



**GENERAL FISHERIES COMMISSION
FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN
COMMISSION GÉNÉRALE DES PÊCHES
POUR LA MÉDITERRANÉE**



GENERAL FISHERIES COMMISSION FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN

COMMITTEE ON AQUACULTURE (CAQ)

**REPORT OF THE 11TH SESSION ON INFORMATION SYSTEM FOR
THE PROMOTION OF AQUACULTURE IN THE MEDITERRANEAN
(SIPAM)***

Trabzon, Turkey, 9-10 December 2009

*** Only in English**

OPENING OF THE MEETING

1. The Eleventh Session of the Information System for the Promotion of Aquaculture in the Mediterranean (SIPAM) of the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM) Committee on Aquaculture (CAQ) was held in Trabzon, Turkey from 9 to 10 December 2009. The meeting was organised back to back to the CAQ “Workshop on harmonisation of standards for Mediterranean aquaculture data collection” held the 8 December 2009. The Meeting was attended by the SIPAM National Coordinators of Albania, Algeria, Croatia, Cyprus, Italy, Malta, Morocco and Turkey, representatives from EUROSTAT, the Coordinator of the CAQ Working Group on Marketing on Aquaculture (WGMA), and the Officers from GFCM Secretariat and from FAO-FIMA and FAO-FIES. The list of participants is attached as Appendix B.

2. Mr Atila Ozdemir, Director of the Trabzon Central Fisheries Research Institute, welcomed the participants and opened the Meeting. He illustrated the role of his Institute in the research activities related to the aquaculture in the area and recalled the relevance of the aquaculture sector in Turkey. Mr Fabio Massa, GFCM Aquaculture Officer and Technical Secretary of CAQ addressed the meeting and thanked the Central Fisheries Research Institute and the Turkish Ministry of Rural Affairs for the kind hospitality and for excellent organisation of the meeting.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA AND ARRANGEMENT OF THE MEETING

3. The Agenda of the meeting was introduced and adopted with some minor changes. The adopted Agenda is attached in the Appendix A

PROGRAMME OF WORK AS ADOPTED DURING THE 33RD GFCM SESSION

4. The GFCM Secretariat informed the Participants on the activities carried out since: the 33rd GFCM session; the sixth CAQ Meeting (Tirana, Albania); and activities performed since the tenth annual meeting of the SIPAM (Tirana, Albania, 15-16 December 2008).

5. The revision of SIPAM according to the requirement of the Recommendation GFCM/33/2009/4 was presented and the “step by step” Certification procedure for Production Statistics was illustrated. The presentation stressed the importance of collaboration between National Coordinators (data-entry side) and GFCM Secretariat (data-entry guidance, monitoring of submitted data, quality control). The system improvements in SIPAM in terms of event and news management were showed by focusing on the search facilities (ajax-based technology) already available on the web. The SIPAM Quick Start Guide for National Coordinators was also distributed to the participant. The GFCM Secretariat took the opportunity to highlight the connection between the SIPAM portal and the GFCM website and to inform the participants about the “*Data and Information Reporting Requirements*” web-page¹ (on the GFCM website) which provides the users with the essential information for data submission.

6. Participants acknowledged with satisfaction the progress made in improving the SIPAM portal and the data-entry form, however they noted with concern that despite the fact that Members have an obligation to provide information on aquaculture production statistics (Rule X of the GFCM Agreement), the availability of data remains insufficient. The GFCM Secretariat was requested to stimulate National Authorities in participating to SIPAM and improving the data collection.

7. In order to enhance the role of SIPAM as official portal for data and information of aquaculture in the Mediterranean and Black Sea, some web-facilities were suggested by the participants: multilingual frame website, documents in French, mailing list system to inform SIPAM users about activities, meetings and reports. The participants also proposed: a) to post on the web the data and information available on relevant reports and documents already published in the world of aquaculture; b) to insert in the “News” section summaries of salient points and recommendation from CAQ related meetings, particularly results from technical workshops, etc.

