



**Fisheries Committee for the West Central Gulf of Guinea
(FCWC)**

**Report of the second meeting of FCWC Ad hoc Working Group on
improvement in Fisheries Statistics**

Cotonou, Benin, 12 – 14 May 2010

Report

SUMMARY

This report presents the results of the second meeting of the FCWC Ad hoc working group for improving the fisheries statistics in the region held in Cotonou (Benin), from 12 to 14 May 2010. The Workshop was organized jointly by the Fisheries Committee West Central Gulf of Guinea (FCWC) and FAO through its FishCode-STF Project. Five participants from member states of the West Central Gulf of Guinea Fisheries Commission (Ghana, Benin, Togo, Cote d'Ivoire, and Nigeria) attended the meeting. Overall objective of the workshop was to:

- Overview on FAO/FishCode STF activities in the FCWC countries,**
- harmonize the methods and data to be collected in the sub region**
- Develop of FCWC workplan for 2010-2011.**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.	BACKGROUND.....	3
2.	OBJECTIVES OF THE WORKSHOP	4
3.	PROCEEDING OF THE WORKSHOP	4
4.	OPENING OF THE WORKSHOP	4
5.	TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE AD'HOC WORKING GROUP	4
6.	SUMMARY OF FAO/COPACE/FCWC 2007 WORKSHOP	5
7.	PROGRES IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF 2007RECOMMENDATIONS,.....	6
1.	7.1 assessment	6 general
2.	7.2 resentations per country	6
13.	HARMONISATION AND CLASSIFICATION OF ARTISANAL FISHERIES UNITS	AND GEARS. 12
14.	BIGNUMBER IN FCWC REGION.....	12
15.	ARTFISH FAO SOURCE AND EXAMPLE OF SURVEYS4MONITORING	12
16.	KEY SOCIO-ÉCONOMIC INDICATORS/ FRAMEWORK SURVEYS	
17.	IMPROVEMENT IN DATA COLLECTION	13
18.	CODES AND SPECIES REGIONAL HARMONISATION	13
3.	19. DIRECTIVES OF META-DATA BASE	13
4.	20. FCWC INFORMATION SYSTEM AND FAO STATISTICS.....	13
5.	21. FCWC WEB. SITE.	14
6.	22. ORGANISATION AND SUSTAINABILITY OF THE WORKING..... GROUP ON STATISTICS.....	14
7.	23. RECOMMENDATIONS.....	14
8.	24. CLOSING OF THE MEETING	16

BACKGROUND

1. The “FAO Strategy for Improving Information on Status and Trends of Capture Fisheries” (FAO Strategy-STF) was adopted by the 25th Session of the FAO Committee on Fisheries (COFI) and endorsed by the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in 2003.
2. The FAO Strategy–STF is a voluntary instrument that applies to all States and entities. Its overall objective is to provide a framework for the improvement of knowledge and understanding of fishery status and trends as a basis for fisheries policy-making and sustainable management. The FAO Strategy-STF will be implemented through agreements between States, directly or through Regional Fishery Bodies (RFBs) and arrangements, and FAO.
3. In November 2004 the FAO FishCode-STF project started with as main objective to support the implementation of “FAO Strategy STF” world wide.
4. The collection and analysis of fishery data is a costly, time-consuming and effort-intensive exercise. Fishery line agencies, which in many cases suffer from chronic problems of budget and human resource limitations, often struggle to produce reliable information in a timely manner. Poor quality of information creates a general sense of distrust on fishery information among intended users (e.g. policy makers and fisheries managers) which results in non- or very limited use of fishery statistics. This would further lead to a situation where low priorities/attentions are attached to data collection activities. Thus a vicious cycle of problems is created, which continues to inhibit effective fishery administration and management based on the information
5. FAO FishCode STF activities in West Africa are supported by Sida and started in January 2007. A Sub-Regional Workshop on Improving Information on Status and Trends of captured fisheries in the West Central Gulf of Guinea region took place at the FAO regional office in Accra, Ghana from 26 to 28 June 2007.
6. This workshop recognized that FAO Strategy for improving information on status and trends of capture fisheries is an important

instrument. Knowledge of the status and trends of capture fisheries and fishery resources, including socio-economic aspects is a key to sound policy-making and responsible fisheries management. It is necessary at the national level for the maintenance of food security and for describing social and economic benefits of fisheries. Information on the status and trends of fisheries is also essential for assessing the validity of fisheries policy and for tracking the performance of fisheries management. The workshop requested FAO CEEAF And FCWC to further exert the efforts to assist countries in the region to improve fisheries monitoring

