small scale trans-boundary operations
- Therefore PSM relating to high sea fishing operations (or within RFMO areas) is clear and generally agreeable,
 - there remain reservations as to how this could impact the smaller scale trans-boundary operations.
- **RFB's have a major role in sensitizing national fisheries & agencies that are operating trans-boundary**
 - about the impacts of EEU catch documentation
 - other measures in which they may be non-compliant that may affect their market access.



Aquaculture relating to the work of RSN?

- Interaction between fisheries and aquaculture
 - key area where RFB/RFMO's can cooperate
 - exchange information and promote awareness or recommend best practices.
- How many of the RFB's/RFMO's have a mandate for aquaculture?
- The absence of aquaculture in the agenda diminishes interest in RSN.
 - e.g. NACA, EIFAC, NACEE, "ANA" Latin American
- **Recommend to include aquaculture**
 - working group within the framework the RSN meeting.
 - Parallel sessions with a plenary report back
- The RSN portal
 - mechanism for communicating an improving awareness between the bodies.
 - RSN website could include sub-groupings for small-scale fisheries and one for aquaculture



Increasing aquaculture production and demand for marine resources

- Increasing aquaculture production
 - going to have a significant draw on marine fisheries resources under current practices
- Demand for marine fish as feeds is increasing
 - some work done on the use of low value trash fish for feeds for aquaculture and livestock.
- This is an area that requires attention by the RFB's
- RFB's should be looking potential implications for their fisheries
 - assess to what extent they are vulnerable to increasing exploitation for "fish for feed"
 - particularly from the trawl fisheries,



Aquaculture demand for wild fish "seed" and translocations

- The use of wild caught seed
 - significant for a number of aquaculture species.
- Seed translocations
 - implications for introduction of genetics materials into different regions of the world (inland and marine fisheries).
- The introduction of non-indigenous species into aquaculture in open waters remains relatively common.
 - e.g. cases in lakes/marine waters or coastal ponds
- Risk assessment, precautionary approach and effective quarantining is needed
- RFB's can promote this application by member countries.
 - FAO is currently developing technical guidelines on the use of "fish as feed" and "fish as seed".



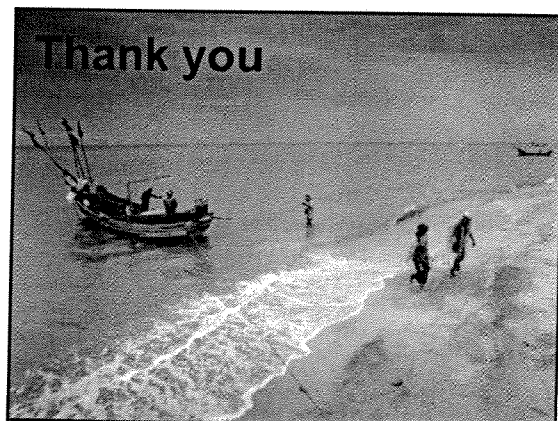
Other aquaculture

- Aquaculture in trap ponds
 - sustainability of the system may be acceptable,
 - under modernization pressures there impacts may become cumulative
- Culture based fisheries
 - offers some opportunities for improving depleted fisheries:
 - sea cucumbers
 - restocking/enhancement of inland waters with indigenous species
 - Stocking of (degraded or artificial) inland waters with exotic species
 - Restoration of critically endangered species (e.g. giant Mekong catfish)
 - Some concerns, particularly with respect to genetic impacts and health.
 - Best practice could be communicated
- Sea ranching
 - Hatchery produced stocks released to open waters such as salmon and a number of other species.



Communication /sharing between RFB members

- Exchange of best practices in co-management.
 - Individual rights may not work well in small scale fisheries and thus the use of group rights offers greater applicability.
- Marginalization of small-scale fisheries in national and international policy and weak representation of small-scale fisheries in the policy debate.
 - Improve visibility
 - Try and formulate coherent investment
- Need to improve the valuation of the contribution of the small-scale fisheries
 - Improve awareness of the importance in land small scale fisheries.
- The focus of RFMOs on stock management in the high sea
 - cannot ignore the stages of the lifecycle in nearshore/coastal waters.



The Second Meeting of Regional Fishery Body Secretariats Network (RSN-2) was held at FAO headquarters, Rome, Italy, on 9 and 10 March 2009. The Meeting reviewed the decisions of the twenty-eighth session of the Committee on Fisheries (COFI) relevant to regional fishery bodies (RFBs). The Meeting discussed factors affecting fisheries management, including illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, overcapacity and the United Nations General Assembly Resolution 61/105 on Sustainable Fisheries. It also addressed the role of RFBs with emphasis on performance enhancement and small-scale and inland fisheries and aquaculture.

The Meeting reviewed the status of the Fisheries Resources Monitoring System, the Coordinating Working Party on Fishery Statistics, the RSN webpage and other related matters. The meeting reached a number of conclusions regarding matters meriting the attention of RFBs, governments and FAO.

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