



REPORT OF THE EXPERT CONSULTATIVE WORKSHOP ON FORMULATION OF CONTINENTAL STRATEGY FOR RATIONAL MANAGEMENT OF INLAND FISHERIES IN AFRICA

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EXPERT CONSULTATIVE WORKSHOP ON FORMULATION OF AFRICAN STRATEGY FOR RATIONAL MANAGEMENT OF AFRICA INLAND WATER BODIES
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LA MISE EN ŒUVRE DES PLANS DE GESTION DES PÊCHES CONTINENTALE
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List of Abbreviations

AUC	African Union Commission
AU-IBAR	African Union Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources
CAMFA	Conference of African Ministers of Fisheries and Aquaculture
CFA	Financial Community of Africa (<i>Communauté Financière d'Afrique</i>)
COREP	<i>Commission Regionale des Peches du Galfe des Guinea (Fisheries Commission of the Gulf of Guine)</i>
DRC	Democratic Republic of Congo
EAC	East Africa Community
EAF	Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries
EARFISH	East Africa Platform for NSAs in Fisheries and Aquaculture
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations
FMP	Fisheries Management Plan
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
IGO	Inter-Governmental Organization
ILO	International Labour Organization
LCBC	Lake Chad Basin Commission
LTA	Lake Tanganyika Authority
LVFO	Lake Victoria Fisheries Organization
MOSFA	Media Observation for Sustainable Fishing in Africa
MS	Members States
NBA	Niger Basin Authority
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NIOF	National Institute of Oceanography and Fisheries
NSA	Non-States-Actors
OMVS	Organization for Development of Senegal River (<i>Office de Mise en Valeur du fleuve Senegal</i>)
PFRS	Policy Framework and Reform Strategy for Fisheries and Aquaculture in Africa
RFO	Regional fisheries Bodies
SAR	Sodium Absorption Ratio
ToR	Terms of reference
USAID	United States Agency for International Development

1.0. INTRODUCTION

An Expert Consultative Workshop on Formulation of a Continental Strategy for Rational Management of Inland Fisheries in Africa was organized by the African Union Inter-African Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR) in collaboration with the Lake Victoria Fisheries Organization (LVFO), with funding from the European Union (EU) under the Fisheries Governance Project.

The workshop was held at the Africana Hotel in Kampala, Uganda from 26th to 29th March, 2018.

The workshop was attended by Eighty (80) participants comprising of main representatives of Member States adjacent to selected inland water bodies, Inland water Regional Fisheries Organizations (RFOs) such as the Organization for Development of Senegal River (*Office de Mise en Valeur du fleuve Senegal* (OMVS), *Commission Regionale des Peches du Golfe des Guinea* (COREP), *Sub Regional Fisheries Commission* (SRFC), Lake Chad Basin Commission (LCBC), Lake Victoria Fisheries Organization (LVFO), Lake Tanganyika Authority (LTA) and Zambezi River, Aswan Dam and Lake Nasser Fisheries Authorities; Regional Economic Communities, Fisheries Experts; International Organizations (the WorldFish); the African Union Inter-African Bureau for Animal Resources and the Consultants as well as appointed Facilitator. The list of participants is attached as **Annex 1**.

The overall objective of the expert consultative workshop was to formulate a Pan African Strategy for Rational Management of Africa Inland fisheries to ensure increased contribution to food and nutritional security, poverty alleviation and economic growth consistent with the Malabo Declaration that called for action on accelerated transformation of African agriculture by 2025. Another key objective of the workshop was to validate the various consultancy reports, undertaken by AU-IBAR under the EU funded Fisheries Governance Project, on 'Assessment of Fisheries Management and Development Issues of Selected Inland Water Bodies' as well as the study for 'Development/Revision and Implementation of Management Plan for Selected Inland Water Bodies in Africa'.

Other specific objectives included the following:

- i. To share the available knowledge, information and data on best management practices
- ii. Identify critical information gaps on the contribution of Inland fisheries to food security, poverty reduction and livelihoods in Africa and
- iii. Identify priority actions at national and sub-regional levels to improve the contribution of Inland fisheries to the African Accelerated Agricultural Transformation Goals.

Expected Results:

It was expected that at the end of the workshop, the following results would be achieved.

- i. Produce a Pan African Strategy for Rational Management of Africa Inland Water Bodies based on an in-depth analysis of issues, challenges and trends on fisheries and development in selected water bodies in Africa.
- ii. Identification of gaps in existing fisheries and legislations for inland fisheries and proposal for realistic options for policy formulation and regulatory frameworks
- iii. Validate consultancy studies which produced Essential Guidelines and Regional Action Plans for sustainable management of selected inland water bodies
- iv. Lessons and best practices on governance of inland Fisheries in Africa are identified and shared.

- v. Priority actions for improving/enhancing the contribution of Inland Fisheries to the Agricultural Transformation Agenda of the African Union identified.

The workshop was facilitated by Professor Paul Onyango from the University of Dar es Salaam, a Consultant engaged by AU-IBAR for identification of strategic areas and priority actions and to develop the Continental Strategy for Rational Management of Inland Fisheries in Africa.

2.0. SSESSION 1: OPENING CEREMONY

2.1. Self-introduction

Dr. Mohamed Seisay, Senior Fisheries Officer at the AU-IBAR facilitated the opening session. During this opening session, Dr. Simplicie Nouala, Chief Animal Production Officer, AU-IBAR, introduced the officials at the High Table and then requested the participants to introduce themselves.

2.2. Opening statement by the LVFO Executive Secretary

Mr. Godfrey Monor, the Executive Secretary of LVFO, made a brief remark to welcome participants to Uganda. He highlighted the importance of rational management of Africa inland fisheries as an important entity in the economic development of the African States by the endowment of the countries' large lakes, rivers and swamps. He noted that the meeting could not have taken place at a better venue than on the shores of Lake Victoria where activities in the Inland fisheries is at its peak in the continent (See Annex 2 for full Speech).

2.3. Statement by the Representative of the AU-IBAR Director

Dr. Simplicie Nouala representing the Director AU-IBAR acknowledged the major role Inland Fisheries of Africa plays in the economies of the riparian countries hence the choice of partnering with LVFO to ensure sustainable development of Inland fisheries for enhanced livelihood and enhance the contribution to national and continental economies by addressing multiple threats and challenges facing the sector (See Annex 3 for full Speech).

2.4. Statement by World Fish Representative

Dr Sloan Chimatiro, the Country Director of World Fish Office in Zambia, delivered a statement on behalf of WorldFish. He noted that the workshop was a landmark for fish trade in Africa especially for Inland Fisheries. He further noted that WorldFish has been partnering with Africa Union to implement the policy framework on Fish trade in continent. He informed the meeting that WorldFish had undertaken studies with students from various Universities in Africa, including Makerere University of Uganda, on many topics such as cross-border fish trade analysis (See Annex 4 for full speech).

2.5. Welcoming statement by the Uganda's Hon Minister of the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and fisheries, Uganda

Hon. Mbilibulha Kibazanga Taban Christopher, the Minister of State for Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries (Agriculture), presided over the opening ceremony and gave the opening speech on behalf of the Minister for Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries. In his opening speech Hon Minister pointed out to the participants that Africa is fast moving towards becoming a superpower in food production for the whole world and not in producing weapons. He noted that the current demand for food stood at USD 10 trillion and that Africa is best placed with its natural resources such as Lakes Victoria, Tanganyika, Kyoga, Rivers Nile, Niger among others, to contribute a significant amount of this demand. Moreover, he noted that the potential in fish farming has not been optimized yet.

The Minister enumerated the existence of evidences for the importance of putting in place deliberate measures to control fishing activities in Africa's inland fisheries to ensure stable fish supply for the present day and future generation. He stressed that the consultative meeting on defining ways of rational management of African water bodies has come at the right time when the whole world is realizing reduction in wild stocks and developing strategies in farming fish.

He reiterated the importance of strategizing to become the world's next superpower not by producing weapons but instead producing enough food to feed the population in Africa and the world at large.

He further acknowledged that Africa boasts of many great lakes with high productivity but inadequacy of reliable and consistent data has always hampered development of effective management plans for sustainable development of such natural resources. He therefore called upon the participants to deliberate strongly for the rational use of Africa's God given natural resources for the benefit of the common man and national development. He finally declared the workshop open. (See Annex 5 for full speech)

3.0 TECHNICAL SESSION

3.1. Session 1: Presentations

3.1.1. Adoption of the Agenda & Programme

The Agenda and Programme (Annex 6) was adopted by the workshop participants with an amendment to include a curtain raiser presentation by Paul Onyango the facilitator on rational management of Fisheries and a presentation on overview of inland fisheries from representative of the AU Member State in attendance.

3.1.2. Keynotes Address

Dr. Mohamed Seisay, Senior Fisheries Officer of AU-IBAR, gave a keynote address which laid emphasis on key messages based on as findings of assessments of inland fisheries in Africa among which are: (i) Management options for African inland fisheries must have a trade-off between the attainment of food security, enhancing livelihoods and promoting rational fisheries resources exploitation and conservation ; (ii) The strategic approach to the management of trans-boundary inland fisheries resources should be underpinned by a comprehensive regional fisheries management plan, coherent with national plans, developed in a participatory manner and informed by evidence ; (iii) Identification and promotion of alternative sources of livelihoods should be highlighted in management processes for inland fisheries such as stock recovery strategy, as well as special considerations for women and youth empowerment ; (iv) The participation and partnership of all stakeholders especially women and youth in inland fishery management process is important and should be enhanced and institutionalized. (See full Key note message in Annex 7)

3.1.3. Setting the Scene: Workshop Background and Objectives

Mr. Obinna Anozie, Policy Analyst - Fisheries and Aquaculture, AU-IBAR, gave a presentation on the background and objectives of the workshop. He reminded the participants about the Policy Framework and Reform Strategy for Fisheries and Aquaculture in Africa (PFRS), which was endorsed by Members States (MS) in 2014 in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea, that includes *strengthening Policies and Development Strategies for Inland Water Bodies in Africa* through developing and reviewing to enhance fisheries management plans of selected inland waters bodies.

3.1.4. Setting the Scene: Background information on Rational Management

Prof. Paul Onyango, a consultant from the University of Dar es Salaam, presented the background information on rational fisheries management.

In this presentation, Paul argued that challenges facing fisheries are wicked in nature. Wicked not in the sense of religion, but in the sense that the problems in which the means (to be used in solving the problems) as well as the ends (results) are uncertain. It is for this case that wicked and other complex

problems are subject to implementation deficits - where policy as implemented does not lead to the results as expected when the policy was formulated? Policy analysts most of the time wonder why implementation deficits appear so often. Two main questions that come into mind are how rational is the policy development process? And what goes wrong when implementing policies? To have an ideal type of rational policy making, the following are to be borne in mind.

Paul proposed that problems which are wicked in nature require involvement and contributions of various disciplines and stakeholders to address the challenges. For fisheries management, it would be important to include biological, economic objective, political and social objectives.

- a). The biological objectives could cover areas such as: - habitat protection, increasing selectivity, preventing mortality of rare species, preventing ecosystem shifts, rebuilding overexploited stock and dealing with over capacity
- b). Economic objectives could cover areas such as: - maximizing income, maximizing profit, keeping prices low, minimizing variability in income, raising government revenue, improving catch quality and increasing export.
- c). Social objectives could cover areas such as: - protein supply, employment, lobby groups – crucial for mobilizing fishers for compliance, taking interest of fishers, taking interests of conservationists, minimizing and or eradicating conflicts, inclusivity – collaboration and institutions.

The consultant argued that in reality the way a problem is understood will always determine the way it is addressed. For this reason, if various stakeholders understand fisheries management in different ways each will address it based on their understanding. The differences in understanding are likely to lead to a persistence of the problem. He therefore argued that balancing the objectives to cover each stakeholders' concerns and interest is paramount for a rational fisheries management. He further proposed that in order to work towards a rational fisheries management of inland fisheries management the following issues are crucial to be taken on board: -

- a) Values (results) have to be well defined and ranked.
- b) Objectives compatible with these values have to be specific.
- c) Data gathering and interpretation have to be close to accuracy.
- d) Identify relevant policy options.
- e) Calculate consequences of options.
- f) Assess consequences in relation to objectives.
- g) Choose options that maximize "values".

He proposed that problems which are wicked in nature require involvement and contributions of various disciplines and stakeholders to address. He recommended that for effective continental inland fisheries management the importance of inclusion of biological, economic, political and social objectives cannot be over emphasized.

3.1.5. Assessment of Fisheries Management and Issues of West and Central Africa Inland Water bodies

Prof. A. Eylwunmi Falaye, a Consultant who conducted an assessment study in West and Central Africa, presented an assessment of the three selected Inland Water Bodies namely; Lake Chad Basin, River Niger Basin and Senegal River. In his presentation, he highlighted that fish from the water bodies contribute to Nutrition, Food Security and Income generation. Except Lake Chad which is a landlocked water body, River Niger and Senegal have an outlet with the sea. The overall objective of the study was to develop guidelines and action plans for sustainable inland fisheries management. He noted that assessment of fisheries management and development issues was paramount to the sustainable utilization of resources in Africa's Inland water bodies.

Three existing Regional Fishing Bodies in West and Central Africa, were assessed, these are: the Organization for the Development of Senegal River (OMVS), Niger Basin Authority (NBA), and Lake Chad Basin Commission (LCBC).

