



**FCWC**

**Fishery Committee For The  
West Central Gulf Of Guinea**

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2015 ANNUAL REPORT

**SECRETARIAT GENERAL**

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**SECRETARIAT GENERAL - P.O.BOX - BT 62 Tema, GHANA / Email: [secretariat@fcwc-fish.org](mailto:secretariat@fcwc-fish.org)  
Tel: + 233 30 22 20 53 23 / Mob: +233 20 75 86 321**

## ABSTRACT

Over the year 2015, the Fisheries Committee for the West Central Gulf of Guinea (FCWC) has carried forward several initiatives for fisheries governance notably support for the initiatives and actions of sub-regional and pan-African Institutions in consistency with the fisheries policy and rational exploitation of fishery resources in Africa.

Strengthening the legal framework for the establishment of the FCWC through the follow-up to the signing of the headquarters agreement respectively by Ministers in charge of fisheries in Ghana and Côte d'Ivoire, as well as support for facilitating the ratification of relevant international instruments for fisheries management by the FCWC Member States have been regularly provided.

The regional platform for the fight against illegal, unreported and unregulated fisheries (IUU) and the communication (basecamp) is established to further the capacity building of the FCWC Task Force on Illegal Fisheries. This activity is also part of the operationalization of the agreement on pooling and sharing of information in the fisheries sector, adopted in December 2014 by the Member States.

The mobilization of the Member States and partners have also been materialized through the holding of the meeting of fisheries Directors of the FCWC space and the signatures of agreements and partnerships with different institutions and organizations intervening in the fisheries sector in West Africa.

These activities have enhanced the FCWC visibility in the sub-region and have significantly contributed to strengthening cooperation and fisheries governance in the FCWC space.

Ultimately, these actions should lead to better strengthen cooperation among Member States and contribute to the conservation of natural resources (fish) in the sub-region and their rational use for effective contribution to the economy of our countries.

In financial terms, the 2015 budget amounts to **249, 920 USD**. The mobilization rate of contributions under the 2015 budget is **30%**. The expenses for the period amount to **68, 239.33 USD**, or budget execution rate of **27.30%**. **This financial result shows the difficulty in mobilizing contributions from Member States, thus affecting the implementation of pre-programmed activities.**

## **I- PRESENTATION OF THE ORGANISATION: FCWC**

### **1.1. Background**

The countries of the sub-region of the Gulf of Guinea share many similarities, but also similar problems in the management of their maritime resources. Countries are aware that sub-regional cooperation is one of the essential conditions for good management of fisheries. Unlike other sectors, the need for cooperation going beyond issues such as the simple exchange of information or experience, the best thing should be moving towards the adoption of common policies and undertaking joint intervention action.

In the fisheries sector, national policies are insufficiently harmonized. However, fish stocks are rarely confined to national Exclusive Economic Zones but rather extend throughout the area of the Gulf of Guinea. Similarly actors deploy their fleet throughout the sub-region. And this is true for foreign industrial fleets as well as for artisanal fishing gear.

Markets are evolving and becoming more sub-regional and cross-border trade is growing and a major dichotomous characteristic between countries that are importers while others are exporters only.

Most national institutions have not been able to function adequately and would also need to be strengthened so that they can provide the level of cooperation required for good fisheries management. There are several reasons for this institutional weakness that should also be considered as constraints that must be addressed:

- lack of human and financial resources with the consequence that fisheries management activities are not conducted with the rigor and attention they deserve;
- duplication and overlap of functions and poorly defined mandates, often combined with weak institutional and legal mechanisms;
- insufficient experience in the management of shared stocks or harmonization of complex systems, such as control mechanisms;
- priority until recently made by most countries, focusing on issues of exploitation and development, as opposed to sustainable fisheries management:

In view of all these observed weaknesses, the six countries of the Gulf of Guinea Center that are Liberia, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Togo, Benin and Nigeria have agreed to set up in November 2007, a cooperation framework to ensure sustainable management and rational use of natural resources within their national jurisdiction called: the Fisheries Committee for the West Central Gulf of Guinea: FCWC headquartered in Tema, Ghana

## **1.2. Characteristic**

### **1.2.1. Organizational structure of FCWC**

The Committee's bodies are made up of a Conference of Ministers, an Advisory and Coordinating Committee and a Secretariat.