This workshop provided the following recommendations:

7. The meeting noted that not all countries are at the same level with regards to data collection and information generation, therefore each country programme should be reviewed on its own merits.
8. The meeting identified the need for continued discussion on the subject of fisheries statistics and information and therefore requested the formation of a working group on fishery statistics under the guidance of the sub-regional committee. The first activities the working group could deal with were identified as:
 - a. Harmonisation of national frame surveys
 - b. Development of a sub-regional artisanal fishing vessel registration system
 - c. Establishment of a sub-regional database on industrial fishing vessels, including the standardization of classifications, meaning that the information in the aforementioned database is standardized
 - d. Harmonisation of data collection strategies and methods

After the 2007 sub regional workshop the FAO FishCode STF project supported field activities at national level and the establishment of an FCWC Ad hoc working group for improving information on status and trends of fisheries.

This report presents the results of the second meeting of the FCWC Ad hoc working group for improving the fisheries statistics in the region held in Cotonou (Benin), 12 – 14 May 2010.

1. OBJECTIVES OF THE WORKSHOP

9. Overall objective of the workshop was to:

Follow up on the recommendations of the first meeting of the Ad hoc working group held in Accra, Ghana, in August 2009 :

- a) Presentation of STF supported activities in the region
- b) Presentation of inventory of vessel and gear following the classification guidelines provided using data available in the six countries
- c) Discussion on harmonisation of vessels and gear classification
- d) Discussion on using international classification for species
- e) FAO country stat and CECAF scientific working group data
- f) Discuss road map on sub-region fisheries information systems
- g) Discuss the FCWC website and modalities for country specific information
- h) Develop workplan 2010 – 2011
 - Improvement data collection
 - Meta database
 - Big Numbers in the region
- i) Functioning and working modalities of the ad hoc working group

2. ORGANIZATION OF THE WORKSHOP

10. The Workshop was organized jointly by the Fisheries Committee West Central Gulf of Guinea (FCWC) and FAO through its FishCode-STF Project. Five representatives from member states of the West Central Gulf of Guinea Fisheries Commission (Ghana, Benin, Togo, Cote d'Ivoire and Nigeria) attended the meeting. The participant from Liberia was absent because of illness. The agenda and a full list of participants are shown as Appendix A and B.

3. OPENING SESSION

11. Three speeches were pronounced by Mr. Séraphin Dédi Nadjé, Secretary General of FCWC and FAO Representative in Benin who together offered welcoming remarks to participants and by the Inspector General of Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fishery,

representing the Minister. He welcomed the all participants and declared opened the meeting.

4. PROGRESS ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF 2009

1.1 GENERAL OVERVIEW

12. After the workshop in 2009 a number of national activities were formulated and are being implemented with support of the FAO FishCode STF project. The overview of ongoing activities is presented by Mr De Graaf (FAO) and the Focal Points of the member countries (*Country Presentation*) participating to this second FCWC meeting.

13. Almost all activities supported are related to improvement of structural data of the artisanal fleet through frame surveys and socio economic surveys.

14. Most of the countries concerned are entering and analyzing the results of the various conducted surveys in the software provided by FishCode STF (FAO) project.

1.2 COUNTRY PRESENTATIONS

15. The participants presented ongoing national activities on frame survey, socioeconomic survey (Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Nigeria and Togo) and vessel registration pilot project (Ghana). These presentations have been done according to the format send by FCWC Secretariat and that focus on progress, results, constraints and lessons learnt.

Benin: Mr Herman Kasseau GANGBAZO, Head of Fisheries statistics Branch in Cotonou, presented the activities of Benin

- Evaluate socio - economic characteristics to achieve a socio - economic survey in small-scale maritime fishing areas:** (i) mapping areas, (ii) production of survey forms, (iii) training of survey agents and (iv) Conducting surveys.
- Develop a database for input and analysis of the socio-economic data:** (i) Constitution and availability of the database,

and (ii) production of a map with geographical representation of the different landing sites

- **Organize in all the maritime fishing camps, awareness sessions on the code of conduct for responsible fisheries:** (i) awareness sessions were conducted in all the small-scale fishing camps from 15 to 24/10/08 and (ii) production of a field guide for raising awareness on responsible fishing.

- **Organize a workshop discussion on taking account of maritime and continental fisheries and aquaculture in National Agricultural Census (RNA):** (i) the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries has organized the RNA, a new operation in Benin (Decree n ° 2003-478 dated 1/12/2003 which did not take into account the fishing sector and (ii) organization of a workshop of reorientation of the RNA work allowing integration of fishing sector in the national census operations.)

- **Identify actions to be carried out as part of the collection of statistics:** (i) Creation of fishing stands along the coast, (ii) creating mandatory registration and fishing license against a fee to pay collector agents and (iii) active involvement of the Navy in different activities.

- **Establish a participatory mechanism of statistical data collection for a sustainable fisheries management:** (i) material acquired for six collection pilot sites, (ii) collector agents identified within fishermen and chosen by themselves, (iii) training of these collectors and (iv) starting of the collection in some sites.

- **Completion of activities:** (i) certain activities have been planned but have not been implemented because the provided funds are exhausted and (ii) expecting the last part of the funds.

- **Lessons learned:** (i) difficulty in collection because the previous projects have introduced a different way of doing things , (ii) Capacity building of agents who conducted the surveys, (iii) the fishermen become aware of the need for regular collection of statistics, (iv) the fishermen perceive the need for a responsible management of resources with the creation of pirate vessels monitoring brigades set up in the camps.

The meeting pointed out that the Benin presentation did not mention the results of the frame survey and socioeconomic survey carried out in the country within the framework of FishCode STF FAO project

Ghana: Mr. Paul BANNERMAN, Assistant Director of Fisheries Ministry of Fisheries, Marine Fisheries Research Division presented the activities implemented in Ghana

- ❖ **Describe the marine artisanal vessel register:** (i) compilation of all landing beaches were done to conform to active fishing area not defunct landing beaches, (ii) no. of active gears were counted by staff in each pilot area selected by region/district, (iii) a tentative but reliable survey of canoes done at pilot sites and (iii) meetings/seminars workshops held with representatives of fishermen's groups in Accra on the need for a register to help in planning for the needs of fishermen eg nets outboard motors etc
- ❖ **Develop marking and modalities of embossing registration numbers:** (i) modalities spelt out and numbering of 100 canoes for 10 districts out of 22 were initiated, (ii) each district covered 70 large canoes > 10m and 30 small canoes <6m, (iii) markings were on specified aluminum plates (2 per canoe with reflective markers) see picture and (iv) criteria --start from the western border to the east where registration codes are given
- ❖ **Supervise embossment of registration numbers :** (i) technical officers from the HQ and regions were responsible for supervision with the community based committee and

the chief fisherman/members, (ii) plates were procured and sent to all the 10 districts western region -3 central region 3 greater Accra 2 and Volta region 2 and (iii) a workshop to inaugurate the start of the embossment was held in February 2008.

- ❖ **Results** : (i) number of canoes complied is 793/1000 and (ii) amount paid is 9516 gh cedis

- ❖ **Develop a database of the vessel registration with functional linkages to a small scale fisheries monitoring system and fishing license records** : (i) compilation of registers being done and this would be incorporated into a much more reliable database for monitoring catch assessment surveys for estimation of catches of small scale fisheries and (ii) fishing license records ...this is yet to be decided by the government as to what fees (amount) is to be paid. its in the fisheries act 625 of 2002

- ❖ **Finalization of activities** : (i) funds are being sought from the premix committees in each district to pay 50% of the cost of the embossment ghc12 for each canoe, (ii) rest of embossment yet to be completed about 20.7% mainly from the western and central regions and (iii) reasons varied but most fishermen “could” not or refused to pay the 50% etc

- ❖ **Lessons learned canoe embossing** : (i) slow pace in western and central regions, (ii) lettering on aluminium plates fading, (iii) stoppers on nails should have been applied hence causing rust around nail/aluminium contact and (iv) slow compilation of register from 10 selected districts

Togo: Mr. SEDZRO, Kossi, Head of fisheries and aquaculture Unit gave an overview of the activities in Togo

- **Progress made in the frame survey related to the socio-economic survey for inland fisheries (lagoon and river);**

Results:

Progress made (frame survey related to the socio-economic survey for inland fisheries for 19 days) with 782 fishermen or groups of fishermen, 274 households and 111 other direct respondent stakeholders in the fisheries.

Fishing gear: cast net, fixed gillnet, beach seine, hand-line, lured and not lured longline, basket traps and other sedentary fisheries

At lagoon level three (3) types of nationality have been registered: Beninese, Ghanaian and Togolese (majority numerically).

At Nangbeto Lake 6 types of nationality were recorded: Beninese, Ghanaians, Nigerians, Malians, Nigeriens and Togolese. The Ghanaians and Malians are majority numerically.

The household size is on average around 7 members.

□ Progress made on the socio-economic survey in marine fisheries; Results:

Fishing gear: ring-net, beach seine, bottom gill-net, surface gillnet, soft mesh, shark and line net

One hundred and eight (108) households and 60 other direct stakeholders surveyed

Three (3) types of nationality have been recorded: Beninese, Ghanaian (majority), and Togolese

- Identify required actions for the data collection in continental fisheries:** (i) development of sampling for regular surveys in continental fisheries and (ii) identification of 6 sites for regular surveys at the rate of 3 sites in the lagoon system and 3 at Nangbeto Lake

Carry out regularly data collection in continental fisheries for the pilot phase:

Regular surveys on:

- the dugouts rather than on gears (dugout identified on water armed for several types of fishing gear).

-on the following: (i) catches, (ii) fishing efforts, and (iii) values of catches from fishing

-According to a frequency of at least 30 landings and 50 at most every month and for 3-5 days per week for 3 to 4 dugouts chosen randomly by two people (fishermen or senior civil servant)

Training of pollsters in regular survey at fish landing sites and payment of a monthly wage

Supervision of regular surveys

Schedule sending/receiving filled survey forms (to the Directorate of

Fisheries and Aquaculture during supervisions).

Finalizing actions

• Preliminary reports of the different activities:

- Training of pollsters for statistical surveys (frame, household and economic surveys and identification of fish) and
- Frame, household, and socioeconomic surveys:
- Activities carried out in the various abovementioned surveys:
 - Preparation of survey questionnaires
 - Constitution of the survey unit
 - Awareness campaign of fishing communities
 - Pretest
 - Actual surveys

- Making cards for regular in continental fisheries surveys
- Revision of the agreement of the FishCode project

- Skinning and (current) data processing

□ **Lessons learned**

- Project development did not take into account availability of resources (vehicles, computer, etc.)
- Weakness of the mobilized financial resources (mobilization of means at the level of the beneficiary country)
- Willingness of stakeholders to take part actively in the fishing activities as in statistical surveys
- More or less strong requirement of profit sharing by some guides / respondents
- Pollsters' feeding habits change to facilitate relations with the respondents. But later on this poses health problems for these pollsters (need to involve more the fishermen themselves in the different surveys)
- Software for database inadequate (need for improvement)
- Modality of disbursement (issue bank cheques) need to be specified and harmonised at the level of the beneficiary countries of this 'regional' project

Nigeria: Mr. UDEH, Bertram C. Chief Fisheries Officer (Statistics) presented the activities supported in Nigeria.

- Based on the results of the FAO/Fishcode STF National Workshop on the Improvement of Fishery Data and Information Collection Systems held in Lagos, Nigeria from 8 to 11 April 2008, workshop which dealt with a variety of issues concerning to fishery statistics in the nation covering Fishery management, Socio-economics, Legal and institutional framework, Environment, the Federal Fisheries Department held the frame survey in marine and continental fisheries and in the whole Nigeria.
- The fund used are provided by FishCode STF Project (US\$ 95 000) and Nigeria Government (US\$ 250 000)
- The data collection from industrial fisheries is conducted through the observers and enumerators
- The results of the frame survey are treated. They are now analyzing interpreting by the consultant from the Oceanography and Fishery Research Institute of Lagos (Nigeria).