Prof. Falaye pointed out that for Lake Chad basin, the overall objective of the study was to develop an action plan for the Support of the implementation of the Fisheries Management Plan which was developed and validated in the framework of Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries (EAF), which takes into account cross-border and national concerns in three (3) broad objectives for sustainable inland fisheries management. As part of the implementation of the developed management plan, of the LCBC, a support is required in the formulation of a project in order to mobilize resources for the implementation of the Lake Chad Fisheries Management Plan. A key activity of this component is to develop a viable project to raise needed resources for the successful implementation of the fisheries management plans for capture and inland water fisheries which consist of developing or reviewing to enhance the fisheries management plan of the selected inland water body and strengthening relevant management institutions for effective implementation.

The main aims were to identify the potentials, the main constraints and prospects (visible and invisible) of inland fisheries development; highlight issues, challenges and trends on fisheries development; identify gaps in existing fisheries legislations and propose realistic options for policy formulation and regulatory frameworks for development of guideline and action plans for practical, rational and sustainable management towards the overall development of inland fisheries in Africa. The activity is expected to facilitate and enable LCBC countries to focus on key challenges or policy choices, in alignment with regional plan for investments to engender positive transformation of inland water fisheries in contributing significantly to economic growth and livelihoods; and to strengthen policies and provide the evidence-based justification for implementation of improved fisheries resources management approaches that will enhance rapid and sustainable development of inland water bodies in Africa.

On Senegal River Basin, Prof Falaye pointed out that the river border with Mali, Mauritania and Senegal. There is water quality deterioration in the river, which could be caused primarily by eutrophication. This is due to a reduction of the flow velocity and oxygenation of the water. Other causes can also be attributed to the new dams and dikes, the proliferation of water weeds, and chemical and biological pollution related to the discharge of wastewater and pesticides into the river. He observed that groundwater in the Senegal River basin is generally salty in areas where there used to be seawater intrusion before the Diama Dam was built. The pH values also vary (but not with salinity), with a high acidity in and depressions influenced by the acid sulphate deposits of the ancient mangroves. The Sodium Absorption Ratio (SAR) of the aquifers is generally high, which means that there is a risk of alkalization of soil horizons in contact with these aquifers. Fishing activities play an important role in Sénégal for social and economic reasons. For instance, it provides 600,000 direct and indirect jobs. The Senegal River basin has a total population of around 3.5million inhabitants and about 85 % of the population live near the river. For populations living near the river, income from fishing, is the largest economic activity in the basin after agriculture. However, the future of this sector is in question because for several years now, there has been a steady drop in the tonnage of fish caught throughout the OMVS regions. Some observers link this to the river development projects (dams, dikes) and to their impact on the environment. There are 141 species of fish recorded in the Senegal River, most of which are native; however, there are no endemic species of fish in the Senegal Basin. Fish remains a major contributor to animal protein needs in Senegal, where average consumption per capita per year is. estimated at 28 kg/year. There is a wide variation between the coasts and inland. However,

since the devaluation of the CFA franc in 1994, there is pressure on prices of noble species which face increased exports. For domestic distribution, the central fish market of Dakar seems to be the most important

On Niger River Basin, Prof Falaye noted that there are 9 countries around Niger River: Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea, Mali, Niger and Nigeria, while the inactive basin of the Niger River covers Algeria. Fisheries here face a myriad of challenges including, overfishing, Open Access in capture fisheries, high evaporation, low socio-economic conditions of the fishing communities, increased demand for fish and fish products, pollution, anthropogenic activities, climate change and variability, invasive fish species, mismanagement of by-catch inadequate fish processing facilities aquatic weed menace, insecurity, inadequate government regulations indiscriminate use of fishing gear which are not selective and often destructive, thus making renewability of the stock difficult.

He concluded by giving a recommendation to AU-IBAR to facilitate the creation of partnerships / collaborations and networks, for example information exchange through regional workshops; development of strategic plans for water basin; promotion of co-management process, etc. That emphasis be placed in information exchange through regional workshops and training in member countries; manpower development and provision of technical assistance for stakeholders in fisheries sector in member countries is crucial; mitigate against the impacts of insurgency and climate change in member countries; policy formulation on regional social and management issues as it relate to the member countries; strategic plans must be developed for the management of the Basin; women should be trained for improved participation in fisheries sector and modern technology for fish processing and input supplies; and encourage community fishing management

3.1.5.1. Overview of Lake Chad Fisheries Management Plan

Mr. NA-ANDI Mamane Tahir, Fisheries Expert of LCBC, made a brief presentation of Lake Chad Fisheries Management Plan. He first gave a background presentation on the convention on Lake Chad, the mandates, objectives, coverage and population of region. He observed that the Lake Chad FMP addresses ecological issues (overexploitation of fisheries resources, threats to biodiversity and habitat degradation), human wellbeing (income decline, community vulnerability, local development) and governance improvement (legislation, participation conflicts, etc.) including problems related to external factors challenges as climate change. The FMP was formulated in a participatory manner with the involvement of fishers, local communities, and national's fisheries administration with the support of FAO.

3.1.6. Assessment of Fisheries Management and Issues of East and Southern Africa Inland Water bodies

In East and Southern Africa, the presentation was made for specific water bodies such as Lake Victoria and Lake Tanganyika.

3.1.6.1. Lake Victoria Fisheries Organization

Dr Rhoda Tumwebaze, LVFO Director of Fisheries Management and Development, presented the findings and lessons learnt, and challenges on Lake Victoria Fisheries Management.

She informed the participants that Lake Victoria as a shared inland water body among Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda and LVFO being the technical fisheries Institution of East Africa Community (EAC), was formed by a Convention signed in 1994 by the then three Partner States (Kenya, Uganda & Tanzania). The LVFO mandate is “*To manage and develop fisheries and aquaculture in East African Community (EAC)*”. She added that the vision will be achieved thank is vision consisting of “A Competitive and Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture Industry in the EAC”, and the missions “To promote Sustainable Management and Development of Fisheries and Aquaculture in the EAC for Food Security and Wealth creation”.

She presented the findings on the assessment of fisheries management and development for Lake Victoria - March 2016 conducted by Prof. Benedicte P. Satia. The assessment raised major issues such as: low compliance to fisheries laws and regulations and inadequate enforcement; non-effective involvement of all stakeholders in the management process; excessive pressure on fisheries resources, anthropogenic impacts on water resources and fisheries; inadequate human and institutional capacities.

Dr. Rhoda concluded her presentation with the challenges of LV fisheries, such as: Open access which increase fishing effort; Limited infrastructure to ensure quality and safety in domestic and regional markets; Informal regional trade; Low visibility of fisheries-limited recognition of contribution to the GDP of the Countries; Limited implementation of the provisions in the small-scale fisheries guidelines, etc.

3.1.6.2. *Lake Tanganyika Authority*

Ms Nyakorema Beatrice Marwa, Director of Fisheries and Aquaculture of LTA, made a presentation about fisheries and aquaculture in and around Lake Tanganyika. She pointed out that LTA is an Inter-Governmental Organization (IGO) which was established by the four the Lake Tanganyika riparian countries of Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Tanzania and Zambia with the objective of to protect and conserve the biological diversity and sustainable use of the natural resources of the Lake and its Basin. She talked about the physical characteristics of the lake and an overall fisheries situation.

She noted that major challenges facing Lake Tanganyika fisheries included: high rate of population increasing; overfishing due to open access and lack of alternatives to fishing activities; lack of harmonized laws and regulations to overcoming problems related to transboundary resources; low budget allocation for fisheries which leads to shortage of field experts, logistical constraints, partial law enforcement, increase of illegal fishing, and lack of fisheries research and data collection; and unreliable quality seed and feeds to support aquaculture entrepreneur in the region., as people in the region are eager to invest in the sector. She then shared some lessons learnt from implementing fisheries management measures and noted that involvement of politicians is very crucial, good financial plan is required for any success to be made, government working together with the civil society organizations and local community involvement is important.

Ms Marwa emphasized that the transboundary issue as a key challenge which affects and could potentially impact on the sustainable exploitation and management of the fisheries in Lake Tanganyika. She highlighted the main issues as: absence of up-to-date policies, laws and regulatory standards at national level; the non-harmonization of policies, laws, regulatory standards at regional level; low compliance to fisheries laws and regulations and inadequate enforcement; and limited effective involvement of stakeholders in the fisheries management process. She recommended a holistic approach based on the application of the EAF to address these challenges.

3.1.7. Assessment of Fisheries Management and Issues of North Africa Inland Water bodies

Dr. Mohamed Megahed, a consultant from the National Institute of Oceanography and Fisheries (NIOF) gave a presentation on the Northern Africa region. His presentation provided an in-depth analysis of inland fisheries of each of the northern Africa countries of Algeria, Egypt, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco and Tunisia. In each of these countries, he provided a synopsis of the inland fishing water bodies, time series of catches and employment from them. These countries are endowed with several lakes, dams, rivers, floodplains and swamps. Some of these include Lakes Chott Melshir and Chott Merouane. Sebkhia d'Oran in Algeria; Lakes Manzalah, Burullus, Edku and Mariut in Egypt; Gabr Aoun in Libya, Leas Rkiz and Lianbrank in Mauritania; Lakes Ait-Ouarda, Azigza, Ifni, Sidi-Ali and Isly in Morocco; Lakes Kelbia and Sidi Mansour in Tunisia. In addition, there are man-made lakes such as Nasser and Nubia. The fishers in these water bodies, especially Lake Nasser, experience conflicts with agricultural development and rapid urbanization.

The presentation points out some weaknesses that have been observed in the fisheries. These include inadequate fisheries data collection systems, selective data collection leaving out some important data, possibility of double counting of landings, confusion brought about by the increasing aquaculture production and finally political pressure requiring improvement in the sector. He observed that most countries do not specify their sampling and reporting procedures so it is difficult to compare results between and among countries.

Dr. Megahed concludes that there is inaccurate information on fisheries, that acceptable level of accuracy in estimating production and value of inland fisheries will depend on what is being analyzed. He notes that methodologies that work in one area may be inappropriate for others. A certain amount of standardization of terminology, approaches and methods will be essential for basin-wide planning and information exchange; however, it is recognized that the diversity of situations will require a diversity of approaches. Moreover, given limited human and financial resources to manage inland fisheries one cannot measure everything that is needed in all areas. Thus, focused studies can provide information on particular fisheries or habitats and these results can then be extrapolated to a wider area. He argues that an ongoing and sustainable data collection programme needs to be based on activities that can be done well with a limited amount of financial and human resources. There is need to enhance capacity of local fishery resource officers needs to be increased. For instance, training in standard and new data collection, fish identification and community participation techniques will be required. The status of government fishery officers is often very low and leads to lack of motivation, which results in poor performance of duties. And that private sector must also be involved in the partnership, for example access to middlemen and brokers could improve information on commercial (formal) fisheries.

Dr. Megahed therefore recommended among other things, the establishment of associations to improve access to fishing gear and fishing licenses, training fishers to build skills and knowledge, access to affordable bread and fuel, ending the monopoly on ice production, minimizing or eliminating depletion of fish resources, improving health, safety and wellbeing of fishers, reducing fluctuations in prices, improving the health and hygiene conditions in trader markets, improvements to postharvest fish handling, storage and transportation and investigation into appropriate methods of processing for value addition.

3.1.8. The Role of Non-States-Actors (NSAs) in Africa's Inland Fisheries Management

Mr. Kamuturaki Seremos, Fisheries Policy Analyst and the Secretary General for the East Africa Platform for NSAs in Fisheries and Aquaculture, made a brief introduction on NSA's in Africa's Inland Fisheries Management.

Mr. Kamuturaki informed participants that, Non-state actors (NSAs) across the East African region, i.e. from 15 countries, have organized themselves under the East Africa Platform for NSAs in Fisheries and Aquaculture Sector (EARFISH). This has been made possible with support from AU-IBAR, through the FishGov project. EARFISH is a regional platform of NSAs, working on promoting and building their members' involvement and capacity in policy processes, with an aim to improve the livelihoods and well-being of the poor grass root fishing and fish farming populations by mobilizing them to participate in fisheries planning and management decision processes.

NSAs have played and continue to play an important role in the management and development of their country's inland fisheries and aquaculture sectors. These roles include; (i) organizing NSAs consultative processes on fisheries policy development and/or formulation process; (ii) raising awareness of fishing communities about decentralized fisheries management and the role that they can play; (iii) translation of fisheries policies priorities and its strategic interventions into tangible benefits for the poor fishing and fish farming communities; (iv) undertaking popular education for fisher communities to know and understand policies, laws and legislations related to fisheries management and governance; (v) facilitating the building and strengthening of capacity and opportunity among fishers and women and their organizations/structures for fisheries co-management; (vi) undertaking case-study based independent policy research and analysis; (vii) holding engagement meetings and dialogues with government (local and central) agencies responsible for fisheries; (viii) monitoring of the implementation of fisheries policies and plans; (ix) mobilizing, organizing, and building fisher community groups, associations and networks at local and national levels; (x) leadership and organizational management skills training of local fisheries co-management bodies/structures; (xi) lobbying and advocacy for pro-poor fisheries and aquaculture policy and legislative reforms; (xii) holding annual public campaign forums to highlight the importance and contribution of inland fisheries to poverty reduction, food and nutritional safety and to local and national economies; (xiii) conflict resolution and settlements between different resource users; (xiv) promotion of dialogue between fishing community members and government officials through meetings and fora for discussions; (xv) mobilizing and organizing small-scale operators- men and women fish workers into fish producers, processors and/or traders and marketing groups, associations and co-operatives; (xvi) supporting viable groups including women fish workers with seed money; and (xvii) advocacy for the incorporation of the fisheries sector issues into the state/ national planning processes.

It is therefore in the interest of NSAs that the new Inland Fisheries Continental Strategy, apart from promoting fisheries productivity and production, should equally address and incorporate issues and concerns of fundamental human rights for those grassroots/rural fishing communities, which include among others;

- Equitable access to land and fisheries resources by fishing communities for their poverty reduction, employment security and improved food and nutritional sovereignty;
- Decent living and working conditions of fish workers, including women fish workers;
- Involvement of grassroots local groups or organizations with legitimate interests in fishing and fisheries management and governance;
- Access for all fishing communities to basic social services, including education, health and HIV services, portable water, improved hygiene and sanitation, child welfare, power/sustainable energy, improved communication (ICT) technologies and road infrastructure; and
- Access to social security and protection for all fishers including their families.

3.1.9. The Role of Women in Inland Fisheries Management.

In her presentation, Ms. Beyene Ateba noted that in the Inland Fisheries sector women represent at least 45% of the whole stakeholders in the value chain. Despite the major roles they play, women face many

constraints in their participation in the inland fisheries activities, amongst which include unhealthy and unfair working conditions; lack of appropriate preservations tools; access to credit facilities, etc.

Ms Beyene concluded that Inland fisheries are an important sector for socio-economics development regarding its roles in food supply, employment generation, income and livelihoods. She suggested that the ongoing Pan African Inland Fisheries rational strategy should focus on the whole value chain and the integration of gender dimensions in all the processes; diversification of livelihoods in a holistic manner will luckily increase success of a rational and sustainable exploitation of the continental fisheries. African.

3.1.10. Summary of Global Inland Fisheries Conference

Dr. Moustapha Kebe, a fisheries consultant, presented on the management options of inland fisheries. He demonstrated that Co-management is often long and a difficult process but it offers a long lasting and cost-effective management of inland fisheries.

The presentation highlighted the importance of co-management arrangements based on the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries (EAF) in promoting responsible fisheries in inland waters in Africa at national and regional levels. Using various experiences in inland fisheries in selected African regions, the presentation pointed out the key issues and challenges that are useful for improving effectiveness of co-management arrangements in inland waters particularly when these bodies are characterized by a diversity of multi-aquatic systems, subjected to multiple uses by a range of stakeholders with diverse interests.

In his presentation, he argued that the transfer of regulatory and property rights from the central state to multi-stakeholder bodies, including resource users, and local government, can only achieve sectoral efficiency goals - such as maximizing wealth generated from fisheries or other socially desirable optima - if they are accompanied by efforts to address the vulnerability and social exclusion of the new rights-holders and decision-makers. The benefits of responsible fisheries through co-management are many, although co-management can be one of three broad arrangements with variable effectiveness. The presentation noted the contribution from Governments and their partners to responsible inland fisheries management, as well as the need inter-alia to enhance stakeholder participation and capacity building, and for effective and transparent mechanisms for sharing the benefits and costs of inland fisheries co-management. He concluded that the Co-management in fisheries should be implemented within the framework of EAF and the perspective of bottom-up process.

3.1.11. Socio-economics aspects of Inland Fisheries

In this presentation Prof. Paul Onyango focused on the understanding about fisheries management. He pointed out that it is important to perceive fisheries management as a means of controlling the behaviour of fishers as they influence the fishery. In this presentation Paul focused on the understanding on the meaning of fisheries management, challenges facing fisheries management and the social aspects on fisheries management. He argued that fishing activities are basically social, economic and cultural. They are a livelihood and a way of life for fishers. He pointed out that fishers go fishing so as to sustain community activities, that fishing is a means of getting satisfaction and also that incomes to be generated drives the interest of joining the sector. He then pointed out several socio-economic variables that could be important to monitor for fisheries management. These include: incomes, demographic data, landings, imports and exports, nutrient intake as well as livelihoods variables such as asset ownership, energy use, financial assets social facilities in landing sites, food sharing patterns. He

pointed out that fisheries resources can be depleted and for this reason it is important to take seriously their management. He explained that fishery management should focus on the identification of the motivations and priorities of the resources users through the value chain.

3.1.12 The ten steps to Inland Responsible Fisheries

In this presentation Prof. Onyango made a presentation that gave an overview of the outcomes of the First Global Inland Fisheries Conference in Rome, 2015. He began his presentation by giving a global picture of the inland fisheries. He observed that these fisheries consist of lakes, rivers, reservoirs and wetlands, which globally cover 780 million hectares. He noted that there are over 40,000 large dams worldwide and that 90% of global inland catches come from developing countries. He also observed that about 15,000 species of fish are found in these inland water bodies. He also noted that 470 million people are likely to be affected by irresponsible dam development, and 60 million people are involved in Inland SSF among which 30 million are women in worldwide.

Thereafter he pointed out the ten steps required for responsible management of Inland fisheries. These are:

Step 1: Improve the assessment of biological production to enable science-based Management through the following measures; (i) Develop, promote and support Standard methods for assessment i.e. Standard Operating procedures on Biological factors; (ii) Capacity enhancement on fishery resource officer collecting information; (iii) Establish minimum set of data requirements that are context based but would allow cross-sectoral comparisons;

Step 2: Correctly value inland aquatic ecosystems through the following measures; (i) Support the adoption of approaches that include assessment of ecosystem services provided by inland ecosystems; (ii) Value ecosystem services along the value chain;

Step 3: Promote the Nutritional value of inland fisheries through the following measures; (i) Maintain and or improve accessibility of nutrient rich fish in areas with traditional high fish consumption or high levels of undernourishment and malnourishment; (ii) Water management plans that ensure adequate and diverse supply of nutrient rich aquatic products; (iii) Maintain and or improve accessibility of nutrient rich fish in areas with traditional high fish consumption or high levels of undernourishment and malnourishment; (iv) Water management plans that ensure adequate and diverse supply of nutrient rich aquatic products;

Step 4: Develop and improve science-based approaches to fishery management through the following measures; (i) Implement and EAF to inland fisheries (ii) Support effective governmental, communal/co-operative, or rights-based governance arrangements and improve compliance with fishery management regulations; (iii) Where reducing fishing capacity is called for, establish appropriate social safeguards and provision of alternative livelihoods for people leaving the fishery sector;

Step 5: Improve communication among freshwater users through the following measures; (i) Raise awareness of inland fisheries through instruments such as the SSF Guidelines; (ii) Fisheries sector should engage other users of freshwater resources and participate in national and international fora that address freshwater resource issues, conflicts and synergies;

Step 6: Improve governance especially shared water bodies through the following measures; (i) Commit to incorporating internationally agreed decisions on shared water bodies within national government policies;

Step 7: Develop collaboration approaches to cross-sectoral integration in development agendas through the following measures; (i) Promote management options that consider inland fishery sector as a partner in resource development in an equitable manner; (ii) Identify and strengthen platforms and legal frameworks for multi-stakeholder-based decision-making and management;

Step 8: Respect equity and rights of stakeholders through the following measures; (i) Ratify and implement the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention of 1989 (ILO-160, as well as the Universal Declaration of Indigenous Peoples and other International human rights instruments; (ii) Protect the cultural heritage of indigenous people and their connections to the environment;

Step 9: Make Aquaculture an important ally through the following measures; (i) Adopt an ecosystem approach to fisheries and aquaculture management; (ii) Regulate and manage the use of non-native species in aquaculture development;

Step 10: Develop an action plan for global inland fisheries through the following measures; (i) Develop an action plan based on the above steps to ensure the sustainability and responsible use of inland fisheries and aquatic resources; (ii) The action plan should be inclusive of international community, governments, civil society organizations indigenous peoples groups and private industry.

3.1.13. Media observation for sustainable fishing in Africa (MOSFA)

Mr. André Naoussi Provisional Coordinator of MOSFA gave a presentation about this organization which was established in Elmina (Ghana) in March 2016 with communications specialist coming from 44 countries in Africa.

He focused on the vision of MOSFA which is to contribute significantly to the promotion of equitable, prosperous and sustainable fishing in Africa. This vision is achieved through three broad missions namely: (i) Inspire, encourage, and promote media organization to address equitable, rational and social sustainability issues in Africa's fisheries; (ii) Build a strong Network of media organizations on issues of fisheries and the Blue Economy in Africa; (iii) Train and equip African media professionals on treatment of fisheries issues. He added that the MASFA mandate has been widen from Fishery to Animals Resources.

He highlighted on major achievements of MOSFA which included documentaries, interviews, news bulletins, podcasts, and the members involvement in AU-IBAR events.

He concluded that MOSFA has been registered as an international NGO by Ghanaian's Authorities in 2017.

3.2. Session 2: Group Work

Participants were then divided into three groups according the regions they represented. Group 1 comprised participants from North Africa represented, Group 2 comprised members from East and Southern Africa, while Group 3 comprised of participants from Western and Central Africa. The groups were given a Terms of Reference (ToR) to guide their discussion. The group ToR is in Annex 8. The groups had two sessions of discussions in which they spent several hours to come up with issues to go into the strategy for rational inland fisheries management. The discussions were focused on four thematic areas namely:

- a) Identification of practical constraints (institutional and technical) and possible solutions for a good governance of inland fisheries in Africa context.
- b) Priority actions to improve/enhance the contribution of inland Fisheries to Food & Nutritional security and wealth creation.
- c) Strategic Partnership developed and proposed at sub-regional and Regional level (Regional Economic Community & Regional Fishery Body) with technical & development partners.
- d) Capacity development and Investment Promotion in the inland fisheries in Africa.

3.3. Session 3: Plenary

All the groups then presented their discussions in a plenary. Each group's ideas are presented here below:

3.3.1 Group 1: North Africa

Thematic Area 1: Identification of practical constraints (institutional and technical) and possible solutions for a good governance of inland fisheries in Africa context.

Rank	Constraints /Issues	Opportunities	Priority strategic Actions	Objectives	Geographical
1 st	Lake of data (Resources)	Human Resources; Research Institutes; Universities	Implementation of research programs form improved data collection	To help countries to develop management plan based on availability of reliable data	Local, regional, and continental
2 nd	Introduction of Alien species	Economic and biological potentials of introduced species	Complementary studies on alien species	To fill the gap in food and nutrition security by using high productive species	Local, regional, and continental
3 rd	Conflict with other users	Economic benefit from different users	Implementation of co-management plan	To create job opportunities and improve economics/ reduce internal immigration	Local, regional, and continental
4 th	Lack of policy/regulations	Enhancement of existing legislations in consultation with stakeholders	Adoption of local, regional, continental and international instruments	To improve fisheries governance	Local, regional, and continental
5 th	Water quality	This is a global issue and many efforts are spent to improve water quality. Economic benefits from different products, in case of salinization, some new species will be produced	Implementation of monitoring program	To ensure the durability and sustainability of fisheries	Local, regional, and continental
6 th	Inefficient fishers associations	International funding to assist fishers associations	Capacity building	To improve participation of stakeholders in fisheries governance	Local, regional, and continental

Thematic Area 2: Priority actions to improve/enhance the contribution of inland Fisheries to Food & Nutritional security and wealth creation.

Food and Nutrition

Rank	Priority Actions	Ongoing Key Actions/initiatives	Geographical Scale
1 st	Implementation of research programs for improved data collection.	Exist, but not efficient	National, sub-regional and regional
2 nd	Complementary studies on alien species (EIA, productivity)	Not existing	National, sub-regional and regional
3 rd	Implementation of co-management plan	Exist, but not efficient	National, sub-regional and regional
4 th	Adoption of local, regional, continental and international instruments	Exist, but not efficient	National, sub-regional and regional
5 th	Capacity building	Exist, but not efficient	National, sub-regional and regional

Economic growth/Wealth creation

Rank	Priority Actions	Ongoing Key Actions/initiatives	Geographical Scale
1 st	Implementation of research programs for improved data collection	Exist, but not efficient	National, sub-regional and regional
2 nd	Complementary studies on alien species	Not existing	National, sub-regional and regional
3 rd	Implementation of co-management plan	Exist, but not efficient	National, sub-regional and regional
4 th	Adoption of local, regional, continental and international instruments	Exist, but not efficient	National, sub-regional and regional
5 th	Capacity building	Exist, but not efficient	National, sub-regional and regional

Thematic Area 3: Strategic Partnership developed and proposed at sub-regional and Regional level (Regional Economic Community & Regional Fishery Body) with technical & development partners.

Rank	Priority Actions	Geographical Scale
1 st	Active participation of countries in the regions and sub-regions in the official meetings. Enhance the role of RECs and RFBs in regional economic integration.	National, sub-regional and regional
2 nd	Adoption and implementation of regional and sub-regional frameworks and instruments. Enhance and adopt participatory fisheries management approaches among countries, sub-regions and regions across Africa.	National, sub-regional and regional
3 rd	Establish strategy for adaptation to climate change.	National, sub-regional and regional
4 th	Exchange of experts between countries in the regions and sub-regions in the continent.	National, sub-regional and regional
5 th	Networking and harmonization of legal frameworks.	National, sub-regional and regional

Thematic Area 4: Capacity development and Investment Promotion in the inland fisheries in Africa.

Rank	Priority Actions	Geographical Scale
1 st	Development of infrastructure	National, sub-regional and regional
2 nd	Enhance fish processing and postharvest handling	National, sub-regional and regional
3 rd	Enhance /develop fishing gear industry, fishing boat industry	National, sub-regional and regional
4 th	Development of health and social security insurance for fishers	National, sub-regional and regional
5 th	Training and awareness development	National, sub-regional and regional

Priority 1: Implementation of research programs for improved data collection

Action: Knowledge gap strategy

- Stock assessment program
- Fisheries biology
- Registration of fish boats and fishermen
- Types of fishing gears
- Improve capacity building of researchers and fisheries officers
- Establish national database of fisheries information
- Locate Fish landings

Priority 2: Complementary studies on alien species

Action: Climate adapt

- Conservation of endemic genetic resources
- Genetic management of introduced species
- Socio-economic and environmental impact assessment

Priority 3: Implementation of co-management plan

Action: Secure funding

- Establish stakeholders' consultation platform
- Capacity building
- Establish professional organization
- Development extension program for dissemination of knowledge and skills
- Strengthen monitoring capacity
- Advocacy

Priority 4: Adoption of local, regional, continental and international instruments

Action: Capacity building of fishers and workers in the fisheries sector

- Improve local awareness of stakeholders of policies and regulations

Priority 5: Implementation of monitoring program of water quality

Action: Capacity building

- Infrastructure
- Training
- Database and networking
- Develop and enforce polices to protect inland water bodies

Priority 6: Capacity building of fishermen associations

Action: Organize fishermen associations under umbrella of legal framework

Recommendations

- Training fishers to build skills and knowledge
- Improving health, safety and wellbeing of fishers
- Reducing fluctuations in prices
- Improvements to postharvest fish handling, storage and transportation
- Investigation into appropriate methods of processing for value addition

3.3.2. Group 2: East and Southern Africa

Thematic Area 1: Identification of practical constraints (institutional and technical) and possible solutions for a good governance of inland fisheries in Africa context

Rank	Constraints/issues	Opportunities	Priority Strategic Actions	Objective	Geographical Scale
1 st	Absence of harmonized laws, regulations and standards and low compliance to fisheries laws and regulations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continental initiatives supporting sustainable fisheries management. • Some laws, regulations and standards existing nationally. • Existence of regional fisheries organizations. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a guideline for reviewing and harmonization of laws and regulations on a regional level. • Capacity building for development and implementation of laws. • Mobilize and build fishers groups. • Strengthen compliance and enforcement. • Create and strengthen regional fisheries institutions where they do not exist. 	Enhance institutional capacity (technical, human and financial).	National, Regional and continental.
2 nd	Environmental stresses and potential effects on fish stocks and fisheries; and the destruction of critical habitats and ecosystem (i.e. mining, industrial and oil exploration and extraction).	Existence of institutions, legal frameworks and policies.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess impact of environmental stress and propose solutions. • Identify breeding areas. 	Reduce environmental stress on fish and aquatic resource.	National, regional and continental.

Rank	Constraints/issues	Opportunities	Priority Strategic Actions	Objective	Geographical Scale
3 rd	Lack of alternative livelihoods.	Promotion of aquaculture. Existing national and regional development plans though they may be weak.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mapping livelihoods options. • Review and realign the national development plans in line with the regional and continental plans. 	Enhance diversification of livelihoods.	National, regional and continental.
4 th	Inadequate human and institutional capacities and funding.	Presence of educational and training institutions. Availability of manpower. Potential for transfer of knowledge.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mobilize financial resource strategies and develop human and institutional capacity. • Strengthen advocacy to increase funding to the sector. 	Bridge existing gaps related to institutional and human capacity.	National, regional and continental.
5 th	Excessive pressure on fisheries resources.	Existing stock enhancement programme. Existing fisheries management plans and measures.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Control fishing effort. • Multi stakeholder platforms for specific water bodies. 	Reduce fishing pressure.	National, regional and continental.
6 th	Ownership of the fisheries resource not clearly expressed in policies.	Support by existing and emerging Non-state Actors.	Clearly define through consultations, the roles, responsibilities and rights of each stakeholder.	Empower the communities to better understand and know their roles.	National, regional and continental.
7 th	Inadequate co-management systems.	Existing co-management system though they are weak.	Review the existing operational and legal framework related to co-management system.	Strengthen co-management system.	National, regional and continental.
8 th	Limited scientific knowledge and fragmented data and information that guide resource management.	The presence of universities and research institutions.	Establish and strengthen integrated data collection and management information systems.	Improve access to information.	National, regional and continental.
9 th	Climate change and climate variability.	International attention and support.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish and strengthen early warning system. • Design and introduce mitigation measures. 	Enhance resilience of the sector.	National, regional and continental.

Rank	Constraints/issues	Opportunities	Priority Strategic Actions	Objective	Geographical Scale
10 th	Lack of awareness on inland fisheries issues.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Media support and involvement. Non-state Actors. Online and multimedia platforms. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enrol and enlist media organizations in the sector. To map out the responsibilities of the media within the sector. 	Increase awareness using different media platforms to promote the inland fisheries sector.	National, regional and continental.

Thematic Area 2: Priority actions to improve/enhance the contribution of inland Fisheries to Food & Nutritional security and wealth creation.

Food and nutrition security

Rank	Priority Actions	Ongoing key Action/initiatives	Geographical Scale
1 st	Implement Stock enhancement programmes	Stock enhancement programmes currently exist in some countries.	National and regional
2 nd	Upscale fisheries knowledge and data and information that guide resource utilization and management	Research programmes currently exist in some countries.	National and regional
3 rd	Strengthen compliance and enforcement	Strengthen national and regional Monitoring, Control and Surveillance.	National and regional
4 th	Reduction of post-harvest losses.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provision of cold chain facilities on landing sites. Improvement of basic infrastructure i.e. roads, water, electricity and sanitary facilities. 	Local, national and regional
5 th	Product development and value addition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New technologies for processing. Diversify products. 	National and regional
6 th	Promotion of sustainable cage farming in the lakes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mapping of potential sites and gazette. 	National and regional
7 th	Increase utilization and consumption of fish and fishery products.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eat more fish campaigns. Improve fish distribution networks. 	National and regional
8 th	Fish marketing and distribution.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Informal fish traders need to be formalized. Removal of tariff and non-tariff barriers. Put in place measures for sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) standards. 	National and regional
9 th	Communication framework at all levels on national and regional protocols and agreements.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop guidelines for information dissemination. Monitoring and evaluation tools for implementation of communication framework. 	National and regional
10 th	Exploitation of under-utilized areas within sustainable management practices.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exchange visits. Access national research programmes. 	

Economic growth/wealth creation

Rank	Priority Actions	Ongoing key Action/initiatives	Geographical Scale
1 st	Optimally utilize available markets in accordance with international standards.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Market intelligence. Market information system through mobile platform. One stop border posts exist in some countries however there is a need for expansion and application of the set rules should be harmonized. 	National, regional and international.
2 nd	Product development and value addition.	Improved processing technologies.	National, regional and international.
3 rd	Improvement of cold chain infrastructure.	Provision of solar generated ice plants.	National, regional and international.
4 th	Standardization of data collection and management.	Data collection and dissemination guidelines currently exist in some countries.	National, regional and continental.
5 th	Physical infrastructure and transportation of the product.	Transportation of products currently exists but there is a need for improvement. Organizing the fishers and fish traders to establish cooperatives.	National, regional and continental.
6 th	Increase utilization and consumption of fish and fishery products.	Eat more fish campaigns.	National, regional and continental.
7 th	Combating IUU.	Strengthen sustainable MCS activities. Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for MCS (currently available in LV)	Local, national and regional.
8 th	Appropriate policies and strategies to prevent unfair competition.	Formulate appropriate policies and strategies.	National, regional and continental.
9 th	Regional Plan of Action (RPOA) for managing fishing capacity.	Implemented by some countries. SOPs (currently available in LV).	National, regional and continental.
10 th	Savings and diversification of investments.	Build capacity in financial and investment management. Create awareness in other investment areas.	Local, national and regional.

Thematic Area 3: Strategic Partnership developed and proposed at sub-regional and Regional level (Regional Economic Community & Regional Fishery Body) with technical & development partners.

Rank	Priority Actions	Geographical Scale
1 st	Develop a guideline for reviewing and harmonization of laws and regulations on a regional level.	Regional and sub-regional.
2 nd	Mobilise financial resource strategies and develop human and institutional capacity.	National and regional.
3 rd	Multi stakeholder platforms for specific water bodies.	National, regional and sub-regional.
4 th	Clearly define through consultations, the roles, responsibilities and rights of each stakeholder.	National, regional and sub-regional.
5 th	Review the existing operational and legal framework related to co-management system with a view to making the system functional.	National, regional and sub-regional.
6 th	Reduction of resource user conflict in the inland fisheries sector.	Local, national, regional and sub-regional.

Thematic Area 4: Capacity development and Investment Promotion in the inland fisheries in Africa.

Rank	Priority Actions	Geographical Scale
1 st	Capacity building for development and implementation of laws.	National and regional.
2 nd	Review and realign the national development plans in line with the regional and continental plans.	Continental, regional and national.
3 rd	Strengthen advocacy to increase funding to the sector.	National and regional.
4 th	Review the existing operational and legal framework related to co-management system.	National and regional.
5 th	Establish and strengthen integrated data collection and management information systems.	National and regional.

3.3.3. Group 3: West and Central Africa

Thematic Area 1: Identification of practical constraints (institutional and technical) and possible solutions for a good governance of inland fisheries in Africa context

Rank	Constraints/Issues	Opportunities	Priority strategic Actions	Objective	Geographical Scale
1	Weak fisheries information systems	Existence of the data collection strategy of AU	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of information systems on inland fisheries Capacity building of stakeholders on data collection 	Establishment of fisheries database	National and regional
2	Open access	Regulation of entry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participatory approach in decision making Enforcement of existing laws Access control including participatory MCS) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regulation of access Reduce fishing pressure 	Local National and Sub regional
3	Weak implementation of the regulation and lack of harmonization Governance	Harmonization of fisheries regulations and capacity building	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage the implementation of Inland fisheries and aquaculture committees within existing water bodies Enforcement MCS 	Rational exploitation of fisheries resources	National and regional

Rank	Constraints/Issues	Opportunities	Priority strategic Actions	Objective	Geographical Scale
4	Lack of adequate stakeholders involvement in decision-making processes Governance	Participatory approach	Inclusiveness and consultations Development/adoption of the Participatory approach Empowerment of stakeholders	Enhancing community participation in decision making processes	Local, National and regional
5	Overfishing	Alternative livelihoods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Harmonization and enforcement of regulations Development of participatory management plans Capacity building 	Sustainable Management of fisheries resources	Regional, sub-regional and national
6	Access to credit	Financial empowerment Livelihood improvement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop/avenues for adapted credit facilities loans and grants for fisheries Capacity building of fishermen on revenue management 	Enable access to financial resources	Local and National
7	Inadequate /undeveloped fish value chain	Contribution to improved nutrition and food security Job creation (women and youth)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capacity building on value addition and fish processing Provision of fish processing facilities Improvement of market access of inland fisheries Promote and legitimate fisheries community organization 	Promote post-harvest fish development	National and regional
8	Cross cutting issues (Gender, youth and STDs)				
9	Climate change	Mitigation against impact of climate change	Develop resilience activities	Reduction of climate change impact	Regional and national
10	Anthropogenic activities	Sustainable environmental development/conservation	Regulation of human activities and EIA	Reduction of negative environmental impact	National and regional
11	Increased aquatic invasive weeds	Alternative utilisation of the weeds	Eradication/control Research, expert consultation and develop effective eradication method	Prevention of aquatic invasive weeds	Local National and regional

THEMATIC AREA 2: Priority actions to improve/enhance the contribution of inland Fisheries to Food & Nutritional security and wealth creation

Food and nutrition security

Rank	Priority Actions	Thematic	Ongoing key Action/initiatives	Geographical Scale
1 st	Development of information systems on inland fisheries	<u>T2</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sustainable fisheries management programme of USAID Ghana Fisheries Committee of West Central Gulf of Guinea West Africa Regional Fisheries Project Climate change effect on Volta Lake Resources 	National
2 nd	Capacity building of stakeholders on data collection	<u>T4</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sustainable Fisheries Management Programme of USAID Ghana (Hen Mpoano) Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture Management programme of USAID Nigeria 	National National
3	Participatory approach in decision making	<u>T4, T3</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MCS Observer Programme West Africa Task Force 	National Regional
4	Enforcement of existing laws	<u>T2</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MCS Observer Programme 	National
5	Access control including participatory MCS)	<u>T2</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Aquaculture Technical Committee (Ghana) Inland Water Fisheries Management Committee on Artisanal Canoe Registration 	National
3 rd	Encourage the implementation of Inland fisheries and aquaculture committees within existing water bodies	<u>T3</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No action 	Regional
	Enforcement MCS	<u>T2</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Fisheries Management Plan (Ghana Nigeria) 	National
4 th	Inclusiveness and consultations	<u>T2</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sustainable Fisheries Management Programme of USAID Ghana (Hen Mpoano) Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture Management programme of USAID Nigeria 	National National

Rank	Priority Actions	Thematic	Ongoing key Action/initiatives	Geographical Scale
	Development/adoption of the Participatory approach	<u>T4</u>		
	Empowerment of stakeholders	<u>T4</u>		
5 th	Harmonization and enforcement of regulations	<u>T3</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No action 	Regional
	Development of participatory management plans	<u>T4</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Fisheries Management Plan (Ghana Nigeria) 	National
	Capacity building	<u>T4</u>		
6 th	Develop/avenues for adapted credit facilities loans and grants for fisheries	<u>T4</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Central Bank Anchor borrowing schemes 	National
	Capacity building of fishermen on revenue management	<u>T4</u>		
7 th	Capacity building on value addition and fish processing	<u>T4</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Training youth and women in fish processing 	National
	Provision of fish processing facilities		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New processing ovens –A hot oven in Ghana New model fish smoking kiln Cold rooms at landing sites 	National
	Improvement of market access of inland fisheries	<u>T2</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New fish markets with modern facilities 	National
	Promote and legitimate fisheries community organization	<u>T2/T4</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inland canoe fisheries associations 	National
9 th	Develop resilience activities			
10 th	Regulation of human activities and EIA			
11	Eradication/control Research, expert consultation and develop effective eradication method	<u>T2</u>		

There were no ideas presented on economic growth/wealth creation, thematic area 3 and 4 from this group.

3.4. Session 4: Presentation of Draft Rational Strategy for Inland fisheries Management

The consultant, Prof. Paul Onyango then presented a draft Strategy for the Rational Inland Fisheries Management in Africa. Six thematic areas were identified as constituting the key pillars of the Strategy. These thematic areas came out from the participants' group discussions. The six areas he presented included:

Thematic Area 1:	Strengthen inland fisheries to contribute to food and Nutritional security.
Thematic Area 2:	Create an enabling environment for inland fisheries to create wealth and increase economic benefits at local, national and regional level.
Thematic Area 3:	Strengthen governance of inland water bodies with special attention to shared water bodies.
Thematic Area 4:	Enhance capacity at various levels for development of inland fisheries and promote a regulated Investment in post-harvest sector and value addition.
Thematic Area 5:	Protect rights of fishers, especially vulnerable groups such as women, youth and physically impaired, and formulate policies to achieve equality.
Thematic Area 6:	Take cognizance of cross cutting issues that affects inland fisheries; Health issues, HIV and related problems, climate change, environmental issues including habitat degradation, pollution

In the Strategy, the consultant provided details of each of these areas and also an implementation plan. The participants had the opportunity to discuss the draft strategy. They raised the following issues which they asked the consultant to consider as he revises the draft strategy:-

- Increasing production mean increasing fishing. It is important to optimise rather than to increase.
- Provide an understanding on what governance mean because this concept has very broad meaning.
- Clarify what is meant by diseases here. Is it water borne diseases, water diseases or water pollution that causes these diseases?
- This strategy should show how it links to the Policy Framework and Reform Strategy for Fisheries and Aquaculture in Africa.
- It should also show how it links to other sectors that affect fisheries.
- Emphasize contribution from rivers and lagoons
- Uplift research as a thematic area and not just as actions.
- Focus on aquaculture development through a Private Public Partnership.
- Privatization of value chain should be given prominence in the strategy
- Map out cage farming areas in the Lake Victoria and have policies on how to manage cage farming so as to reduce its effects in the lake. In addition, it is important to undertake an Environmental Impact Assessment before investing in cage farming
- Introduce a protocol similar to the one in Tanzania on information dissemination
- Ensure food security and production for the poor of the poorest
- Address access to social services to deal with issues such as child labour in the fishing sector
- Explore investment in the whole value chain and not post-harvest sector alone
- The strategy should provide a means of dealing with issues such as algal bloom and trade-off between human-wellbeing and ecosystems integrity
- Include role of media and politician in the strategy
- Include aquatic health, access to credit for farmers and women
- Include a component of capacity building that will improve swimming skills for women
- Encourage evaluation of economic potential of inland fisheries. This will also enhance political will
- Strengthen information dissemination and common tariff for inland fisheries
- Include development of ornamental fisheries in the continent
- Take note on impact of extraction of sand

The Strategy for rational Inland Fisheries Management is a separate document which should be read together with this workshop report.

4.0 OUTCOMES OF THE WORKSHOP

At the end of the workshop, a draft outline and content of a Continental Strategy for Rational Management of Inland Fisheries of Africa based on an in-depth analysis of issues, challenges and trends on fisheries and development in selected water bodies in Africa was proposed. This came about through a consultative and participatory approach;

Gaps in existing fisheries and legislations for inland fisheries identified and realistic options for policy formulation and regulatory frameworks for inland fisheries of Africa proposed;

Findings and Recommendations of consultancy studies which produced Essential Guidelines and Regional Action Plans for sustainable management of selected inland water bodies was shared and enshrined into the outline and content of the inland fisheries strategy;

Lessons and best practices on governance of inland Fisheries in Africa are identified and shared.

Priority actions for improving/enhancing the contribution of Inland Fisheries to the agricultural transformation agenda of the African Union were identified.

5.0 RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSION

The workshop participants generated the following recommendations for future action

- Improve collection and management of data and information for science-based approaches to fisheries management. This should involve among others
 - Undertaking periodic frame and catch assessment surveys in each shared water body;
 - Establishing a database of all fishers including stakeholders, fisher folks, processors, operators, Non-State Actors.
 - Undertaking periodic stock assessment surveys of all the inland fisheries.
 - Promote inland water bodies spatial planning;
 - Harmonize legal frameworks for shared inland water bodies;
 - Harmonize and improve data collection systems amongst each of the shared water bodies;
 - Streamline fisheries in Water Basin Authorities, such as OMVS, NBA, Zamcom to improve their focus on inland fisheries management;
 - Map out water bodies where inland fisheries in Africa is undertaken
 - Improve dissemination of information about inland fisheries through periodic scientific conferences, publications of policy briefs and use of media (MOSFA).
- Improve fisheries infrastructures and processing methods;
- Formulate and promote communication strategy for use in governing inland Fisheries;
- Establish an adaptive financing mechanism for communities in Inland Water Bodies, including shared water bodies;
- Strengthen stakeholder's capacities in the post-harvest/values chain sector;
- Support institutions such as LCBC, LTA etc. in approving or implementing FMP consistent with the PFRS and regional plan/recommendations;
- Carry out actions, such as valorization technologies, to reduce effects of invasive weeds;
- Develop Co-management plan in regional water bodies, taking into account:
- Effective mechanisms for ensuring equitable distribution of the costs and benefits of shared Inland water bodies in the implementation process of co-management
- Building trust-accountability and self-confidence among the selected Inland waters stakeholders;
- Strengthening social cohesion to ensure effective participation;
- Integrating migrant (at all level) fisher folk in co-management;
- Improve fish marketing environment;
- Promote diversification of alternative livelihoods including aquaculture.

6.0 WAY FORWARD

Consultant to finalize the document in two (2) weeks;

Share the documents online with participants for comments and inputs within 5 days;

Send back the inputs of the participants to the Consultant, and the Consultant will be given 5 days to complete;

Translate the document into EU languages for high-level dialogue. Expected in May 2018.

Final version of the Continental Strategy for Rational Management of Africa Inland Fisheries ready for submission for adoption by AUC

7.0 CLOSING OF THE MEETING

Representatives from the participants delivered their goodwill closing remarks by thanking AU-IBAR, the people and government of the republic of Uganda to host what they considered as an important meeting. In particular they were thrilled by the focus of the workshop which focused on rational management of inland fisheries. They urged for a speedy production of the report and strategy so that it can guide management of inland water fisheries.

Doctor Simplicie gave a closing remark on behalf of the Director and expressed satisfaction that objectives and expected outcomes were effectively accomplished. He reminded the participants that the strategy document should be viewed as a companion document to the Policy Framework and Reform Strategy for Fisheries and Aquaculture in Africa and the prioritized actions that have been identified in the workshop would contribute to the implementation of SSF Policy Areas and the continental SSF Plan of Action with specific focus to inland fisheries development. He also noted that the thematic areas in the strategy are fully supportive of the implementation of the Malabo Declaration especially with regards to eroding hunger, poverty, inclusivity, climate change resilience, trade and market development on the continent. He thanked the government and people of Uganda for the wonderful opportunity accorded to the participants for a proactive effort to rational utilization of Africa's inland fisheries resources for our optimum benefits. He recognized the commitment, cooperation, display of professional maturity and technical expertise during discussions which to him was a reflection of dedication and seriousness towards the accomplishment of common African goals and enhanced inclusiveness in the quest to effectively harness and efficiently optimize the benefits from our shared inland water bodies and the fisheries resources therein. He wished participants a safe journey back to their homes.

The meeting was formally closed by Mr. Godfrey Monor the Executive Secretary of LVFO on behalf of the Director of Fisheries, Uganda. He thanked the Government of Uganda for hosting the meeting. He welcomed participants to take advantage of the peace prevailing in Uganda to enjoy the hospitality and be able to interact with Ugandans before they depart to their countries. He then reminded the participants on the importance of implementing the strategy once it has been developed and agreed upon. He also urged AU-IBAR to speed-up the production of the strategy. He also wished the participants a safe journey back to their homes

ANNEXES

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Annex 2: Introductory Remarks by the LVFO Executive Secretary – Mr. Godfrey Monor

This is to welcome all the distinguished experts and in participants to this very important meeting in the pearl of Africa, Uganda. From the onset it is important to point out the importance of rational management of Africa inland fisheries, which is a very important entity in the economic development of the African states by the endowment of the country large lakes rivers and swamps.

The meeting could not have taken place at a better venue than on the shores of Lake Victoria where we are talking of the small-scale fisheries in action.

Just nearby here we have the largest water body in Africa supporting some 200,000 fishermen using some 74,000 crafts of all sizes and shapes for their fisheries activities.

As the Lake Victoria Fisheries Organization (LVFO) we have been at the forefront in the championing the need for a very clear strategy and way forward for effective fisheries management and hence the formulation of the Fisheries management plan 111 for Lake Victoria. The organization has also put in place a policy for Fisheries and Aquaculture for the East African Community. During this session will also have first-hand opportunity to interact with the fishers in their beach management units, and the emerging cage culture development in Lake Victoria.

I conclude by wishing you very fruitful deliberations.

Annex 3: Welcome Remarks by The Director of AU-IBAR

The Honourable Minister of Agriculture Animal Industry and Fisheries (MAAIF) of the Republic of Uganda;
The Executive Director of the Lake Victoria Fisheries Organization (LVFO);
Representatives of the Regional Economic Communities;
The Directors of Fisheries from the AU Member States and their Representatives;
The Representatives of Regional Fisheries Bodies and Inland Water Management Organizations;
Representatives of Non-State-Actors including the Women Group;
Colleagues, Distinguished ladies and gentlemen;

It is indeed a great honour and privilege to welcome you all to this gathering today where you want to focus "*On The Formulation of a Continental Strategy For Rational Management of Inland Fisheries of Africa*" organized by the African Union Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR) in collaboration with the Lake Victoria Management Organization (LVFO) and the NEPAD Planning Agency (NPCA), with support from the European Union (EU).

Your presence this morning here in Kampala at this auspicious period and almost festive epoch has proved beyond any doubt of your continued interest and commitment to the process that advances sustainable development solutions and biodiversity conservation in the inland water bodies of Africa. I wish to sincerely thank you for your continued and enduring interest and commitments.

Before I proceed further, let me as an obligation, express the profound gratitude of the Chair of the African Union Commission, H.E. Moussa Faki Mahamat and that of the Commissioner of Rural Economy and Agriculture of the African Union Commission, H.E. Mrs. Josefa Leonel Correia Sacko, and on my own personal behalf, to the Government and People of The Republic of Uganda for the acceptance to host this event. Similarly, I wish to express the same sentiments to The Lake Victoria Fisheries Organization (LVFO) for this shining example of institutional cooperation with the Pan African body, the AU-IBAR, in the organization of this event. This is duly acknowledged and accordingly recorded in the annals of history.

Honourable Minister, Ladies and Gentlemen

Inland fisheries are of cardinal importance to the provision of food security, employment and income especially for rural communities. The sector is however beset with management and development issues, paramount among which is poor fishing practices, lack of management plans, weak policies, marginalization etc. It is in recognition of this fact that the Second Conference of African Ministers of Fisheries and Aquaculture (CAMFA II) acknowledged the role of small-scale fisheries in the livelihoods of rural populations and therefore urged AU Member States to strengthen regulatory frameworks to protect operations of sustainable small-scale fisheries as well as development of sector-wide strategies at national level for expansion and intensification of aquaculture and inland fisheries.

In respect of this debilitating situation the recently endorsed Policy Framework and Reform Strategy for Fisheries and Aquaculture in Africa (PFRS) responded to the numerous challenges afflicting inland fisheries. The Policy Framework further outlined strategic actions towards supporting policy coherence and enhancing linkages between inland fisheries, overarching fisheries sectoral policies and strategies as well as national planning processes for poverty reduction and development.

I have no doubt in my mind that in order to achieve these strategic objectives, it is critically important to identify healthy drivers, determine appropriate ecosystem approach, regulate fishing methods and limit pressure so as to maintain modelled exploitation rate that gives the multispecies maximum sustainable yield of the ecosystem. If you agree with me, there is therefore a strong need to ensure all countries have appropriate legal and institutional provision for fisheries management particularly in cross border inland water bodies and that these are complementary and supportive of each other.

Honourable Minister, Distinguished ladies and gentlemen

In consistent with the above the EU funded Fisheries Governance made provisions for activities for development of frameworks for management of shared resources; strengthening policies and

development strategies for inland water bodies as well as development of fisheries management plans for capture inland water fisheries.

This activity incorporated developing or reviewing fisheries management plans on inland waters bodies and **strengthening of management institutions for implementation as well as supporting Regional water bodies for formulation and implementation of fisheries management plans**. It was on this basis that AU-IBAR carried out an earlier assessment of fisheries management and development issues in the Continent. These studies recommended that further actions be taken in order to improve and enhance best management practices. As you are aware, the reports of these consultancies are posted on the AU-IBAR website and were also shared with the Member State and partners.

It is in the above regard, that AU-IBAR is providing this forum for the Formulation of Continental Strategy for Rational Management of Inland Fisheries of Africa. This is the basis of this workshop to solicit ideas from member states, experts and relevant stakeholders to accomplish these tasks.

Moreover, we cannot ignore the growing inclusive debate on the poor state of inland fisheries resources around the globe, and the increasing contentions of fisheries mismanagement. We should all be concerned about this if we want to defend the interests of our fishermen while preserving the fish stocks and the aquatic ecosystem environment which constitute the foundation for their work.

I believe that this method will form a strategic approach to respond to all the challenges that the inland fisheries of Africa is facing today. Properly implemented and enforced, the Strategic Action Plan would allow us to achieve the main goals of increasing productivity to optimum and sustainable levels, while protecting biodiversity, habitats and small scale inland fisheries, which are of particular importance for all of us.

Distinguished ladies and gentlemen

The choice of partnering with LVFO in this direction is no coincidence. Lake Victoria plays a major role in the economies of the riparian countries. The part of LVFO in ensuring sustainable development of Inland fisheries for enhanced livelihood cannot be over emphasized. However it has been variously noted that the Lake ecosystem is under threat from multiple sources including pollution, over-fishing due to population increase and other unsustainable economic activities including mining practices, each having its own management challenges. This calls for collective efforts for the riparian countries to work together to address these challenges for the sustainable management of natural resources.

It is also important to highlight that the riparian states of our inland water bodies have an important role to play in addressing inherent challenges for effective protection of the biodiversity and sustainable management of the natural resources of our inland water bodies and its basin. This meeting will also provide an excellent opportunity for the Africa's riparian states to discuss and agree on measures to foster effective implementation of various recommendations and outcomes for the Sustainable Management of Inland Fisheries.

My appeal is that we must do something to protect and sustainably guide our naturally endowed resources that the fisheries resources available from the inland waters can contribute significantly to food security, poverty alleviation and socio-economic growth of the region.

Distinguished ladies and gentlemen

It is very important to underline that the African Union holds the view that the challenges facing inland fisheries development in Africa could be also addressed by enhancing coordination, collaboration and cooperation amongst the various actors at national, regional and continental levels. We promise to make a difference in this case. African Union Commission would stand by you so that together we introduce the needed reforms for the betterment of our fisheries and citizens.

Honourable Minister, Distinguished ladies and gentlemen

Before I finish my speech, on behalf of the African Union, AU-IBAR would like to once more thank the Government and People of the Republic of Uganda for this dedicated collaboration with the African Union. I wish also like to take the opportunity to express gratitude to Hon. Vincent Bamulangaki Ssempijja MP Minister of Agriculture Animal Industry and Fisheries (MAAIF) of the Republic of Uganda for exhibiting maximum cooperation in organizing this workshop and the LVFO Secretariat,

in particular the staffs who have worked with us tirelessly to ensure a successful outcome of this workshop.

Lastly, but not the least, I would also wish to appreciate the impressive role of Development Partners especially the European Union for the dedicated support to initiatives of the African Union in general but particularly to the African Union initiatives in the fisheries and aquaculture sector as well as identifying with the AU aspirations for attainment of food security, poverty eradication economic growth of the African continent.

I thank you very much for your kind attention and wish you a very constructive discussion and fruitful meeting.

Annex 4: Remarks by Country Director WorldFish Center, Zambia & Tanzania – Dr. Sloans

**The Guest of Honour, the Ministers of Agriculture, Animal Industry & Fisheries Uganda
The Executive Secretary of the Lake Victoria Fisheries Organization, Mr. G. Monor
The representative of the Director of AU-IBAR, Dr. Simplicie Nouala
Directors of Fisheries
Representatives of the Regional Economic Communities,
Representatives of the Regional Fisheries Bodies
Representatives of Development Finance Institutions and Development Agencies
Representatives of Civil Society Organisations, NGOs and fisheries development programs
Distinguished members of the Press
Ladies and Gentlemen**

WorldFish is greatly honoured to co-host and participate in the Expert Consultative Workshop on formulation of the continental Strategy for rational management of inland fisheries of Africa, as well as the **University Writers-shop for the FishTrade Program, aimed at consolidating research outputs into Policy and Practice.**

Before I proceed with this speech, allow me to convey warm greetings from Dr. Gareth Johnstone, the Director General of WorldFish, who has been unable to come to this important meeting because of prior commitments. Therefore, he has delegated me to represent him at this meeting.

I wish to thank the AU-IBAR for inviting WorldFish and collaborating with us in this meeting and for providing us the opportunity to work with your member states. This meeting is indeed a landmark event because you have chosen to discuss inland fisheries and fish trade. Trade is paramount in inland fisheries management because of a number of reasons. First, 27% of the global inland fisheries comes from Africa, therefore, Africa is a key player in inland fisheries policy discourse. Second, fishers are motivated to catch fish and traders to sell fish products because fish has a monetary value. Third, trade, through fish prices, sends important signals to fish producers and traders on where to sell their products. Forth and importantly, trade creates the mechanism for transferring fish from regions or countries of surplus to areas of deficit, hence, providing food and nutrition security.

It is for these reasons that WorldFish in partnership with African Union Inter-African Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR) and the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency (NPCA) we are implementing the Fish Trade Program, whose full name is “*Improving Food Security and Reducing Poverty through intra-regional Fish Trade in sub-Saharan Africa*”. The FishTrade Program is testament of the serious commitment by WorldFish, as a member of the the Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) to ensure that our research work in Africa is consistent with the recently approved African Union Policy Framework & Reform Strategy for Fisheries and Aquaculture in Africa.

I am convinced that Fish Trade has the potential to uplift the lives of many fish-dependent communities around African lakes, rivers and floodplains, and contribute towards rural transformation because trade in fish and fishery products has the potential to respond to a broad-based development which is important for improving the livelihoods of rural communities and ensuring that rural space contributes to economic development.

Your Excellency the Minister of State, I am pleased to report that WorldFish has been carrying out research through national universities, where we provide scholarships to students to

conduct research and use the data to compile their thesis at either Master or Doctorate levels. So far we have an agreement with ten universities in four regions of Africa; three of these are West African region, namely Universities of Cheikh Anta Diop, in Dakar, Ghana, Felix Houphouet-Boigny in Cote d'Ivoire and Ibadan in Nigeria; University of Douala in Central Africa; universities of Makerere, in Uganda and Dar es Salaam in Tanzania, in Eastern Africa, and universities of Western Cape, in South Africa, Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources (LUANAR) in Malawi, and Eduardo Mondlane University of Mozambique. So far we have over 20 students, who have finished their studies, and most of them are female.

We have undertaken quantification of the structure, products and value of cross-border informal trade; we have made recommendations on policies, certification procedures, standards and regulations to govern cross-border fish trade; using the field observations we are designing and conducting trainings aimed at increasing capacities for trade amongst private sector associations; and we are advocating for adoption and implementation of appropriate policies, certification procedures by member states. Research results from your member states show massive movement of fish from country to country, but much of this trade is informal, and hence not recorded in the national statistics. The prominent species being traded across borders are the small pelagic species from both marine and inland fisheries. There are also farmed products, such as tilapia, being traded, and these are both from within the regions but also from outside Africa (mainly China). We have also observed that fish prices in informal domestic and cross-border trade exhibit seasonality depending on weather, fish imports, and substitution within markets. Furthermore, there are a number of major markets in the region that influence fish prices in other markets.

Hon Minister of State, I am pleased to report that results from the students here at Makerere university were used to inform the formulation of the recently revised National Aquaculture Policy of Uganda, which provides a classical example of evidence-informed national policy. Research lessons from southern corridor, enabled WorldFish to support SADC Secretariat to develop Harmonised Regional Fish Standards that are being used by member states. And our research helped overlay fish on the One Stop Border Post here at Busia (Uganda-Kenya Border). And we are currently completing construction of a fish warehouse at the Zambia-Mozambique-Zimbabwe border, that will facilitate quality and safety of fish products.

Therefore, from our research we have drawn a number of lessons, including:

1. The need for governments to consider revising their national cross-border fisheries data collection methods to ensure that all fish species and quantities being traded informally are also recorded.
2. Small fish and other small pelagic species from inland fisheries, such as Lakes Victoria are the most prominent in the cross-border trade volumes. In order to ensure that these small fish reach markets in good quality, after such long transit distances (example from Kirumba in Lake Victoria to Lilongwe in Malawi), government extension workers should teach fish processors and traders, better processing and handling techniques, respectively. Poor quality and broken products tend to be sold as ingredients for animal feeds (fishmeal); therefore, improved quality will enhance availability of this valuable human food.
3. While all countries in all RECs) have committed themselves to free trade, the implementation of the trade liberalization scheme has not been accompanied by increase in trade for community enterprises, including fish traders. Therefore, governments should revise their National Trade Policies with the aim to integrate fish in the product portfolio/annex and secure greater market access for fish products and to promote regional integration through greater fish trade by harmonizing and reducing tariffs and non-tariff barriers to fish trade, road blocks and fees for cross-border fish traders.

4. More efforts should be directed at integrating fish in the One Stop Border Posts (OSBPs). One Stop Border Post (OSBP) In addition, governments should put in place common **conformity assessment procedures** to be used by all countries to test, inspect and certify fish products for imports and exports. This will ensure that the products being placed on the market comply with all legislative and food safety requirements.
5. Therefore, governments and NGOs should promote the establishment of Fish Traders Associations. These institutions will also help improve dialogue between traders and government agents involved in facilitating cross-border trade and help expose such malpractices
6. Women are very prominent in fish trading in Africa. Yet often, gender inequalities prevent them from participating in crucial decisions pertaining to fisheries management, fish processing and cross-border trade. Prevalence of harmful fish processing practices, especially smoking and harassment of cross-border women traders point to the urgent need for governments to ensure a safe work environment and profitable livelihood for women. NGOs should help identify “women champions” who raise the debate about women’s role in cross-border fish trade. These Champions could work within the framework of African Union Women Empowerment (2015 was the African Year of Women Empowerment).
7. The growth of urban markets for food, particularly in all the six FCWC states has provided an incentive for the fish trade in the region. While it is clear from the empirical findings that the fish market and trade system is functioning very effectively under, albeit under difficult circumstances, there is a need for governments to give greater attention to national road and market infrastructure. This will create an enabling environment for economic development through markets and trade expansion in the ECOWAS region as a whole.
8. International and national research institutions, national universities should support governments to make evidence-based policy decisions on cross-border fish trade through research and innovation and disseminating knowledge generated through research. WorldFish’s experience under the FishTrade Program has shown that promoting policy dialogue based on research findings can enhance cross-sectoral relations and improve communication between (university) researchers, policymakers, and government officials is essential for understanding fish traders’ needs.

In conclusion, Hon. Minister of State, Distinguished Delegates, allow me to thank the European Union for the funding they are providing for the implementation of the Fish Trade Program, and it is through this program we have made a modest contribution to this meeting.

I thank you for your attention.

Annex 5: Speech by the Hon. Minister of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries at the Expert Consultative Meeting on Formulation of Continental Strategy for Rational Management of Africa Inland Fisheries

The Representative of the African Union Secretariat
The Director of International Bureau of Animal Resources (AU-IBAR)/Head of Mission
Executive Secretary, Lake Victoria Fisheries Organization (LVFO)
Directors of Fisheries from African Union member States
Fisheries Experts from African States
Representatives from Non-State Actors
Ladies and Gentlemen

On behalf of the Government of the Republic of Uganda, the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries, welcomes you all to this great meeting on formulation of a continental strategy for rational management of Africa inland fisheries.

Dear Participants, inland fisheries contributes greatly to the wellbeing of the world population in terms of food security, employment and National Economic Development.

Despite the above importance, fish stocks world over are declining due to ever increasing fishing capacity and use of illegal fishing gears and methods including trade in immature fish. The increasing population and need/demand for non-beef products is driving expanded exploitation to meet the food requirement.

It is important to note that the door is not closed, there is unexploited potential that can be harnessed through aquaculture while helping to reduce pressure on inland water bodies.

It is evidently important that we have to control entry in fishing if we are to ensure fish for ourselves today, and, the future generation on a sustainable basis.

This consultative meeting on defining ways of rational management of African water bodies, in my view, comes at the right time when the whole world is realizing reduction in wild stocks and developing cope up strategies in the farming of fish.

Africa boasts of many great lakes with high productivity but lack of reliable and consistent data has always hampered development of effective management plans for sustainable development of such natural resources. The many rivers, swamps, dams can be exploited for fish farming and stock enhancement through restocking.

I call upon all participants here present to deliberate strongly for the rational use of the God given natural resources for the benefit of the common man and national development.

All African Nations and existing national, regional and international organizations should work together to develop ways of managing national and trans-boundary water bodies in Africa. Uganda has already reviewed its National Fisheries Policy with a view of promoting natural stock recovery programs including stimulating investments in aquaculture along the fishery value chain. At the East African Community (EAC) level, harmonization is ongoing to ensure promoting rational management and sustainable utilization of the EAC fisheries water resources.

Recent fish stock assessments on Lake Victoria have shown that although a 30% increase has been realised in the stocks, Nile Perch which contributes to more than 90% of our fish exports remains the most affected fish species.

The Republic of Uganda, Republic of Kenya and the United Republic of Tanzania have demonstrated a collaborative approach through the institution of the Lake Victoria Fisheries Organization (LVFO) and committed each Partner State to contribute as an emergency fund for joint operations aimed at reducing

fisheries illegalities and in line with that comprehensive fisher registration and fishing capacity reduction measures are being implemented.

Lastly, I thank the African Union for supporting this important meeting and the IU-IBAR for organizing this event. My Ministry staff and the Lake Victoria Fisheries Organization are commended for supporting this process and I call upon all of you participants to effectively participate in the development of this continental strategy for rational management of African inland fisheries.

It is now my honor, pleasure and duty to declare this meeting open.

For God and My Country.

Hon. Kibanzanga Christopher (MP)

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE ANIMAL INDUSTRY AND FISHERIES
(AGRICULTURE)**

Annex 6: Approved Agenda

Day 1: Monday, 26th March, 2018		
Time	Event	Presenter/Facilitator
8:00-9:00	REGISTRATION OF PARTICIPANTS	AU-IBAR Secretariat
09:00-9:45	OFFICIAL OPENING SESSION	Facilitator
	Introductory Remarks by LVFO	Executive Secretary Mr. G. Monor
	Statement by AU-IBAR	Director - AU-IBAR
	Official Opening Speech	Hon Minister MAAIF Uganda
	Self-introductions	All participants
	Background, Objectives, Expected outcome and Overview of Workshop Structure	AU-IBAR
	KEY NOTE:- Inland Fisheries of Africa: An Overview – Issues, Status, Challenges and Contributions of Inland Fisheries to food and nutritional security, poverty reduction, and wealth creation in Africa: Historic and Current situation	AU-IBAR
	Adoption of Agenda and Programme	Facilitator
9:45 – 10:00	PHOTO AND TEA-BREAK SESSION	AU-IBAR & LVFO
10:00-13:00	<u>TECHNICAL SESSION 1</u> - Presentation by Consultants and Inland Water Mgt Body Agencies	
	Rational Management of Fisheries	Paul Onyango – Workshop Facilitator
	- West and Central Africa - LCBC, Senegal River - Short Discussion	Pro. Falaye, Fisheries Expert LCBC, Senegal River
	- East & Southern Africa - LVFO, LTA - Short Discussion	Fisheries Experts LVFO & LTA
	- North Africa - Lake Nasser, The Nile - Short Discussion	TBD Fisheries Expert NBI and Lake Nasser
13:00-14:00	LUNCH BREAK	Organizers
14:00-17:00	<u>TECHNICAL SESSION 2</u> - Presentations on Lessons, Experiences and Knowledge Sharing	
	Inland Fisheries management Options	Dr. Moustapha Kebe
	Socio-economic Aspects of Inland Fisheries Management	Prof. Paul Onyango
	The Role of Non State Actors in Inland Fisheries Management	Kamuturaki Seremos
	The Roles of Women in the Management of Inland Fisheries	Beyene Ateba Epse Baliaba
	Guidelines for Working Groups Sessions 1	CONSULTANT TBD
	COFFEE BREAK (15 Mins Only)	
	GROUP SESSION 1: Identification of Issues and Challenges Group 1: West & Central Africa Group 2: East & Southern Africa Group 3: North Africa	CONSULTANT S (Profs. Satia, Falaye & Consultants for the North –TBD)
Day 2: Tuesday, 27th March, 2018		
9:00-13:00	TECHNICAL SESSION 2: - Continental Strategy for Inland Fisheries of Africa	
	PLENARY SESSION 1:-Presentation by Working Groups: Group Presentations and General Discussions on Issues and Challenges	Consultants and Facilitator
	Summary of Outcomes of Global Inland Fisheries Conference - General Discussion	Paul Onyango
	TEA BREAK (15 Mins Only)	
	Summary of challenges and issues to be addressed in the continental strategy	CONSULTANT TBD
	Guidelines for Working Groups Sessions 2	CONSULTANT TBD

	GROUP SESSION 2: <u>Identification of Strategic Areas and Priority Actions</u> Two Working Groups: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Anglophone Working Group ➤ Francophone Working Group 	CONSULTANT - TBD
	Guidelines for Working Groups Sessions 2	CONSULTANT - TBD
13:00-14:00	LUNCH BREAK	Organizers
14:00-17:30	GROUP SESSION 2: <u>Identification of Strategic Areas and Priority Actions contd</u> Two Working Groups: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Anglophone Working Group ➤ Francophone Working Group 	CONSULTANT - TBD
	COFEE BREAK (15 Mins Only)	
	PLENARY SESSION 1:- (15:30-17:00)Presentation by Working Groups <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Anglophone Working Group ➤ Francophone Working Group General Discussions on Identified Strategic Areas and Priority Actions for the Continental Strategy for Rational Management of Africa Inland Fisheries	FACILITATOR & CONSULTANT – TBD
Day 3:Wednesday, 28th March, 2018		
09:00-14:00	Presentation ofn the Outline, strategic areas, and priority actions for the Continental Strategy for Rational Management of Africa Inland Fisheries	CONSULTANT TBD
	General Discussions and Validation of the Draft Content of Continental Strategy for Rational Management of Africa Inland Fisheries	FACILITATOR & CONSULTANT – TBD
	TEA BREAK (10 Mins Only)	Organizers
	Adoption of Report / Communique	Facilitator
	CLOSING SESSION Vote of Thanks by a Representative of the Participants Closing remarks by a representative of the Partners (LVFO) Closing remarks by AU-IBAR Remarks / Official Closing by Director of Fisheries, UGAND	Representative of Participants LVFO Representative of AU-IBAR Director, Director of Fisheries
14:00-15:00	LUNCH BREAK	
Day 4:Thursday, 29th March, 2018		
08:00-17:00	Exchange Visit / Study Tour of Fisheries and Aquaculture of Lake Victoria Field Visit to Beach Management Unit and Fish Cage Culture Practice	Facilitated by LVFO Supported by AU-IBAR
17:30-18:00	COFEE BREAK AND END OF THE WORKSHOP	

Annex 7: Key Note Address by Dr. Mohamed Seisay Senior Fisheries Scientist AU-IBAR

The Honourable Minister of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries (MAAIF) of the Republic of Uganda;

The Executive Director of the Lake Victoria Fisheries Organization (LVFO);

The Directors of Fisheries from the AU Member States and their Representatives;

Representatives of the Regional Economic Communities;

The Representatives of Regional Fisheries Bodies and Inland Water Management Organizations;

Representatives of Non-State-Actors including the Women Group;

Colleagues, Distinguished Experts, ladies and gentlemen;

1. Introduction:

It is with great pleasure and honor for me to give the key note address to the opening session of this very important meeting of Experts at this Consultative Forum to Formulate a Continental Strategy for the Rationale Management of the Inland Fisheries of Africa. This Meeting could not have come at a better time. Inland water bodies are natural capital assets which must be managed in a manner to not only maintain existing benefits (food security, livelihoods and income), but also seek to increase the sustainable contribution of the sub-sector to the blue economy growth and development of our member states.

2. Overall Context – Fisheries and Aquaculture:

Hon. Minister and distinguished experts

Please kindly permit me to briefly place the inland fisheries into the overall global and continental context.

The continent is adjacent to some of the highly productive large marine ecosystems in the world with abundant and diverse living and non-living resources providing immense opportunities for blue economy growth and development. Most of the African countries are either adjacent to or surrounded by the Atlantic Ocean, Indian Ocean, the Red and Mediterranean seas. The fisheries resources in the marine waters support domestic markets for consumption as well as export markets for much needed foreign exchange revenues.

The continent also has huge networks of inland water bodies mainly in the form of lakes and rivers which provide opportunities for significant level of fishing activities. The majority of the major lakes and rivers are shared ecosystems; these include Lakes Tanganyika, Victoria, Chad and Nasser. The major rivers are the Nile, Zambezi, the River Niger, the Congo River to name but a few. In the context of food security, livelihoods, employment and household income, the inland fisheries sector is particularly important. Large proportion of the fish production from this subsector is made available as fish supplies in local markets.

Aquaculture is also practiced in earthen ponds, tanks, cages etc. on the continent and the rate of growth of the subsector has been impressive. However, when compared to Asia, total African aquaculture production has been dismally low. Until recently, about a decade ago, aquaculture has been perceived as background or subsistence activity to augment household animal protein.

In terms of fishery production and contribution to food and nutritional security from the subsectors, combined current annual production in Africa is estimated at 10.5 million metric tons which constitutes 6% of the global fisheries production (170 million metric tons) from all subsectors (marine, inland and aquaculture). Among the subsectors, marine fisheries are the largest contributor to fish production, estimated at 5.9 million metric tons, contributing to 55 % of Africa's total fish production, followed by inland fisheries of about 28 % (2.9 million metric tons) and aquaculture about 17 % (1.8 million metric tons). Morocco, Namibia, South Africa, Mauritania and Senegal are some of the major marine fish producers. Uganda, Nigeria, Tanzania, Egypt, DR. Congo and Kenya are the major inland fish producers. Egypt, Nigeria, Ghana, Uganda etc. are the major aquaculture producers. The average per capita fish consumption in Africa is estimated at about 9.7 kg which is significantly less than the global average (19 kg). However, per capita fish consumption is highest mostly in countries that are adjacent

to large marine ecosystems, in excess of 20 kg (e.g. Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Sao Tome, Comoros etc.) whilst lower in land-locked countries, arid or semi-arid regions (e.g. Ethiopia, Lesotho, Niger) generally below 5 kg besides few inland countries like Uganda, Malawi to name the few

In terms of employment and livelihoods, the fisheries and aquaculture sector provides employment to about 12.3 million people; about 27.3 % of these are women, with dominating role in the Post-catch processing sector (58 %). The inland fisheries provide employments to about 5 million people that constitute about 40 % of the total fisheries and aquaculture sector.

3. Inland Fisheries Subsector:

Your Excellency the Hon. Minister, Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen

The inland fisheries production is therefore a vital source of fish supplies in the continent as well as employment of immense socio-economic importance to rural communities in Africa. The subsector's contribution to national GDPs is about 0.33 %. However it is pertinent to note that Africa Inland water resources have competing uses including power generation from hydroelectric dams, municipal and agricultural activities, mining and water transportation that must be considered as stakeholders in formulating the strategy and also as composite part for the Blue economy growth. The poverty-prevention functions of the fisheries bring social stability and confidence amongst the rural communities; mitigate rural-urban and overseas migration tendencies. The subsector constitutes a powerful rallying point and a source of social security for the women and youth with inherent potential to be a viable engine for social-economic growth in Africa.

Sadly, the current benefits are however under threat from a variety of sources and inherent weaknesses, key amongst which include poor governance frameworks, open access nature, unsustainable fishing practices, weak capacity, mounting post-harvests loss, dwindling catches and profits, threats of climate change, environmental and other natural disasters, lack of alternative livelihoods etc. Also largely being shared ecosystems (with attendant transboundary issues) in turn pose significant management challenges to fisheries management authorities. Also because of its complex nature, the real importance of inland fisheries is under-estimated. The multi-gear and multi-species nature, scattered or highly dispersed fishing operations, and the informal trade compound the problem. Thus adequate information on the socio-economic characteristics and impacts of these highly diverse economic activities of the fisheries sector cannot be accurately ascertained - that are needed to canvass the attention of our high level policy and decisions makers on the significance of this subsector.

4. The Policy Framework and reform strategy for fisheries and aquaculture in Africa:

Your Excellency the Hon. Minister, Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen

In direct response to the challenges faced by the overall fisheries and aquaculture sector, the African continent fortunately has a guiding document wholly based on the perspectives of the stakeholders on how the sector should be governed to optimize benefits- Policy Framework and Reform Strategy (PFRS) for fisheries and aquaculture in Africa whose overall goal is to create an enabling environment for food security, livelihoods and wealth creation. The main purpose of this Pan African policy document is to facilitate realistic and coherent national and regional fisheries policy development by the member states of African Union and the Regional Economic Communities. Not surprisingly therefore, one of the PFRS key policy arenas is to promote sustainable development of small-scale fisheries on the continent that includes inland fisheries segment. Thus the formulation of need and evidenced-based Pan African strategy for the rationale management and development of Inland fisheries could be a precursor to solving some of the seemingly intractable problems associated with Inland water bodies. This meeting comes at a time when issues of food security, poverty reduction, climate change, intra-regional trade, transparency and inclusive governance, private sector participation, have earned heightened attention by our African Heads of States and Governments in 2014, Malabo, Equatorial Guinea. This meeting therefore has the privilege of time and place for only time addressing the issues at hand but of place being held in this Great City of Kampala, the neighbourhood of one of the Africa's prime water bodies – Lake Victoria.

Being the continental politically mandated African Union institution to drive and coordinate the animal resources development and utilization (including fisheries and aquaculture, livestock and wildlife), AU-

IBAR, with support from NEPAD agency and partners, is therefore spearheading the implementation of the Policy Framework and Reform Strategy at continental and regional levels

The PFRS offers Africa the opportunity to transition its fisheries to productivity, sustainability and profitability that are essential outcomes of good governance in any fisheries and aquaculture.

Distinguished Delegates would agree with me that this requires commitment to undertake reforms by appropriate institutions of our member states as the policy document provides guidance on good governance principles considered as best practices in fisheries management and aquaculture development and outlined strategic actions for reform of African fisheries and aquaculture. Some of the key underlying principles of the PFRS include participation, transparency and also equity in benefits sharing. Thus within the African Fisheries Reform Mechanism, adopted also by African Ministers for Agriculture, Rural Development, Water and sanitation, fisheries and aquaculture, in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 2015, as the mechanism for reform in the sector, distinguished delegates have been assembled here to solicit their views during the next three days. The Think tank meeting has been given much publicity and the wider citizenry out there on the shores of the Lakes Victoria, Tanganyika, Chad, Congo River, Lake Nasser, Kariba etc. are full of high expectations; we must not disappoint them, we must not lose their trust.

Distinguished delegates would also agree with me that there has been a dramatic paradigm shift in the governance systems and approaches of the fisheries and aquaculture sector in Africa since nearly 10 years ago when African Ministers assembled in 2010 in the Gambia; to have Africans give their own narrative of African problems in resource governance. You would also observe that in adherence to the reform strategy of the Pan African fisheries policy, the composition of the invited experts reflect relevant multidimensional disciplines – including a galaxy of biologists, socio-economists, co-management experts, NSAs- which is consistent with the Theory of Change propounded in the PFRS for rationale governance of the sector. This ensures trade-off between attainment of biological, environmental goals imbued with socio-economic goals with human dimensions and equitable societal benefits being at the center of it all - in the strategy document when eventually developed. This is the covenant that was agreed upon in Douala in 2012 amongst stakeholders when the PFRS was being finalized. The African Union doggedly remains true to this creed.

5. Current Management Approaches and Underlying Challenges:

Invariably the existing national instruments for overall inland fisheries management have not, as compared to marine fisheries, proportionately focused on redressing the issues in inland fisheries giving its crucial role in food security, social welfare and income. In general, however, where inland fisheries management measures are included, the focus is mainly on technical measures which include seasonal and area closures to fishing activities, fishing gear restrictions and mesh size regulation, annual registration of fishing gears and crafts, licensing, catch assessment surveys (including annual frame surveys and collection of catches and fishing effort in few cases).

Without the provision of alternative livelihoods, participatory approaches, and amidst low catch, high poverty level and weak surveillance, these regulations are hardly enforced or adhered to.

6. Fisheries Governance Issues in Shared Water Bodies:

Your Excellency the Hon. Minister, Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen

The issues and challenges which affect and could potentially impact on the sustainable exploitation and management of the inland fisheries are related to inadequate fisheries governance. The fisheries governance issues together with the prevalence of poverty and increase in population around the lake's basin contribute to exertion of excessive pressure on the inland fisheries resources and their basin ecosystems. The main issues include:

- Absence of coherence in laws, policies, regulations and standards underscored by limited evidence to guide resource management;
- Absence of weak fisheries management plans hamper good governance possibilities
- Non- effective involvement of all stakeholders in the management process; hence poor compliance to fisheries laws and regulations and inadequate enforcement

- Rapid population growth leading to increasing demand for ecosystems' goods and services; excessive pressure on fisheries and other basin resources;
- Environmental degradation, climate change and pollution
- Lack of collaboration with other users of the resources

7. Moving Way forward and what are the Opportunities:

The existence of accredited RFBs or Water Basin Commissions (WBCs) provides opportunities for coherent and coordinated management of the fisheries resources in these shared water bodies. We maintain that the primary functions of these water bodies in providing much needed food security, livelihoods and social welfare must never be compromised. However without being prescriptive, we hold the view that any management option or strategy for African inland fisheries must have a trade-off between attainment of food security, livelihoods and fisheries resources conservation in view of the current status of exploited fish stocks inhabiting our inland waters. The strategic approach to the management of trans-boundary fisheries resources should be underpinned by regional fisheries management plan, coherent with national plans as well as regional integration objectives, developed in a participatory manner.

It is therefore crucially important to involve stakeholders in the management process, ensuring compliance and enforcement, but also put in place Conflict Resolution Mechanisms for territorial disputes, identify and promote alternative sources of livelihoods, and introduce appropriate management options or tools such as rights-based management, Ecosystems Approach to Fisheries (EAF), interactive governance and community-based reserved or Marine Protected Areas (MPAs). The underlying principles in any of these approaches, tools or measures should be made clearly understood by stakeholders and the mechanism for their implementation developed in a participatory manner so that there will be general consensus.

8. What has been done by African Union:

Your Excellency the Hon. Minister, Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen

As preparatory work towards this think thank meeting, African Union, under the provisions of the Fisheries Governance Project implemented by AU-IBAR in collaboration with the NEPAD Agency sponsored expert assessments of fisheries management and development issues on selected shared water bodies on the continent with the objective of formulating well informed, needs and evidenced based Regional Fisheries Management Plans:

1. Lake Victoria
2. Lake Tanganyika
3. Lake Chad
4. River Senegal
5. Niger
6. Lake Albert
7. Lake Edward
8. Zambezi watercourse
9. Water bodies in North Africa – ongoing

9. Key Messages:

Some of the key messages adduced from these assessments are as follows:

1. Management options for African inland fisheries must have a trade-off between the attainment of food security, enhancing livelihoods and promoting rational fisheries resources exploitation and conservation.
2. The strategic approach to the management of trans-boundary inland fisheries resources should be underpinned by a comprehensive regional fisheries management plan, coherent with national plans, developed in a participatory manner and informed by evidence

3. Externalities such as threats of climate change, natural disasters and environmental issues require monitoring and periodic evaluation of fisheries resources should be integrated in Inland fisheries management plans.
4. Identification and promotion of alternative sources of livelihoods should be highlighted in management processes for inland fisheries such as stock recovery strategy, as well as special considerations for women and youth empowerment.
5. Regional Economic Communities (RECs) should develop regional policy and frameworks and the Regional Fisheries Bodies (RFBs) should develop the tools for the implementation of these policies and frameworks as well as for monitoring their impacts
6. The participation and partnership of all stakeholders especially women and youth in inland fishery management process is important and should be enhanced and institutionalized
7. The role and actions of other resources users must be taken into consideration for a comprehensive and integrated lake basin management

10. Now Why are we Here and Concluding?

In concluding, please permit to say that Inland fisheries have long been a quiet but important component in food and economic security in the continent but the significance is often underestimated because of absence of dedicated strategy that would upstage this subsector on the continental, regional and national agenda. The role is being downplayed specifically because of paucity of knowledge on its potential to contribute to national development socio-economic goals. Therefore, we hope this strategy, to be developed, would bring all these elements into play - not only its tradition role in food security, livelihoods and social welfare but as a potent subsector towards the blue economic growth and development of Africa.

I wish you successful deliberation. I thank you.

Annex 8: Terms of Reference of Working Group session

Three working group sessions are suggested, which will discuss on the thematic areas indicated below. Each group will be led by a facilitator (consultant who carried out the study) and have a rapporteur taking notes of the discussions who will report to plenary.

Methodology: Brainstorming, sharing experiences, oriented discussion, note taking,

THEMATIC AREA 1: Identification of practical constraints (institutional and technical) and possible solutions for a good governance of inland fisheries in Africa context

Guiding questions:

- *What are the constraints to and opportunities for sustainable and inclusive governance of inland fisheries at national, regional and continental level? Identify a maximum of 10 issues. (Resource abundance, methods of current exploitation- are these sustaining the resource or not)*
- *Define an objective or vision for each issue identified. Where do we want inland fisheries in Africa to be in the future (5-10)?*

Rank	Constraints/Issues	Opportunities	Priority strategic Actions	Objective	Geographical Scale
1					
2 nd					
3 rd					
4 th					
5 th					
6 th					
7 th					
8 th					
9 th					
10 th					

THEMATIC AREA 2: Priority actions to improve/enhance the contribution of inland Fisheries to Food & Nutritional security and wealth creation

Guiding question:

- *What concrete actions need to be taken to improve the sustainable contribution of inland fisheries to food and nutritional security, as well as economic growth and wealth creation? Identified max 10 priority strategic actions.*
- *What ongoing initiatives exist on the continent to improve the contribution of inland fisheries to Food & Nutritional security, economic growth/ wealth creation?*

Food and nutrition security

Rank	Priority Actions	Ongoing key Action/initiatives	Geographical Scale
1 st			
2 nd			
3 rd			
4 th			
5 th			
6 th			

7 th			
8 th			
9 th			
10 th			

Economic growth/wealth creation

Rank	Priority Actions	Ongoing key Action/initiatives	Geographical Scale
1 st			
2 nd			
3 rd			
4 th			
5 th			
6 th			
7 th			
8 th			
9 th			
10 th			

THEMATIC AREA 3: Strategic Partnership developed and proposed at sub-regional and Regional level (Regional Economic Community & Regional Fishery Body) with technical & development partners.

Guiding question:

- Which actions need to be improved and/or established for strategic partnership among national, sub-regional and regional institutions for enhanced coordination and collaboration in technical and development partner's activities in favour of the sustainable development of inland fisheries in Africa? Identified max 5 priority actions.

Rank	Priority Actions	Geographical Scale
1 st		
2 nd		
3 rd		
4 th		
5 th		

THEMATIC AREA 4: Capacity development and Investment Promotion in the inland fisheries in Africa.

Guiding question:

- Identify a maximum of 5 prioritized strategic actions for Capacity development and Investment Promotion in the sustainable development of inland fisheries in Africa.

Rank	Priority Actions	Geographical Scale
1 st		
2 nd		
3 rd		
4 th		
5 th		

Annex 9: Closing Remarks by Director, AU-IBAR Read by Dr. Simplicie Nouala

The Executive Secretary, Lake Victoria Fisheries Organization (LVFO)
Directors of Fisheries from African Union member States
Fisheries Experts from African States
Representatives from Non-State Actors
Ladies and Gentlemen

I am particularly glad that we have successfully come to the end of this important expert consultative workshop on formulation of continental strategy for rational management of Inland Fisheries of Africa which took place here in Kampala, Uganda (the Pearl of Africa). Thanks to your patience and diligence. I would not hesitate to happily remark that the objectives of the workshop have been sufficiently accomplished and that we have in our hands a strategic document with prioritized actions for inland rationale inland fisheries management. As you may have realized this document is a companion document to the Policy Framework and Reform Strategy for Fisheries and Aquaculture in Africa and the prioritized actions that have identified in this workshop would contribute to the implementation of SSF Policy Arena and the continental SSF Plan of Action with specific focus to inland fisheries development. I am happy to know that thematic areas are fully supportive of the implementation of the Malabo Declaration especially with regards to redoing hunger, poverty, inclusive, climate change resilience, trade and market development on the continent etc

I wish to extend my profound appreciation for this wonderful opportunity accorded us for a proactive effort to rational utilization of our inland fisheries resources for our optimum benefits.

Your commitment, cooperation, display of professional maturity and technical expertise during discussions are highly commendable. This is to me a reflection of dedication and seriousness towards the accomplishment of common African goals and enhanced inclusiveness in the quest to effectively harness and efficiently optimize the benefits from our shared inland water bodies and the fisheries resources therein.

The outcome of this workshop call for a collective responsibility of all stakeholders for effective and efficient implementation of the principles and objectives of African Union policies as it concerns our inland water bodies which in actual sense do not respect boundaries.

As we wish you all safe journey back to your respective countries I would also wish to express our ever sincere desire to always have you on board to brainstorm on the means to chart the way forward on the development of African Fisheries Resources Agenda. Kindly be rest assured that our doors will always be open to welcome you at any time.

Finally, I immensely thank the Government and People of Republic of Uganda especially the Minister and the Director responsible for fisheries as well as the management and staff of The Hotel Africana for their hospitality and acceptance for graciously hosting our workshop. My esteemed profound appreciation also goes to all those on ground, most especially the Executive Secretary and staffs of the LVFO, the facilitators and the consultant Prof. Onyango, the interpreters for their cooperation and commendable efforts. To you the delegated I am sincerely happy and speechless for your outstanding performance in this 3 days here in Kampala. To you I doff my cap and I say *alluta continua*

As you travel back home I pray that you meet in better conditions your loved ones whom you left behind to come to Kampala for the benefit of our dear continent

I thank you.