REPORTING OF AQUACULTURE DATA AND INFORMATION (REC. GFCM/33/2009/4)

8. The SIPAM National Coordinators of Albania, Algeria, Croatia, Cyprus, Italy, Malta, Morocco and Turkey, presented the status of the national data collection on aquaculture in their countries and particular references were made on the requirements of the GFCM

¹ <http://151.1.154.86/gfcmwebsite/DataInformationReportingRequirments.html>

Recommendation GFCM/33/2009/04 on the reporting of aquaculture data and information through the SIPAM. The National Coordinators also informed that the yearly aquaculture data collection in their respectively countries are in accordance with the requirement of the GFCM Recommendation for data submission. Participants agreed that the new SIPAM module for data-entry purpose is more users friendly and no particular problems were met during the phase of submission, however some improvement in terms of usability and layout were suggested.

9. Furthermore, the representatives of Malta, Cyprus and Italy recalled that the GFCM Recommendation among other includes the main aspects of the new European Commission regulation EC 762 (2008) on the submission of statistics on aquaculture by Member States. The representative of Croatia presented the national data collection and the national information system web based logbook and licensing system for national data aquaculture in which many accounting information are also provided by the farmer to the Fisheries Directorate. The representative of Turkey informed the participants that all the information related to the aquaculture production at farm level are also available on the web and that these information are updated on yearly based. The coordinator from Algeria presented the new national development plan both for inland and marine aquaculture. The coordinator of Albania informed that now all the data are collected at central level by the Fishery Directorate. On the basis of the good progresses reached in the marine data collection, a new national regulation for aquaculture is underway.

10. Finally the coordinator from Morocco informed the participants about the national strategy for marine aquaculture development 2010-2020 which has been finalised. In support of that plan a National Agency for Marine Aquaculture has been established and it will be in charge also for the definition of the national aquaculture data collection. In this respect he highlighted that the activities carried out by SIPAM are extremely important for his country. Any additional support on Aquaculture Data collection (training or handbooks preparation) from the SIPAM and from the GFCM Secretariat will be welcomed.

11. The Secretariat informed participants that 13 members' countries have been registered in SIPAM with the National Coordinator user rights granted by the Secretariat itself (Albania, Algeria, Croatia, Cyprus, Egypt, Italy, Lebanon, Malta, Montenegro, Morocco, Slovenia, Spain and Turkey). Six countries have submitted data for 2007 (Cyprus, Italy, Malta, Morocco, Tunisia, Turkey) and other six for 2008 according to the requirement of the Recommendation GFCM/33/2009/04 (Albania, Cyprus, Malta, Morocco, Spain, Turkey). The Secretariat was also previously informed by the National Coordinator that data from Algeria, Egypt, Croatia and Italy are underway.

12. Although data submission was highlighted as one of the major constraints faced by the SIPAM network since years and despite that the GFCM adopted a binding recommendation on the Aquaculture Data Submission, participants expressed strong concern for the absence of some user registration and data submission of aquaculture data production on SIPAM. This was noted in particular for those countries whose production quantities are relevant for the Mediterranean aquaculture activities and marketing issues. Participants strongly request to the Secretariat to make additional formal effort to finalize the registration process thus allowing data submission to the GFCM through the SIPAM system.

HARMONISATION OF STANDARDS FOR MEDITERRANEAN AQUACULTURE DATA COLLECTION

13. The Secretariat presented the conclusions and proposals of the Workshop on Harmonisation of Standards (8th December, 2009) for the Mediterranean Aquaculture Data Collection. Participants reviewed and discussed the different terms utilised into the SIPAM system by considering the FAO Aquaculture Glossary, the draft of the CWP² Handbook of Fisheries Statistical Standards as well as the ASFIS³ list (for the Species names) as reference sources. Discussion focused also on the areas in which aquaculture and capture fishery activities are interrelated. The table on the examples of activities that either allocate to aquaculture or capture, drafted by the CWP, was taken as reference with minor amendments (Annex 3). Those cases with further difficulty should be left to the judgement of national experts and should be considered case by case together with updating the reference table.

14. The main considerations and conclusions of the Workshop were adopted by the SIPAM session. The terminology adopted is reported in Annex 2.