- In the outside of this frame survey, the Department of Agriculture has also organized the frame survey through the States Agencies and included the Fisheries issues.
- The results of this frame survey presented during a workshop are very different from the frame survey results of the Fisheries Department which rejected them.
- The workshop noticed that only the Federal Fisheries Department should organize all surveys on fisheries issues.

Cote d'Ivoire: Mr. KODJO Alain, Head of the statistics Unit presents the results of Côte d'Ivoire.

7. Consolidate statistics fishing guide:

- ☐ Holding of a two-day workshop in Abidjan attended by:
 - 20 participants: 10 from the PERH and 10 from the DPH and the DPP
 - Frame or Household survey guides have been consolidated by adaptation of the terminology to the Ivorian context
 - The constituent parts of the questionnaires were explained to participants to facilitate the use of the survey forms on the field
- ☐ Testing consolidated guide for statistics collection. Testing of the guides for frame and household surveys conducted in 4 departments of the marine coast with the involvement of 6 officials of the office of livestock and halieutics resources (PERH)
 - 6 marine fishing villages have been covered
 - The tests were conducted on 30 bosses/fishing team leader and 15 households
- ☐ Validate the consolidated Frame and Household survey guides. Holding a day workshop in Abidjan
 - 25 attendants including 15 from PERH and 10 from DPP and the DPH
 - The difficulties encountered on the field on inquiries about questionnaires on Frame and Household survey were mentioned.
 - Frame and household survey guides have been enriched and final versions more suitable

and easy to understand were developed and validated.

8. **Training stakeholders**

- ☐ Practical trainings in the 8 departments and 2 sous-préfectures took place. They enabled to:
 - Train 32 pollsters in the 10 communities for 2 days;
 - Interview 110 people with the survey guides (frame and household) validated

9. **Conduct a frame survey and a socio economic survey along the sea coast in the project area:** frame and household surveys took place in December 2009 to January 2010 reaching 1361 dugouts and 554 households in 11 villages of Ivorian coasts.

10. **Finalization**

- ☐ On-going processes: 60% of frame survey forms were entered and allow to say that more than 90% of fishermen are Ghanaians
- ☐ Tasks to achieve:
 - Complete entry
 - Organize a workshop for validation of frame and household surveys data
- ☐ Propose a landing site sample to be subject of monitoring in data collection

11. **Lessons learned**

- ☐ Lessons learned can be drawn after validation of the results of the survey
- ☐ However, it is important to mention that the association of all stakeholders facilitates work because of their support at all levels
- ☐ Training of workers and adoption by a participatory process of the guides survey enabled to reach more operators compared with the past surveys
- ☐ Increased awareness of the importance of statistics for making decision on maritime small scale fisheries

12. **HARMONISATION AND CLASSIFICATION OF THE DUGOUTS AND FISHING GEARS.**

19. As part of the harmonisation and the classification of the gear to improve data collection in small scale fisheries in the region of the FCWC a presentation was given in the meeting for that purpose.

20. Mr. Gertjan de Graaf, (FAO) presented the guidelines on harmonisation and classification of the dugout and small-scale fishing dugouts identified in the region of the FCWC according to results of frame surveys conducted by individual countries.

21. He then introduced a table that has provided the basis for the classification of the dugouts used in the region of the FCWC

22. After the discussions, the meeting classified into three categories different dugouts with descriptions per country: (i) large size dugouts (length > 12 metres), (ii) medium size dugout (12mètre > length > 8mètres) and (iii) small dugouts (length < 8 metres).

23. Meeting also proceeded to harmonisation and classification of fishing gear. Thus, the delegations have to provide local names used in their respective countries for each type of gear (seines, gillnet, lines and hooks and trap nets).

13. BIGNUMBERS IN FCWC REGION

24. Following the recommendations of the first meeting of the FCWC statistics Working Group, Mr Gertjan de Graaf (FAO), in his presentation, recalled the context of the BigNumbers project then proceeded with the verification of the implementation of the aforesaid recommendation by the countries. To this end, he relied on the table "Inventory of small scale fisheries and harmonisation of fishing gear (February 2010)."

