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PROGRAMME COMMITTEE

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FOLLOW-UP TO THE EVALUATION OF PROGRAMME 2.3.3: FISHERIES EXPLOITATION AND UTILISATION

Overview

1. **Original management response:** This follow-up report focuses on those recommendations of the evaluation team to which management agreed. Management endorsed the view expressed in the evaluation that the overall design of Programme 2.3.3 should be reviewed in the context of the Fisheries Department strategic planning exercises. It further agreed that elements of logical framework analysis should be introduced in the Fisheries Industries Division (FII) planning exercises, especially the yearly workplans. It stated that it planned to: improve coordination with regional and national FAO offices, the Fish InfoNetwork and widen its partnerships; and to strengthen the dissemination of its publications. It noted that FII has initiated in 2004 a strategy for improved and closer interaction with the donor community.
2. **Status of follow-up:** During the implementation of the PWB¹ 2004-05, the preparation of the MTP² 2006-11 and the ensuing PWB 2006-07 and yearly workplans for 2004, 2005 and 2006, Programme 2.3.3 was revised, using a logical framework approach. FII took advantage of the opportunity of large staff turnover to redefine job descriptions taking into consideration the main recommendations and findings of the evaluation. The division strengthened its coordination with FAO offices, the WHO, UNIDO, WTO and UNCTAD³. Information sharing has been improved between FAO and the Fish InfoNetwork through bi-monthly meetings where activities are reported, followed by information in the four magazines, published by the network. Special efforts were made to improve dissemination of publications in Africa and Latin America.

¹ Programme of Work and Budget

² Medium Term Plan

³ World Health Organization (WHO); United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO); World Trade Organization (WTO); United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)

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Additional resources were secured from the FAO/Netherlands Partnership Programme (FNPP), Norway and Japan and the division benefited from funds provided for the reconstruction of fisheries in Tsunami affected countries.

3. In the revised PWB 2006-07, Programme 2.3.3 has been largely replaced by newly defined programme entities under Programme 2J: *Fisheries and Aquaculture Products and Industry*, and some elements under Programme 2K: *Sustainable Natural Resources Management* (see section below on Capture Fisheries). The overall design of Programme 2.3.3 has been reviewed both within the division, in the context of MTP and PWB planning, as well as during the departmental strategic planning process which is ongoing. Improved annual planning following a logical framework approach has been implemented.

(1) SMALL-SCALE FISHERIES

4. **Original management response:** Management recognised a need to better coordinate FAO activities related to small-scale fisheries which, as emerged from the evaluation, were too dispersed. Greater synergies were to be sought with externally-funded activities and more focus should be placed on coordinating, rather than implementing, small-scale fisheries activities.

5. **Status of follow-up:** Entity 233A2: *Sustainable Development of Small-scale Fisheries* has been replaced by 2JA03: *Capacity Building for Aquaculture and Small-scale Fisheries Development*. The entity is carried out in collaboration with a large number of partners with a view to: achieving strengthened capacity of target groups in the promotion and use of sustainable, cost-efficient and safe fishing operations and methods; enhancing participation in fisheries and coastal management and socio-economic development; disaster preparedness; and disseminating training, extension and information. The topic of improved safety at sea has been removed from entity 233A2, and is now addressed within a highly focused new entity 2JP03: *Improving the Safety of Fishing Operations*. These activities will be supplemented by significant additional extrabudgetary resources provided by Sweden. Activities aiming at decreasing the number of accidents at sea and the effects of such accidents through highly participatory processes will be addressed primarily in West Africa and South Asia during 2006-2008.

(2) CAPTURE FISHERIES

6. **Original management response:** Management agreed with the priorities identified by the evaluation for further work in this area.

7. **Status of follow-up:** The main focus of the work of Programme 2.3.3 in respect of capture fisheries was the reduction of the negative impacts of fishing on the environment. Issues included the incidental catch of seabirds, marine debris, selectivity, and bycatch reduction in shrimp trawl fisheries, deep sea fisheries as well as a renewed quantification of global discards. Work on reduction of discards and environmental impact from fisheries in the Revised PWB 2006-07 proposal is included in Programme 2K as entity 2KA09: *Impact of Fishing on the Environment*. The entity continues to be implemented by the Fisheries Industries Division.

(3) POST-HARVEST HANDLING

8. **Original management response:** Management agreed with the need to strengthen work on on-board, port and landing site fish handling, particularly in Africa. It also agreed that increased attention should be paid to technical aspects of aquaculture, including fish slaughtering, handling, processing and transport.

9. **Status of follow-up:** Five TCP⁴ projects were implemented in Africa and other activities were funded through Regular Programme and extrabudgetary resources (FNPP, Common Fund for Commodities, Tsunami funds) and addressed improvement of fish handling, landing facilities,

⁴ Technical Cooperation Programme

distribution and marketing infrastructure, with special attention to aquaculture in Asia and Latin America.

10. Other activities and extra-budgetary projects, in Africa and Tsunami-affected countries have been secured for 2006-07 in order to better integrate activities along the fish food chain and provide for better support to the project cluster on rural infrastructure and agro-industries. For 2006-07 two entities: 233A9: *Improved Utilization of Fish for Human Consumption* and 233P1: *Consumption, Safety and Quality of Fish Products* have been consolidated into 2JP01: *Utilization, Safety and Quality of Fish Products*.

(4) FISH TRADE

11. **Original management response:** The Fisheries Department would respond to recommendations by undertaking studies on multinational companies, distribution channels and their vertical concentration, and seeks extrabudgetary funds to continue and expand its studies on the impact of fish trade on food security, including the relationship between supply and demand for food fish at the national level and household fish consumption surveys.

12. **Status of follow-up:** FII has finalised studies on retail chains and their vertical concentration in Latin America and Asia. These studies were expanded to Europe and Africa with the view to providing policy advice and technical assistance to developing countries to enable responsible participation in international fish trade, balanced with effective food security policies. The division has informally consulted with seafood business leaders to discuss future developments in relation to the supply of fish and in relation to the impact of food retailers and the food service sector on the value chain. Potential areas of collaboration between the private sector and FAO were also explored. The COFI⁵ Subcommittee on Fish Trade will be informed of the results of these meetings and its guidance will be sought in relation to future meetings of this nature. The Division is also considering hosting a joint FAO/OECD⁶ workshop to examine the impacts of globalisation throughout the fisheries value chain.

(5) INFORMATION MATERIALS

13. **Original management response:** Management agreed that technical publications should be made more useful for training purposes and that repositories of training materials should be available for extension purposes.

14. **Status of follow-up:** FII identified additional resources from Iceland to permit implementation of a programme designed to strengthen the existing FishCode programme initiatives in training and capacity-building, by contributing to the development and delivery of tailor-made courses on specific responsible fisheries topics, in response to identified needs. These courses will draw heavily on existing technical publications, reformatting them as training materials for extension and training purposes.

⁵ Committee on Fisheries

⁶ Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

(6) *MONITORING, CONTROL AND SURVEILLANCE (MCS)*
VESSEL MONITORING SYSTEMS (VMS)

15. **Original management response:** Management agreed to find the best way to make MCS and VMS the subject of a specific technical project within the Department.

16. **Status of follow-up:** The Department took note of this recommendation, and created a new entity 2JA02: *Implementation of MCS*, which commenced in this biennium. Through its activities at both national and international level, the entity will promote, develop and reinforce policy and regulatory frameworks on MCS. National MCS capacity and international cooperation will be improved through a range of technical meetings, workshops and studies and through contributions towards the preparation and implementation of MCS projects and national plans of action on illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing.