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WESTERN CENTRAL ATLANTIC FISHERY COMMISSION

REPORT OF THE THIRD WORKSHOP ON THE ASSESSMENT OF SHRIMP and GROUNDFISH FISHERIES ON THE BRAZIL-GUIANAS SHELF

Belém, Brazil, 24 May - 10 June 1999







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PREPARATION OF THIS DOCUMENT

This document was prepared by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), which organized the third Stock Assessment Workshop on the Shrimp and Groundfish Fisheries on the Brazil-Guiana Shelf in Brazil from 24 May to 10 June 1999. The Workshop was organized and funded through the FISHCODE Project in collaboration with the CARICOM Fisheries Resource Assessment and Management Program (CFRAMP), funded by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA). The work was accomplished under the guidance and with support of FAO/Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission.

The FISHCODE Project (GCP/INT/648/NOR), that is funded by Norway, aims at improving the quality of scientific advice for fisheries mangement and a major involvement of all stakeholders. This Workshop was a follow-up to two similar workshops jointly organized and funded by CFRAMP and the FAO/DANIDA Project GCP/INT/575/DEN "Training in fish stock assessment and fishery research planning".

This document is a follow-up to FAO Fisheries Report 600, which contains the documents prepared at the second workshop held in Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago from 7 to 18 April 1997. It assembles the reports prepared before and during the third Workshop held in Belém on the marine shrimp and groundfish fisheries and their management of northern Brazil, French Guiana, Guyana, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago and eastern Venezuela.

It includes national reports and papers on methodology presented at the Workshop and stock assessment papers on shrimp and groundfish resources and their management prepared during the Workshop. Sections 18 and 19 deal with the bio-economics of shrimp fisheries of the Brazil–Guiana shelf and in particular with seasonality, risk and uncertainty.

Section 20 contains a report on a meeting where the results of assessments were presented to the fisheries managers and recommendations were drafted for follow-up activities, including national workshops to discuss the results of the assessments made in Belém with all stakeholders in each country. Such follow-up meetings already did take place in 2000 and reports were issued as Field Reports of the FISHCODE Project in the languages used at those meetings (Dutch, English, French, Portuguese and Spanish).

This document, a contribution of the FISHCODE Project, has been edited by Paul Medley, in close cooperation with the various authors, as well as Kevern Cochrane and Siebren Venema.

A report of the fourth regional Workshop in this series, was in October 2000 in Cumaná, Venezuela, will be issued soon by the FISHCODE Project, also as a FAO Fisheries Report.

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FAO/Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission.

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ABSTRACT

This document assembles the reports on the marine shrimp and groundfish fisheries of northern Brazil, French Guiana, Guyana, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago and eastern Venezuela prepared for and during the third Workshop on the Assessment of Shrimp and Groundfish Fisheries on the Brazil-Guianas Shelf, held in Belém, Brazil, from 24 May to 10 June 1999.

Section 2 includes papers dealing with overviews of important shrimp and groundfish resources and their fisheries. Section 3 deals with fisheries management practices in the area in the context of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries. Sections 4 and 5 contain papers on stock assessment methodology applicable in the region.

Sections 6 to 18 deal with national or sub-regional assessments of selected shrimp and groundfish fisheries. Section 17 also deals with the bio-economics of shrimp fisheries in general and in particular with seasonality, risk and uncertainty.

Section 19 is a report of a task group on snapper fisheries of the Brazil-Guianas Shelf, it includes a discussion on future management measures.

Section 20 contains a report on a meeting where the results of assessments were presented to the fisheries managers and recommendations were drafted for follow-up activities.

The names and addresses of the various authors can be obtained from the section headings and the list of participants in Section 22.

There is an extensive list of references in Section 21.

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