#### **Conference of Ministers**

The Conference of Ministers is the supreme body of the Committee. Each Contracting Party shall be represented at meetings of the Conference of Ministers by the Minister responsible for sea fishing or his representative. The Conference of Ministers then meets regularly, at least once a year.

#### **Advisory and Coordinating Committee**

Each Contracting Party shall appoints one member to the Advisory and Coordinating Committee; this person shall be responsible for the administration of the National Marine Fisheries or his representative. The Committee shall hold at least two regular meetings per year.

The Advisory and Coordinating Committee: supervises the activities of the Secretariat; makes recommendations to the Conference of Ministers on any matter relating to the functions of the Committee under article 5.2 of the Convention; provides technical and scientific advice to the Conference of Ministers and advises the Secretary General on the implementation of decisions taken by the Conference of Ministers

#### **Secretariat General**

The Secretariat is the executive body of the Committee; it is headed by a Secretary General who is appointed by the Conference of Ministers for a term of five years renewable. He is a national of a Member State of the Committee and chosen for his expertise and on the basis of predetermined criteria. The Secretary-General is the legal representative of the Committee. He directs the Committee's work as decided by the Conference of Ministers and in line with the Committee's recommendations.

The Secretariat reports on the Committee's work to the Conference of Ministers, establishes the Committee's program of work and sets its budget; convenes meetings of the Conference of Ministers and the Advisory and Coordinating Committee as well as technical meetings, organizes and supports them, and brings together the documents necessary for the meetings; implements the decisions of the Conference of Ministers; provides technical assistance to any Contracting Party which makes such a request.

### **1.2.2. Goals**

The Committee promotes cooperation between the Contracting Parties to ensure, through appropriate management, the conservation and best use of living marine resources covered by this Agreement and to encourage sustainable development of fishing based on these resources.

### **1.2.3. Vision, mission and mandate of the Committee**

The FCWC as an institution reflects sub-regional development in the field of fisheries and related activities, the political will of Member States to contribute, through the sub-regional cooperation, to economic, social, cultural development of population.

#### **✓ Vision**

The vision is: "Working together for an efficient, dynamic, global and participatory organization for the sustainable development of fisheries in the West Central Gulf of Guinea"

#### **✓ Mission**

The mission given to the FCWC is to "promote cooperation between Member States and support them to reach sustainable fisheries and the highest levels of socio-economic benefits of the sector in harmony with the environment, and in accordance with the international standards".

#### **✓ Mandate**

The Committee's mandate specified by the FCWC convention comprises the following:

- Provide a forum for discussion on all issues related to fisheries;
- Improve the livelihood of fishermen and seafood processors, notably by developing appropriate measures in order to address migrant fishermen's activities;
- Harmonize laws and regulations relating to fisheries among the Contracting Parties ;
- Strengthening of cooperation and relationships between countries practicing fishing operations on the high seas;
- Strengthening sub-regional cooperation for monitoring, control, surveillance and law enforcement, including the progressive development of common procedures;
- Promote capacity building in fisheries research;
- Promote the development of standards for the collection, exchange and publication of data on fisheries;
- Develop and promote common policies and strategies, as appropriate, in the sub-region for the position to be taken by the sub-region during meetings; and
- Promote sub-regional cooperation with regard to marketing and trade of fish and fishery products.

## **II- ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT IN 2015**

These activities contribute to improving fisheries governance, among others, through a number of institutional arrangements that result in strengthening the Committee and promote appropriate cooperation in the management of fishery resources of waters under national jurisdiction.

A review on the mobilization of financial support for the implementation of these activities is also presented.

### **2.1. IMPROVE FISHERY COOPERATION**

#### **Activity 1: Continue missions and meetings planned in the Member States.**

With the exception of Liberia, the Secretariat of the FCWC was able to perform various missions in Member States to follow up the previous conference recommendations and to facilitate the ongoing initiatives in the region; including the TMT project; the support of the AfDB and FAO Initiative on blue growth.

**Activities 2 and 3:** The Secretariat also participated in meetings planned by regional fisheries management organizations and regional partners, including ATLAFCO, the Sub Regional Fisheries Commission, REPAO and CECAF.