INTEGRATION OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE CAQ WORKING GROUPS INTO THE SIPAM

15. Mr. RAD, the coordinator of CAQ Working Group on Marketing of Aquaculture products (WGMA), illustrated some conceptual aspects of aquaculture management and marketing and stressed that Mediterranean aquaculture industry has to shift from sales to marketing and adapt a market-oriented management culture. He presented the main achievement of the MedAqMarket project (project strategy for marketing and promotion of aquaculture in the Mediterranean) which was initiated to provide quantitative data and qualitative assessments on marketing aspects of Mediterranean aquaculture. He also presented the results of SWOT analysis performed by data collected from MedAqMarket national reports and further reviewed during the **GFCM/CAQ Working Group on Marketing on Aquaculture**. *“Development of a Strategy for Marketing and Promotion of Mediterranean Aquaculture”* (26-27 October 2009 Tangier, Morocco) underlined the need for collection of market information to overcome the existing weakness that Mediterranean aquaculture suffers from. The use of SIPAM as a tool for collection and dissemination of market and marketing related information and its potential to contribute to development of sustainable aquaculture in the Mediterranean was also stressed.

16. The GFCM Secretariat showed the result of the work carried out on MedAqMarket web portal focusing on the four components of its databases: “Fish Market”; “National Market Data”; “Demographic Data” and Others. Some examples of interactive charts representing several type of data (market and demographic) were presented as well as a reporting system. About the national market data (national expert source), the common fields with the SIPAM database, whose data come from national coordinators source, were highlighted.

17. The participants were also informed about the release of the ShocMed webpage available into the SIPAM portal. Starting from the general structure of the page, which is

² Coordinating Working Party on Fishery Statistics (<http://www.fao.org/fishery/cwp>)

³ ASFIS List of Species for Fishery Statistics Purposes (<http://www.fao.org/fishery/collection/asfis>)

composed by four main sections (News, Events, Documents and Presentations), a proposal of search tool was advanced. The tool aims at providing a web application which allows users launching queries in the ShocMed data-bank. The general attention was drawn down to the added value represented by tables and analysis of the data on the relation between the environment and aquaculture which may be present into the documents retrieved by the ShocMed system according to the selected criteria .

18. The GFCM Secretariat presented the outcome of the work on InDAM bibliographical data-bank. In order to provide the users with a user friendly web-based system, the search tool to retrieve the reports and publication which matches with the selected criteria was showed.

COOPERATION WITH FAO ON ACTIVITIES OF INTEREST TO MEDITERRANEAN AQUACULTURE

19. The FAO-FIMA representative further delivered a presentation on the new National Aquaculture Sector Overview (NASO) map collection consisting of Google maps showing the location of aquaculture sites and their characteristics at the farm and/or administrative level (e.g. state, province, district) depending on the degree of aquaculture development, the resources available to complete a data collection form, and the level of clearance provided by the country. It was noted that the above activity is part of the FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Department regular programme. The main purpose of these Google maps is to assist Member countries inventory and monitor aquaculture by illustrating, in general, where aquaculture is taking place.

SIPAM PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR 2010

20. The workplan of SIPAM activities was discussed and the following general activities were endorsed and reported hereunder:

- Update the Production Statistics section according to the new terminology adopted during the *Workshop on Harmonisation Standards for Mediterranean Aquaculture Data Collection* (Trabzon, Turkey, 8 December 2009) as reported in Appendix C;
- Update the Production Centre section and data-entry form according to the agreed parameters as reported in Appendix C paragraph 10;
- Update the “*Production Statistics - Quick Start Guide for National Coordinators*” by including glossary of terms adopted as reported in Annex 2: Aquaculture, Environment (Freshwater Culture, Brackishwater, Mariculture), Cultured Species, Method of culture (Extensive culture, Semi-intensive culture, Intensive culture), Farming structure, Type of product;
- Release of the “*Production Centres - Quick Start Guide for National Coordinators*”;
- Improve the national data reporting by providing tables and charts including the economic data collected according to the requirement of the Recommendation GFCM/2009/33/4 (on reporting of Aquaculture Data and Information) and enhancing the user interface;

- Finalise the web facility for the consultation of all the certified data;
- Establish an email alert system to inform the SIPAM National Coordinator on any new information available on the SIPAM portal (forms, reports, news, events, documents);
- Finalise the newly established sections on “Marketing”, “Siting and Carrying Capacity” and “Indicators for Sustainable Aquaculture” and further develop of the related databases;
- Improve the banners of InDAM, MedAqMarket, ShocMed in the SIPAM homepage by making them much more understandable;
- Organise a training session on the NASO Google map application for National Coordinators during the next SIPAM session;
- Organise a training session on the use of SIPAM system for National Coordinators during the next SIPAM session in order to provide direct guidance during the data-entry and data retrieving processes;
- Increase the cooperation with FAO for the updating of Mediterranean National Aquaculture Sector Overviews (NASOs);
- Organise the preparation of a Mediterranean regional aquaculture review based on the available information and on the established format.

OTHER MATTERS

21. The meeting noted that SIPAM starts taking more responsibility in administrative and statistics reporting and considered the need to reflect such recent changes in the role and responsibility. To this extent some participants proposed to change the name to reflect the real scope of the system. More importantly, the meeting noted the need to improve SIPAM visibility and formalize its new role within the national administrative systems and recommended to pursue the development of a strategy for the next step.

CONCLUSIONS

22. In view of the above, the meeting proposed the following for the consideration of CMWG and CAQ:

- the participants strongly request to the Secretariat to make any additional formal effort to finalize the registration of all the SIPAM National Coordinator and ensure the data submission to the GFCM through the SIPAM system;
- establish contact with Eurostat MEDSTAT II Project, the regional statistical co-operation programme among the Mediterranean countries, in order to optimise the effort made in harmonisation and data collection;

- amend and update the data collection scheme (Recommendation GFCM/33/2009/04) on the reporting of aquaculture data and information for the Production Centre and with the new harmonized terminology adopted by SIPAM;
- strengthen the relation and cooperation with the marketing working group in particular for what concern the data to be collected for assessing marketing aspects for Mediterranean aquaculture;
- ask the countries to fulfil all the gaps in the SIPAM database (from 2003 to 2008) through their National Coordinators;
- enhance the role of SIPAM in promoting the development of a sustainable aquaculture in the Mediterranean and develop a strategy to improve visibility and functionality of SIPAM.

APPENDIX A

Agenda

Opening of the meeting

Adoption of the Agenda and meeting arrangements

Report of the SIPAM programme of work as adopted during the 33rd GFCM session

Reporting of Aquaculture Data and Information (Rec. GFCM/33/2009/4)

Mediterranean Aquaculture Production Statistics

Harmonisation of standards for Mediterranean aquaculture data collection

Integration of the activities of the CAQ Working Groups into the SIPAM IS

Cooperation with FAO - FIMA recent activities related to Mediterranean aquaculture

SIPAM Programme of work for 2010 and beyond

Any other matters

Conclusions

Adoption of the report

APPENDIX B

List of participants**Bilal AKBULUT**

Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs
 Central Fisheries Research Institute
 P.K.: 129, 61100 Trabzon / TURKEY
 Phone: +90 462 341 10 53
 Fax: +90 462 341 11 52
 E- Mail: bakbulut@sumae.gov.tr

Ahmed BADANI

Sous Directeur des Statistiques
 et des Etudes Prospectives
 Ministère de la Pêche et des
 Ressources Halieutiques, Algérie
 Rue des quatre Canons, Alger (16000),
 Algérie
 Phone/Fax : 00213 21 433987
 Mobile: 00213 774240054
 E-mail: ah_badani@yahoo.fr
sdsep@mpeche.gov.dz

Ramazan ÇELEBİ

Fisheries and Agriculture Engineer
 Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs
 General Directorate of Agricultural
 Production and Development, Aquaculture
 Department
 Eskisehir Yolu 9. Km. A Blok 1.
 Kat Cankaya-Ankara Turkey
 Phone: +90 312 287 33 60/3078
 Fax: +90 312 286 75 92
 E-Mail: celebii@yahoo.com

Mimoza COBANI

Fishery Specialist
 Ministry of Environment
 Forestry and Water Administration
 Rruga e Durrës, Nr.27, Tirana Albania
 Phone/Fax number: +355682081671
 E-mail address: mcobani@moe.gov.al
mimoza_cobani@yahoo.com

Maria COZZOLINO

Institute for Economic Research on
 Fisheries and Aquaculture (IREPA)
 Via S. Leonardo - Travesra Migliaro

84131 Salerno Italy

Phone: +39089330919

Fax: +39089330835

E-mail address cozzolino@irepa.org

Mohamed EL AHDAL

Institut National de Recherche Halieutique
 (INRH)
 2 Rue de Tiznit, Casablanca Morocco
 Phone: +212 22200849
 Fax: +212 22266967
 Mobile: +212-06-61330637
 E-mail: elahdal@inrh.org.ma
m.elahdal@yahoo.com

Vassilis PAPADOPOULOS

Ministry of Agriculture Natural Resources
 and Environment Department of Fisheries
 and Marine Research
 Vithleem 101, 1416 Nicosia, Cyprus
 Phone: +357 22807809 / +357 22 817809
 Fax: +357 22775955
 E-mail: vpapadopoulos@dfmr.moa.gov.cy

Maja POLIC

Directorate of Fisheries
 Ministry of Agriculture, Fishery and Rural
 Development
 I. Mažuranića 30, 23000 Zadar, Croatia
 Phone: 385 23 309820
 Fax: 385 23 309830
 Email mps-uprava-ribarstva2@zd.t-com.hr

Özdem MALTAŞ

Agriculture Engineer
 Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs
 General Directorate of Agricultural
 Production and Development, Aquaculture
 Department
 Eskisehir Yolu 9. Km. A Blok 1.
 Kat Cankaya-Ankara Turkey
 Phone: +90 312 287 33 60/3080
 Fax: +90 312 287 00 41
 E-mail: ozerdem.maltas@tarim.gov.tr

Ferit RAD

University of Mersin
Faculty of Fisheries department of
Aquaculture
Mersin/ TURKEY
Phone: +90 536 838 3322
E-Mail: frad@mersin.edu.tr

Atila ÖZDEMİR

Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs
Central Fisheries Research Institute,
Director
P.K.: 129, 61100 Trabzon / TURKEY
Phone: +90 462 341 10 54-55
Operator: +90 462 341 10 53-56
Fax: +90 462 341 11 52
GSM Operatör: +90 505 490 85 63
E-mail: aozdemir@sumae.gov.tr

Cennet ÜSTÜNDAĞ

Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs
Central Fisheries Research Institute
P.K.: 129, 61100 Trabzon / TURKEY
Phone: +90 462 341 10 53
Fax: +90 462 341 11 52
E-Mail: cennet_ustundag@hotmail.com

Robert VASSALLO-AGIUS

Head of Malta Centre for Fisheries
Sciences
Fort San Lucjan, Marsaxlokk BBG 1283,
Malta
Phone: +356 – 2229 3300
Fax: +356 – 2165 9380
E-mail: robert.j.vassallo@gov.mt

Aylin VELİOĞLU

Agriculture Engineer
Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs
General Directorate of Agricultural
Production and Development, Aquaculture
Department
Eskisehir Yolu 9. Km. A Blok 1.
Kat Cankaya-Ankara Turkey
Phone: +90 312 287 33 60/3078
Fax: +90 312 287 00 41
E-mail: veliogluaylin@gmail.com
aylin.velioglu@tarim.gov.tr

Franco ZAMPOGNA

Head of Fishery Statistics Section
European Commission - Eurostat E2
BECH C3/607
L-2721 LUXEMBURG
Phone: +352.4301.37268
E-mail: franco.zampogna@ec.europa.eu

FAO

**Via delle Terme di Caracalla
00153 Rome, Italy**

Valerio CRESPI

Fishery Resources Officer
Aquaculture Management and
Conservation Service
FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture
Department
Tel : 0657052009
Fax : 0657053020
E-mail : valerio.crespi@fao.org
Website:
<http://www.fao.org/fishery/aquaculture>

Alessandro LOVATELLI

Fishery Resources Officer (Aquaculture)
Aquaculture Management and
Conservation Service (FIMA)
Fishery and Aquaculture Management
Division
Fisheries and Aquaculture Department
Phone: + 39 06 57056448
Fax: + 39 06 57053020
E-mail: alessandro.lovatelli@fao.org

Sachiko TSUJI

Senior Fishery Statistician
Information and statistics Service(FIES)
FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture
Department
Viale delle Terme di Caracalla
00153 Rome, Italy
Phone: + 39 06 570 55318
Fax: +39 06 570 52476
E-mail: sachiko.tsuji@fao.org

GFCM Secretariat**Fabio MASSA**Aquaculture Officer / CAQ Technical
SecretaryGeneral Fisheries Commission for the
Mediterranean

FAO-FIEL Room C 164

Viale delle Terme di Caracalla

00100 Rome, Italy

Phone: +39 06 570 53885

Fax: +39 06 570 56500

E-mail: fabio.massa@fao.orgWebsite: www.gfcm.org**Federico DE ROSSI**General Fisheries Commission for the
Mediterranean

FAO-FIEL Room C 358

Viale delle Terme di Caracalla

00100 Rome, Italy

Phone: +39 06 570 53481

Fax: +39 06 570 56500

E-mail: federico.derossi@fao.org

WORKSHOP ON HARMONISATION STANDARDS FOR MEDITERRANEAN AQUACULTURE DATA COLLECTION

Trabzon, Turkey, 8 December 2009

REPORT

OPENING OF THE MEETING

The General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM) Committee on Aquaculture (CAQ) “*Workshop on harmonisation of standards for Mediterranean aquaculture data collection*” was held in Trabzon, Turkey the 8th December 2009. The Meeting was attended by the SIPAM National Coordinators of Albania, Algeria, Croatia, Cyprus, Italy, Malta, Morocco and Turkey, representatives from EUROSTAT and the Coordinator of the CAQ Working Group on Marketing on Aquaculture (WGMA), and the Officers from GFCM Secretariat and from FAO-FIMA and FAO-FIES. The list of participants is attached as Appendix B.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA AND ARRANGEMENT OF THE MEETING

1. The Agenda was presented by the Secretariat and adopted with minor changes. It is attached as Annex A of this report.

GLOBAL STANDARD FOR AQUACULTURE DATA COLLECTION

2. The FAO-FIES representative briefly introduced the Strategy and Outline Plan for Improving Information on Status and Trend of Aquaculture (Strategy-STA) that was endorsed by the Third Sub-Committee of Aquaculture in 2006 and by the 27th session of COFI in 2007. Main on-going activities under this strategy included global harmonization of concepts and terminologies through CWP and enhancement of data collection and monitoring capacity at various regions. Consideration on the regional need of FAO inputs and advice in securing supporting fund were sought.

3. The FAO-FIES representative briefed the meeting on the outcome of the CWP expert workshop for drafting Handbook on Aquaculture Statistics, held in Viet Nam in November 2009. Draft handbook intended to cover a broad range of issues, including emerging issues, requiring data collection and monitoring for the purpose of management of aquaculture and indicated a set of information to be collected regularly as national statistics. Major additional monitoring need included inputs to the aquaculture practice, especially seeds, products of non-food use including ornamental organisms and output product from hatchery. Draft would be tabled for review at the forthcoming session of CWP in February 2010.

4. The Eurostat representative made a presentation on the new EC regulation 762/2008 on the aquaculture data collection. This regulation covers the following fields: aquaculture

production except hatcheries and nurseries, capture-based aquaculture, production of hatcheries and nurseries as well as structural data on aquaculture sector. Included to the regulation, a set of definitions are provided to allow harmonised data transmission. EC regulation 762/2008 takes into account as far as possible, already available standard statistical definitions and concepts provided by the FAO's Coordinating Working Party (CWP) Handbook on Fisheries Statistics. Eurostat participated actively to the CWP expert group meeting of November 2009 in Ha Long Bay (Vietnam) on the revision of the aforesaid Handbook. Eurostat is in favour of having definitions of the FAO's glossary on fisheries statistics as close as possible to CWP Handbook ones. To have reliable and comparable statistics, one of the main conditions is to have standards statistical concepts used for data collection. The main problems incurred in collecting and processing fisheries statistical data are the correct identification and reporting of the species as well as the standard format used to transmit data and process them. Eurostat is currently developing a new project of harmonised transmission format (SDMX-ML) with FAO and the major Regional Fisheries Organisations which should allow sharing data, decreasing the workload for data providers and decreasing significantly the risk or discrepancies. Eurostat underlined the importance of the reports provided by the Member States on the methodology they use to compile, validate and transmit fisheries statistics. With the agreement of the concerned Member States, the methodologies could be made available to share good practice and enhance the common knowledge. Eurostat informed about its "MEDSTAT II" aiming at helping the member countries of the Mediterranean to improve their statistical system of fisheries data collection. Either in the context of Task 1 recommendation or SIPAM data collection system, cooperation between GFCM and Eurostat should be strengthened to develop more efficient cooperation in the field of fisheries data collection.

