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منظمة الأغذية
والزراعة
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联合国
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Agricultura
y la
Alimentación

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EUROPEAN INLAND FISHERIES ADVISORY COMMISSION

TWENTY-THIRD SESSION

Wierzba, Poland, 26 May – 2 June 2004

SUMMARY OF PROGRESS REPORT
SUB-COMMISSION II – Aquaculture

Chairperson: L. Váradi (Hungary)
Vice-Chairperson: N.N.
Rapporteur: J.-P. Proteau (France)
Technical Secretary: U. Barg (FAO)

This Sub-Commission includes four Working Parties and a Eastern European Affairs initiative. Their intersessional activities are presented in more detail in EIFAC/XXIII/2004/Inf.5. It is recommended that the **ad hoc Working Party on Fish Diseases and Their Control** continue its activities with a view to producing best practice guidance, and possibly work on fish disease transmission effects to wild populations resulting from culture-based fisheries or other practices, and on changes in fish health legislation in Europe. The Working Party's Terms of Reference should be revised, and the Commission will be invited to express their views and interest in the work of this Working Party.

The Chairperson of the Sub-Commission met some potential experts for the **ad hoc Working Party on Aquatic Resources Management in Aquaculture** during the EAS Conference in August 2003. Mr Marc Verdegem (Wageningen Agricultural University/The Netherlands) accepted the invitation to act as Convener of the Working Party. Mr Verdegem will attend the EIFAC Aquaculture Symposium in Wierzba (May 2004), where the Working Party will organize an ad-hoc meeting with the involvement of interested experts attending the Symposium.

The Convener of the **ad hoc Working Party on Organic Fish Farming** has requested and compiled information from experts in EIFAC member countries on the present status of organic fish farming, and on the types and volumes of organic fish feeds used. Investigations on use of organic trout feeds showed there was no difference as regards trout quality parameters (organoleptic, chemical composition, including toxins, electronic nose) between conventionally farmed and organically farmed and certified trout. Organic trout feeds have been shown to be inferior compared to conventional trout feed with regard to growth, feed conversion, nitrogen excretion and protein efficiency ratio (PER). The Convener will present the efforts and findings by this Working Party at the forthcoming Organic Aquaculture and Sea Farming Conference (Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam in June, 2004). The Chairperson of the Sub-Commission will also present a paper on organic carp farming during that Conference.

It is recommended that the scope of work of the **ad hoc Working Party on Market Perspectives of European Freshwater Aquaculture** also be reviewed, and that a road map with major events and target dates be developed for this Working Party. Marketing of freshwater products continues

to be a critical issue in European aquaculture, especially in view of the enlargement of the EU. It was decided that FAO/EIFAC and the European Commission will jointly undertake efforts to organize in 2005 a Workshop on Freshwater Aquaculture Marketing with special focus on the accession countries. HAKI at Szarvas offered to host the Workshop. FAO will provide a European market study for freshwater species, which will be discussed at the Workshop. The European Commission will investigate the possibility to cover the travel cost of some 40 workshop participants.

As regards **Eastern European Affairs**, EIFAC Sub-Commission II has been actively involved in the establishment of a Network of Aquaculture Centres in Central and Eastern Europe (NACEE). The main objective of NACEE is to assist the integration of institutions in Central and Eastern European countries into the European Research Area. The operation of the Network will also contribute to the better involvement of Central and Eastern European scientists and professionals in EIFAC activities. Currently the Network has 17 member institutions from 12 countries. FAO envisages possibilities of supporting the efforts of the Network in organizing a NACEE Workshop during October this year. A small meeting will be held in Wierzba with those NACEE members, who will attend the EIFAC Aquaculture Symposium.