- ✓ **These missions have resulted in the consolidation of cooperation between these partners with, among others, the signing of several Memorandum of Cooperation Agreement include:**
  - At the initiative of the Executive Secretariat of the Conference of African Ministers for Fisheries Cooperation of East Atlantic States (ATLAFCO), six (6) regional institutions including Sub-regional Fisheries Commission (SRFC), the Fisheries Committee for the West Central Gulf of Guinea (FCWC), the Regional Fisheries Commission of the Gulf of Guinea (COREP), the Intergovernmental Organization for Information and Cooperation for the marketing of Fishery Products in Africa (INFOPECHE) and Network of West Africa Fishery Policies (REPAO) signed a cooperation agreement on 21 and 22 February, 2015 in Agadir, Morocco. This agreement aims to strengthen fisheries cooperation in ATLAFCO region.
  - **The Fisheries Committee for the West Central Gulf of Guinea "FCWC"** and the Sub-Regional Fisheries Commission "SRFC" decided to establish between themselves formal relations of cooperation and partnership to promote consistent implementation of their development programs in fisheries and aquaculture sector. The signing of this agreement is expected to help present the same position and interests to common partners, including ECOWAS and the Regional Fisheries Project (PRAO).

- The University of British Columbia (UBC) and the **Fisheries Committee for the West Central Gulf of Guinea "FCWC"** finalized a partnership agreement pending since January 22, 2014, to promote a strong collaboration in fisheries research including Catch reconstruction of fish stocks in the sub-region.
- TRYGG MAT TRACK, a Norwegian Foundation and the **Fisheries Committee for the West Central Gulf of Guinea "FCWC"** have signed an agreement to implement the project 'Fisheries Intelligence and Monitoring Control and Surveillance Support in West Africa' The overall objective of the project is to contribute to more effective governance of regional fisheries resources in West Africa through reduction of illegal fishing.
- **Finally, with respect to the Africa fisheries policy reform framework of African Union, a Memorandum of Understanding between ECOWAS, WAEMU, SRFC and FCWC is being examined at the ECOWAS Commission in charge of fisheries.**

**Activity 5:** The Secretariat organized a meeting of the Advisory and Coordinating Committee on April 27, 2015, meetings of regional and national working group as part of the pilot phase of the TMT project. These activities allowed to share documents of the project and gather information on the modalities of its implementation both at the FCWC Secretariat and Member States level.

## **2.2. SUPPORT FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF FISHERIES POLICIES**

As part of capacity building and contribution to the development of pan African and regional fisheries policies, the FCWC attended the following meetings:

- The consultative meeting on the establishment of the African Platform for fisheries regional institutions and water system has been organized jointly by the Inter-African Bureau of the African Union for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR) and NEPAD Planning and Coordination Agency (NPCA) in Cotonou, Benin from 22 to 24 April 2015. The objectives of the meeting were to (i) validate the terms of reference and the rules of procedure for the African platform for fisheries regional institutions and water system (APRIFAS) (ii) establish an African platform (iii) Review and enrich institutional evaluation reports of fisheries regional institutions and propose a road map for their rationalization.
- The meeting for brainstorming and validation of monitoring parameters (criteria) and indicators for the alignment of national and regional policies on fisheries and aquaculture on the Policy and the Fisheries and Aquaculture Reform Strategy Framework in Africa, organized by the African Union Inter-African Bureau for Animal Resources held from 9 to 11 July, 2015, in Abidjan, Côte-d'Ivoire.
- The regional workshop on fishery products trade development strategies in Africa in the context of global trade liberalization was held on 17 and 18 June 2015, in the

conference room of the Hotel Palm Beach, Saly, SENEGAL. The objective of the workshop was to support regional dynamics of information and exchanges on major provisions that regulate the access of fish products to international and African markets, identify opportunities and constraints. It also aimed to facilitate the development of mechanisms for intra and inter-regional fish trade promotion.

- The workshop held from 9 to 11 June 2015 by the WWF and PRCM, under the aegis of the Sub-regional Fisheries Commission (SRFC), on the advisory opinion delivered by the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS) following the request of the SRFC on illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing and the sustainable management of shared or common interest stocks (Case No 21). The workshop ended with the development of a non-exhaustive table summarizing the main ideas proposed for the operationalization of the advisory opinion, which several participants called for. These results will consolidate the process of development and implementation of fisheries policies in the States of the sub-region.
- Working visit with the Permanent Secretariat of the SRFC in Dakar, on 11 and 12 June 2015. On the sidelines of the workshop on the Advisory Opinion of ITLOS, pursuant to Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation and Partnership between the two similar structures, the Administrative and Financial Assistant Officer, paid a visit at the headquarters of the SRFC, in order to catch the spirit and the true look of the work environment of the organization to strengthen his capacity for financial governance of fisheries Inter-governmental structures. After the visit, the strong recommendation was the organization of a joint workshop between the two organizations for developing a cooperation mechanism for better implementation of the Partnership Agreement.
- Forum for Environment and Security Monitoring in Africa, organized by the MESA Program, under the aegis of the African Union Commission (AUC), in collaboration with the Intergovernmental Authority for Development (IGAD), and the Government of Kenya, through the ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, with the support of the European Union (EU). The 250 participants to this forum exchanged on theme "*Streamline MESA products and services for a cycle of decisions in favor of sustainable management of the environment.*" The outcomes of the meeting will help increase the management of information, the ability of making decision and policy-making by national, regional and continental institutions in charge of environment management, food security, through the strengthening of the application of Earth Observation Techniques.

**These meetings represented occasions for exchanges of experience, training and information for the FCWC Secretariat participants.**



## 2.3. MONITORING RECOMMENDATIONS

**Activity 6: As part of the follow-up to implementation of decisions and recommendations of the 7th Session and the meeting of the CCC, the following results were achieved:**

### ✓ **Strengthening the FCWC institutional framework**

In the context of strengthening the FCWC institutional framework for Fisheries Cooperation, Ministers in charge of fisheries in Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana respectively Presidency and Host countries of the FCWC Secretariat signed the document establishing the FCWC headquarters agreement.

**The ratification procedure of the Headquarters Agreement by Ghana relevant institutions is currently underway and could successfully end before the conference of Ministers in December 2015.**

### ✓ **Mobilization of Member States during the CCC meeting**

In the context of greater involvement of the FCWC Member States in the Committee's activities, the Committee's Secretariat organized a consultation meeting of Directors of fisheries of the six Member States at Central Hotel, Accra, Ghana on April 27, 2015.

The main objectives of the meeting were to follow up on the recommendations of the last ministerial meeting and to seek technical and financial resources to implement selected activities, and also to present the coordinating team and the work plan of the new project Fisheries Intelligence and Monitoring, Control and Surveillance Support in West Africa.

### ✓ **Mobilization of Member States' contributions**

In the follow-up to this recommendation, the secretariat has made the status of outstanding contributions and sent to six countries at the meeting of the Advisory Committee and Coordination (ACC) of 27 April 2015.

- At the end of discussion, ACC members have committed themselves, in addition to voluntary contributions, to acquit regularly their contribution to the operating budget of the Committee.
- The conference is invited to endorse this provision for the good functioning of the Committee and for the achievement of its objectives in the sub region.

### ✓ **FCWC Performance Evaluation and Audit**

Pursuant to the provisions of the FCWC Convention and after the meeting of the CCC of April 27, 2015, it was decided that the Audit Department of the Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture Development of Ghana would audit the FCWC accounts.

Pursuant to this decision, an audit of the accounts has been requested by the FCWC Secretariat to be carried out in November 2015.

Furthermore, under the initiative of the African Union to assess the implementation and institutional performance of regional fishery bodies, consultant visited FCWC Secretariat for this purpose. The overall objective of this exercise is to streamline regional fishery bodies to enhance the effectiveness of their performance and efficiency in the delivery of their mandates and the development of an institutional framework to establish and strengthen collaboration among agencies.

⇒ **The Secretariat invites the Conference to consider the reports of the performance evaluation as well as the management audit of the Committee.**

✓ **Strengthening the Committee's Secretariat staffing**

Under the recommendation for the strengthening of the FCWC Secretariat staff, two (2) officers have joined the team of the FCWC General Secretariat to assist it in its tasks. They are the following:

- An expert in fisheries proposed by the Government of Ghana
- An expert in Communication, recruited through TMT Project 'Fisheries Intelligence and Monitoring, Control and Surveillance Support in West Africa

**The contribution of the new staff will improve the visibility of the Committee's actions and the quality of its interventions before the Member States and Partners.**

**Furthermore, the first term of the FCWC accountant previously proposed by the Government of Benin in 2013, has expired. The Secretariat requests the Government of Benin and the meeting to renew his mandate.**

## **2.4. STRENGTHEN FISHERIES MCS CAPACITIES.**

### **2.4.1. Coordination of the fight against IUU fishing in the sub-region was conducted as part of the project: Fisheries Intelligence and Monitoring, Control and Surveillance Support in West Africa**

In this perspective, this project fostered the creation and operation of a regional Task Force made up of experts from the FCWC Member States and supporting organizations, using a communication platform called Basecamp for information sharing and to facilitate cooperation and intelligence sharing. The project also helped to equip the meeting room of the Committee's Secretariat with furniture, and support office running costs of the Committee with an annual budget and a support staff during the project period.

A Task Force meeting (Ghana), regional training (Cote d'Ivoire) and national training workshops (Ghana, Nigeria, Togo, Benin and Liberia) have been organized. Training sessions focus on investigative procedures and processes used to investigate alleged cases of illegal fishing, the common offense list and a short list of inspection items, as well as introducing members to the Basecamp platform.

**The activities of this project helped strengthen cooperation and information sharing between States and enhance the visibility of the Committee's actions in the sub-region.**

⇒ **For the continuation of the project, the meeting is invited to consider the following questions:**

- **The full implementation and official launch of this project in our region in the light of the first results obtained**
- **The adoption of the TORs of the regional Task Force of this project**
- **The adoption of the recommendations for the establishment and operations of National Working Groups**
- **Issuance of long stay visas for Experts**
- **The project work plan for the year 2016**

#### **2.4.2. Implementation of the FCWC - NAFAG Convention of the fight against IUU fishing.**

The FCWC and the National Fisheries Association of Ghana ((NAFAG) signed in December 2013 a Memorandum of Understanding defining a framework for collaboration, partnership and technical and scientific cooperation, aimed at strengthening the capacity of members of NAFAG and Members States of the Committee and the fight against IUU fishing in the waters of the Committee area.

Two years after the adoption of this memorandum, a review of activities carried out was performed on October 9, 2015 by the two parties. In this working session, it appeared that the FCWC fully met its commitments through the adoption of several measures for the full implementation of the agreement including the Convention on the Minimum Conditions for access to waters of the FCWC space, and the Convention on the Pooling and sharing of information. The Committee has also ensured authentication of fishing licenses issued by Member States to members of NAFAG.

On the contrary, the NAFAG has not fulfilled its commitments under the Convention. After the meeting, the representatives of NAFAG pledged to comply with the commitments of the memorandum. The two sides agreed to hold regular meetings for a better operationalization of the memorandum.

### **2.4.3. Support for the implementation of the African Development Bank (AfDB) assistance**

The African Agency for Natural Resources of ADB, through the FCWC, assisted Member States to proceed with the ratification of the main fisheries management instruments. The successful consultant carried out the following tasks:

- a) Documenting national systems and processes for compliance with the European regulation 1005/2008,
- b) Make contributions to the ratification of the "FAO Agreement on Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate IUU Fishing" by the six member countries of the Fisheries Committee for the West Central Gulf of Guinea (FCWC).

Various national reports with recommendations to boost the above instruments ratification process have been made available to States for action.

**Member States are therefore invited to inform the meeting on progress in the ratification of instruments and the implementation of EU regulation.**

### **2.5. DEVELOPING AND IMPLEMENTING SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK.**

The activities from 1 to 4, on support to the implementation of national plans for fisheries management (Shrimp plans and beach seine from the EAF Nansen Project), Promotion of trade in intra-regional and international fishery products (WorldFish Program ) - Diagnoses and prospective studies on the cost of IUU fishing or on the value of fisheries in the economies of Member States have not been achieved due to lack of own funding and partner assistance.

⇒ **However, Member States are invited to inform the meeting on progress made, lessons learned and constraints faced through the implementation of these national management plans for fisheries. Likewise the coordination of EAF program invited to the conference could give us the prospects of the new phase of this program.**

Activities 5: Monitoring the TCP on improving statistics from FAO to finalize the draft document and its adoption by the FAO Regional Office in Ghana. The implementation of this project is expected by 2016 with a cost of over 450,000 US Dollars.

**The FCWC Secretariat thanked FAO for this support and calls on Member States to take an active part in the implementation of this initiative which is in its second phase in our sub-region.**

### **III- OTHER INITIATIVES**

Given the difficulties of financing the activities of the Committee, the strategy was to focus on the promotion of the Committee for its recognition as a strategic partner for fisheries development in our region, development partners and eventually benefit from other complementary support:

#### **3.1. FAO BLUE GROWTH INITIATIVE**

Côte d'Ivoire has been identified as pilot country in West Africa, after Cape Verde and Senegal, in promoting implementation tools of the Blue Growth and the FCWC to ensure sub-regional component of this initiative.

Blue growth is the long-term strategy led by FAO to support sustainable growth to harness the potential of oceans, seas and coasts. Specifically, the Initiative for Blue Growth aims among other things at:

- Eliminating subsidies to harmful fisheries that contribute to overfishing instead of encouraging approaches that improve the conservation, build sustainable fisheries and end illegal, unreported and unregulated fisheries.
- Develop sectors with a high potential for permanent jobs such as aquaculture, tourism,
- Act as a catalyst for the development of policy, investment and innovation in support of food security é, poverty reduction and sustainable management of aquatic resources.

To this end, the FCWC was invited to attend the workshops for sensitizing stakeholders on the Blue Growth initiative and the proposed actions to national and regional program implementation of this initiative in the sub-region.

**The Coordinator of the initiative invited to the Conference of Ministers will give further details on the progress made in the conduct of this initiative and the regional program.**

#### **3.2. KOREAN GREEN GROWTH INITIATIVE**

The Secretariat of the Committee participated in the exchange of knowledge in fisheries management, organized under the Korean Green Growth Partnership (**Korean Green Growth Patnership - KGGP**) and the World Bank from **17 to 26 October 2015**.

This mission was ended with the submission of a project concept note to the Korean Government to support fisheries management in West Africa as part of a second phase of the Regional Program of Fisheries in Africa West (COPE) scheduled for 2017.

**The FCWC Secretariat encourages the FCWC Member States not yet registered to the PRAO (Togo, Benin and Nigeria) to take the necessary steps to do so for coverage of all FCWC States by the said program.**

### **3.3. COOPERATION WITH THE EFDAN**

The FCWC was invited to the meeting of the EFDAN (European Fisheries Development Advisors Network) in Brussels on 1 and 2 June 2015. This network brings together informally experts from major European development agencies working in the fisheries and Aquaculture sector. The World Bank and FAO were also associated to the meeting. One of the meeting's days was devoted to the issues of fishing in West Africa.

**A delegation of the FCWC took part in the discussion and presented the realities of our sub-region.**

### **3.4. WARFP- GHANA SUPPORT**

The discussions between the Government of Ghana, the FCWC Secretariat and the regional coordination of West Africa Fishery Program (WARFP) funded by the World Bank resulted in the inclusion of the FCWC in the program. Thus, the FCWC was chosen to ensure regional coordination of WARFP -Ghana. A work plan for the period of 2015-2017 with the amount of three hundred thousand (300,000) US Dollars has been submitted and approved.

**The FCWC Secretariat wishes to thank the Government of Ghana for the important role in negotiating with the World Bank and the Regional Coordination of the PRAO to reach this decision. The Committee invites the other FCWC Member States beneficiaries of WARFP kindly follow this example in order to provide supplementary means to the Committee for its mission.**

### **3.5. USAID- GHANA PROGRAM FOR COOPERATION WITH THE SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES MANAGEMENT PROJECT**

The FCWC Secretariat has initiated contacts with the coordination of sustainable fisheries management program in Ghana implemented by USAID-Ghana. The FCWC was chosen to ensure regional coordination of this initiative as part of a biennial program 2016-2017.

**Activity7: Disseminate information and official documents ([www.fcwc-fish.org](http://www.fcwc-fish.org), leaflets and other reports): Support for WM, Internet connections, site hosting, document translation**

## **IV- FINANCIAL REPORT**

This Financial Report submitted to the meeting for further consideration covers the year 2015, approximately January –November 2015. And includes two (2) parts: the **Budget Implementation Report** and the **Cash position.**

### **4.1 THE BUDGET IMPLEMENTATION REPORT** *(See table in ANNEX 1)*

This Budget Implementation report only presents the values by section in summarized form. The amount of 2015 budget is **249, 920.00 USD**. The expenditures on the period amount to **68,239.33 USD**, Implementation rate of **27.30%**.

These expenses are divided into 9 budgetary headings with cash movements out of a total of 19. This is due to the fact that:

- Some budgetary activities have not had a direct financial implication. They are rather covered by general operating costs.
- For certain programmed activities, the additional financial support of partners has not been mobilized.
- Some activities planned to be co-financed and organized with the partners, have not been carried out.

The 2015 budget year was marked by substantial support from the **Project Fisheries Intelligence and MCS Support in West Africa (TMT Project)**, which allowed:

- i. to acquire office furniture for the FCWC Secretariat-General, made up of (03) Executive desks with return cabinet + three (03) executive high back armchairs + Two (02) Air conditioners SPLIT (2 CV and 1,5 CV), meeting room equipment made up of one (1) conference table + twelve (12) chairs.
- ii. to benefit from a direct budgetary support of more than 27,000 USD .
- iii. to facilitate missions of the Secretary General in the members countries,
- iv. to underpin the decision making process of the FCWC by co-financing the statutory meeting (CCC and Ministers Conferences),
- v. to organize National and Regional workshops for strengthening the capacities of fishery officers of Member States for the fight against IUU fishing).
- vi. to improve the visibility of the FCWC (Recruitment of a Communications Expert).

## **4.2 CASH POSITION** (See table in ANNEX 2)

The objective through this panel is to present the cash position at the end of the reference period of the financial report. It allows to track the starting balance and inflows and also the use of these resources and the **remaining balance at the end of year**.

### **4.2.1 Resources (Starting balance and Revenue)**

The first item of revenue is the starting balance, which is the closing balance inherited from the previous financial year. It amounts to **\$ 22,730.95 at 1<sup>st</sup> January 2015**.

To this amount are added the inflows recorded in the period:

- **6,512.00 USD** - Support from TMT project to cover costs related to the 7<sup>th</sup> FCWC Conference of Ministers,
- **4,975.00 USD** - Support from TMT Project - Workshop on the establishment of the West Africa Task Force against IUU fishing,
- **40,000.00 USD** – 1st disbursement of the 2015 Annual contribution of the Government of Ghana, **in May 2015**.
- **7,265.91 USD** – TMT Project Support for the operation of the Secretariat and support of the Communication Expert,
- **36,000.00 USD** – 2nd disbursement of the 2015 Annual contribution of the Government of Ghana, **in October 2015**

**The total resources mobilized for the period amounted to 117,483.86 USD , this apart from voluntary contributions from Member States such as costs related to the FCWC Secretary General official staff and premises housing the Committee in Tema.**

### **4.2.2 Use (Expenditure and remaining balance)**

Cumulative expenditure for the period amounts to à **68,239.33 USD**.

**The remaining balance in cash at November 15, 2015 is 49,244.53 USD, this before expenses of the Conference of Ministers and the operating expenditure of the Secretariat of November and December 2015**

From the analysis of these two financial tables, it emerges that:

- The budget execution rate - **27.30%** - is significantly lower.
- Contribution collection rate in respect of the 2015 financial year is **30%** and the outstanding contributions of Member States over the same period is **174,000 US Dollars**, which represents about **70%** of the total of **250,000 USD** expected for the period. These outstanding arrears add to those of previous years. (See **Balance of Contributions from Member States to the FCWC budget ANNEX 3**).

**This result illustrates the difficulty in mobilizing Member States contributions, thus affecting the implementation of activities.**



## CONCLUSION AND OUTLOOK

The FCWC's efforts as part of strengthening the legal basis of the Committee has seen a significant improvement notably with the signing of the headquarters agreement document by the FCWC Chairman and the host country. The procedure of ratification of the agreement continues with the Parliament of Ghana.

It is in this context that the FCWC will be awarded for the year 2016 a technical and financial support from the World Bank and FAO through the West African fishery Program (WARFP) and a support TCP in improving statistics.

The FCWC also works together with several regional programs and initiatives for the enhancement of maritime fisheries and coastal areas of West Central Gulf of Guinea.

As part of the fight against IUU fishing, management of the project "Fisheries Intelligence and Monitoring, Control and Surveillance Support in West Africa " has just established a useful platform for the coordination and harmonization of communication efforts and sharing information at the countries level.

Similarly, after the AfDB support through the African Centre of Natural Resources, the FCWC hopes that efforts of its Member States for ratification of major international instruments for fisheries management will be successful and that will facilitate the mobilization of partners and new support for enhanced management of fisheries resources in our sub-region.

15 nov 2015

Item of expenditure ( Budget lines)	Cumulative expenditure for the period (USD)	Budget monitoring		
		Budget	Balance	Rate of Implementation
		(USD)	(USD)	%
1. Human Resources <i>(Staff allowances and other related costs )</i>	32,293.68	57,120.00	24,826.32	57%
2. Capacity-building of the FCWC personnel <i>(Training mission in Dakar)</i>	2,765.37	32,000.00	29,234.63	9%
3. Administrative cost/overheads costs <i>( Electricity, Water, telephone &amp; Internet, etc)</i>	8,444.90	12,000.00	3,555.10	70%
4. Capital goods <i>(Capital non consumable purchases )</i>	3,446.26	6,600.00	3,153.74	52%
5. Continue the scheduled missions and meetings in the member countries.	2,683.00	8,000.00	5,317.00	34%
6. Participate in the regional fisheries organizations and partners meeting <i>(EFDAN (European Fisheries Development Advisors Network) meeting in Belgium).</i>	1,000.00	3,000.00	2,000.00	33%
7. Strengthen collaboration with regional fisheries institutions et Project <i>(CEDEAO and RFBs),</i>	0.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	0%
8. Plan and organize the 8th session of FCWC ministerial Conference, Study Group meeting, and Advisory and Coordinating Committee meeting,	8,846.00	70,000.00	61,154.00	13%
9. Monitor the implementation of decisions and et recommendations of the 7th ministerial conference including	0.00	0.00	0.00	
10. Disseminate fisheries information and official documents <i>(Website hosting fee)</i>	399.49	6,000.00	5,600.51	7%
11. Coordinate IUU Fighting in the sub-region	0.00	8,700.00	8,700.00	0%
12. Continue the monitoring of the implementation of IUU fighting Regional Plan at the national level, and through regional Working Groups on IUU fighting	0.00	0.00	0.00	0%
13. Contribute to the NEPAD Working Group and the Voice of Africa in the fight against IUU fishing	0.00	0.00	0.00	0%

14.	Provide support to Projects implementation and Regional Agreements <i>(TMT Project implementation)</i>	8,360.63	9,500.00	1,139.37	88%
15.	Collaborate with AEF Nansen Programme for the implementation of the national Fisheries development plan <i>(Shrimp and Beach Seine),</i>	0.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	0%
16.	Monitoring and support to the MEDASYS Project	0.00	8,000.00	8,000.00	0%
17.	Promoting intra- regional and international trade of fishery products <i>(NEPAD/ EMA/ECOWAS).</i>	0.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	0%
18.	Conduct diagnostic and prospective studies on the cost of IUU fishing or on the value of the fishery in the economy	0.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	0%
19.	Monitor the TCP for the improvement of statistics and support the modernization initiative of the fishery sector information system	0.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	0%
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>68,239.33</b>	<b>249,920.00</b>	<b>181,680.67</b>	<b>27.30%</b>

ANNEX 2 – Cash position as of 15 November 2015

**CASH POSITION**

**PERIOD : From 1st January up to date 15 November 2015**

N°	Description	Amount (USD)
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**I - Revenue (Receipts)**

1	<i>Balance brought forward (Previous year balance on 31th dec14)</i>	22,730.95
2	Funds received from TMT Project- Support to FCWC - Conference Flight Ticket Bill - <b>19th April 15</b>	6,512.00
3	Funds received from TMT Project - WA Task Force Meeting - Accra- <b>22th april 15</b>	4,975.00
4	Funds received from Ghana Fisheries Commission. <b>27th may15</b>	40,000.00
5	Funds received from TMT NGO- MCS Project Running Budget and Comm. Officer salary - <b>21 july 2014</b>	7,265.91
6	Funds received from Ghana Fisheries Commission. <b>21st oct 15</b>	36,000.00
<b>Total I - Revenue of the period</b>		<b>117,483.86</b>

**II - Expenditure (Payments)**

1	Human Resources (Staff allowances and other related costs)	32,293.68
2	Capacity-building of the FCWC personnel (Training mission in Dakar)	2,765.37
3	Administrative cost / overheads costs ( Electricity, Water, telephone & Internet,etc)	8,444.90
4	Capital goods (Non-current assets)	3,446.26
5	Continue the scheduled missions and meetings in the member countries. ( Mission in Cote d'Ivoire for preparations of Conference of Ministers	2,683.00
6	Participate in the regional fisheries organizations and partners meeting (EU Meeting in Belgium on fisheries.)	1,000.00
7	FCWC ministerial Conference and Advisory and Coordinating Committee meeting,	8,846.00
9	Disseminate fisheries information and official documents (website, prospectus)	399.49
10	Provide support to Projects implementation and Regional Agreements (TMT Project implementation)	8,360.63
<b>Total II - Expenditure of the period</b>		<b>68,239.33</b>

<b>III</b>	<b>Final Remaining balance ( I-II)</b>	<b>49,244.53</b>
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