5. The importance of an agreed set of aquaculture definitions was underlined as a fundamental key to enhance the communication among experts, to facilitate the data collection as well as to improve the quality of data to be collected through the SIPAM Information System. Despite of the difficulties on finding common terms to define all the aquaculture keywords, the relevance of reaching an agreement about the terminology to be used in the SIPAM was stressed. The quality of source of information was also considered fundamental when data production on aquaculture are analysed. In some cases, the use of indirect methods could be helpful in the calculation of production or trend analysis, such as the estimation of production through the number of fingerlings used or the yearly fish feed consumption.

6. Mediterranean cooperation on aquaculture data collection could be also improved by releasing national report on the strategy and methodologies applied for the implementation of the GFCM recommendation on aquaculture data collection. On the base of already existing/adopted national format, it was suggested to present these reports within the activities of SIPAM.

FAO GLOSSARY OF AQUACULTURE

7. The FAO-FIMA representative delivered a presentation on the FAO Glossary of Aquaculture published in 2006 and available as hard (including a CD-ROM) and soft copies⁴ and in five official FAO languages (Arabic, Chinese, English, French and Spanish). The

⁴ www.fao.org/fi/glossary/aquaculture

Glossary, which contains about 3 000 terms, definitions, synonyms, related terms, information sources and images organized in 21 aquaculture subject areas, has been designed to serve as a reference for all aquaculture stakeholders and to standardize terms and definitions for data collection purposes.

8. The presentation was well received and participants agreed to adopt specific glossary definitions, when available, in the SIPAM national aquaculture data collection forms. Some definitions would be however modified during the preparation of the CWP handbook on aquaculture statistical standards. It was further pointed out that the online Glossary could be used as a repository system for new terms and definitions. Furthermore, it was suggested that for the specific purposes of the Commission additional subject areas, containing terms and definitions of relevance to the SIPAM data collection forms, could be established.

PRODUCTION CENTRES

9. GFCM Secretariat underlined that data structure for the Production Centres was not specified in the Rec. GFCM/33/2009/4 on reporting of Aquaculture Data and Information. The availability of data regarding national aquaculture capacity in terms of volume of production or according to the capacity based on the licence (when existing) was considered essential for statistical purposes.

10. It was agreed that aggregate information on Production centres should be provided according to the segment of production (hatchery, farms), number of production centres per segment, cultured species, volume unit and destination (ongrowing, restocking, ornamental).

Agenda

Opening of the meeting

Adoption of the Agenda and meeting arrangements

Global standards for Aquaculture data collection

FAO Glossary on Aquaculture

National aquaculture data collection protocols and standards

Harmonisation of standards for Mediterranean aquaculture data collection

Any other matters

Conclusions

Adoption of the report

AQUACULTURE TERMINOLOGY ADOPTED

- **Aquaculture**

Aquaculture is the farming of aquatic organisms⁵. Farming implies some sort of intervention in the rearing process to enhance production, such as regular stocking, feeding, protection from predators, etc. Farming also implies individual or corporate ownership of the stock being cultivated.

For statistical purpose, aquaculture production is defined as an increment of biomass and/or an increment in numbers of individual organisms produced during the period of farming. Therefore, in order to measure aquatic production, both input to, and output from, the farming environment are needed to monitor. Seed going into a culture-based fishery is considered as an output from aquaculture to fishery, while seed collected by fishery for aquaculture is considered an input from fishery to aquaculture

- **Environment**

The terms actually in use into the SIPAM system are Freshwater, Brackishwater Marine water and Other. Many participants considered that two categories like Freshwater and Saltwater (Brackish + Marine) could be enough to classify the different culture environment. However some grey areas exist when difference in salinity occurred during the year.

It was decided to maintain three categories of Freshwater, Brackishwater and Marine noting the similar decision at the CWP. The definition of terms used by CWP were as follows:

Freshwater Culture. *By freshwater culture is understood the cultivation of aquatic organisms where the end product is raised in freshwater, such as ponds, reservoirs, rivers, lakes, canals etc., in which the salinity does not normally exceed 0.5‰. Earlier stages of the life cycle of these aquatic organisms may be spent in brackish or marine waters.*

Brackishwater. Culture *By brackishwater culture is understood the cultivation of aquatic organisms where the end product is raised in waters of fluctuating salinity in a range between 0.5‰ and full strength seawater. Culture utilizing relatively high salinity water originated from inland water bodies should be considered as brackishwater culture. If these conditions do not exist or have no effect on cultural practices, production should be recorded under either "Freshwater culture" or "Mariculture". Earlier stages of the life cycle of these aquatic organisms may be spent in fresh or marine waters.*

⁵ Currently, aquatic organisms referred to fish, mollusks, crustaceans, other invertebrate, crocodiles, alligators, turtles, amphibians and aquatic plants.

***Mariculture.** By mariculture is understood that the cultivation of the end product takes place in seawater, such as fjords, inshore and open waters and inland seas where salinity is generally high and is not subject to significant daily or seasonal variations. Earlier stages in the life cycle of these aquatic organisms may be spent in brackishwater or freshwater.*

- **Cultured Species**

It was agreed to replace the already existing species list in SIPAM IS with the entire “ASFIS List of Species for Fishery Statistics Purposes”, available through the FAO Fisheries website, which must be considered as official source.

Taking into account the length of the list (it is composed by more than 10,000 species), in order to simplify the species selection into the system, some selection facilities were requested by the participants: auto-completing list and 3-alpha code search field.

- **System of culture**

The actual classification now in use into SIPAM IS reports: Intensive, Semintensive, Extensive and Integrated culture.

It was proposed to replace **System of culture** with the term **Method of culture** which seems to be more appropriate. It was agreed to remove the term *Integrated culture* from the list and post this kind of information in the notes box at disposal in the data-entry form.

The terms used by CWP were adopted:

***Extensive culture:** the cultured stock obtains all the nutrition required from the natural food produced in the containment where it is reared and/or through the water supplied to the containment,*

***Semi-intensive culture:** the cultured stock is provided a part of nutrition required externally, mostly through supplementary feeding, the culture where only the chemical to enhance production including fertilizers and pesticides are provided is considered as “Extensive culture”, and*

***Intensive culture:** all the nutrition that the culture stock requires is provided externally.*

- **Type of culture**

It was proposed to replace the term **Type of culture** with **Farming structure**.

Lagoon areas item is added to the existing category of “dam/reservoir/barrage”.

It was noted that the existing SIPAM categorization is consistent with those proposed by CWP and the existing list was adopted, with the understanding that the definition by CWP would be applied.

- **Type of product**

Actual classification: Product for consumption (Ongrowing), fry and fingerlings, eggs, ornamental and derived product. It was proposed to change the term “**Product for consumption (Ongrowing)**” with “**Food (for human consumption)**”.

With reference to the Unit to be applied for fry and fingerlings, it was suggested to introduce into the SIPAM the possibility to offer choice the different unit (Thousands or Millions) according to the species production while the database maintaining raw number.

ANNEX 3

PRODUCTION FROM	DESIGNATION	
	Aquaculture	Capture
Hatcheries	*	
Ponds	*	
Tanks	*	
Raceways	*	
Cages	*	
Pens	*	
Barrages	*	
Integrated vallicoltura production	*	
Private, tidal ponds (tambaks)	*	
Stocked lakes, reservoirs and rivers		
- with clear ownership defined on stocked organisms	*	
- with other enhancement (predator control and/pr fertilization)		*
- modification with “exploitation rights”		*
- no other intervention without “exploitation rights”		
Lakes, reservoirs and rivers without stocking		
- with enhancement (fertilization and/or predator control, habitat modification), with “exploitation rights”		*
Rice-fish culture:		
- from stocked rice-paddy	*	
- from rice-paddy without stocking		*
Finfish and other animals harvested from brush parks:		
- managed over time and with other enhancement rights		*
- harvested on an install and harvest basis		*
Fish and other animals harvested from fish aggregating devices and/or artificial reefs		*
Molluscs:		
- from managed grow-out site (e.g. poles, ropes, net bags)	*	
- subject to harvest with “exploitation rights”		*
- subject to open fisheries		*
Aquatic plants:		
- harvest of planted and suspended aquatic plants	*	
- harvest of natural aquatic plants		*
Aquatic organisms caught in open waters		*