25. Meeting found that most countries have not yet properly filled the table. The cause is that different frame surveys and socio-economic surveys are on course of opening, processing and analysis. Participants promised to complete the tables as soon as the final results of the aforesaid surveys are available.

14. ARTFISH FAO SOURCE AND EXAMPLE OF SURVEYS MONITORING

26. In the presentation of the theme, Mr Thonny (FAO) gave ARTFISH background with its multiple improvements (MS DOS versions, Microsoft window, etc) and the evolution of its use worldwide. He indicated that the software has two main components: (i) ARTBASIC

designed to receive primary data collected and perform estimates and ARTSER intended to report the results of the estimates and time series graphs.

27 He informed the meeting on a new version in development in MS ACCESS, more open unlike the closed older versions (non-editable)

16. KEY SOCIOECONOMIC INDICATORS / FRAME SURVEYS

28. Mr. Gertjan de Graaf (FAO) introduced the theme based on Congo household/economy surveys fact sheets

29. After the discussions, the meeting noted the need to identify and retain key socioeconomic indicators and standardised frame likely to enable the monitoring and evaluation of the performance of the small scale fisheries in the FCWC member countries. It also noted that in various surveys carried in all the the FCWC member countries, the association of resource people specialists in Socioeconomics (economist, sociologists, etc.) was very weak. Which would render ineffective the interpretation and analysis of the results. Meeting recommended the creation of a multidisciplinary team to lead from beginning to end especially socioeconomic surveys.

16. IMPROVEMENT OF DATA COLLECTION

30. Meeting acknowledged that effort is made in all FCWC countries to improve collection of small scale fisheries data. But there is still much to do in these fisheries in terms of regular collection of data in catches, fishing, value of catches etc.

31. Similarly in semi industrial or industrial fisheries, it is necessary to improve the collection of data by establishing, inter alia, systems of observers on board of fishing vessels and pollsters.

32. Meeting recognized the importance of mobilizing information between FCWC Member countries, could it be catches or fishing effort, information about registration or the movements of fishing, vessels etc.

17. REGIONAL HARMONISATION OF CODES AND SPECIES

33. The theme was introduced by Mr. De Graaf (FAO). He relied on a sample of the work identification and coding of Kenya and Tanzania fish species.

34. Meeting found the need for regional harmonisation of the codes of fish species in the waters covered by the FCWC and the introduction into databases of member countries scientific names, internationally recognised brand names and the codes.

35. Though accepted to be important, the adoption of scientific names at national level must be done according to a strategy, very gradually and based on consultations of several existing documents on the subject. A recommendation on the training of pollsters in species identification was made for that purpose.

18. GUIDELINES FOR META DATABASE

36. Meta database was introduced by Mr. Alain Kodjo (Côte d'Ivoire Focal Point). He first defined it as a description of the data available in the FCWC country and compared it with cards (files) in libraries. He presented what can be included in Meta database such as that of the FCWC

37. FCWC Meta database might look tabular with in its columns: name of the country (Côte d'Ivoire), method of collecting data (frame survey), information channel or sub sector concerned: sampling of industrial fishing), corporate ladder (national, sub regional, etc.), nature of data (other), type of file/folder (raw data), data owner (Directorate of fisheries), data collection Agency (Directorate of fisheries), Medium (hard, soft), electronic medium (hard drive), temporal coverage (2009), temporal resolution (unspecified), spatial coverage (coastal area), spatial coverage (landing site), data location (Directorate of Fisheries), electronic format (Access), data quality standard(data to be verified) and finally some Remarks.

19. FCWC INFORMATION SYSTEM AND FAO STATISTICS

38. Pursuant to a recommendation of the first meeting of the FCWC statistics Working Group, Mr Gangbazo from Benin prepared and presented a document on the FCWC and FAO statistical information system. In his presentation, he reviewed the various existing information systems worldwide.

39. He, on the other hand, indicated that the FCWC information system must be, among other things, flexible and easy access.

20. WEBSITE OF THE FCWC

40. FCWC website project was introduced by its Secretary General and De Graaf (FAO)

41. Further to discussions, the meeting indicated that for publication on FCWC website, information can be permanent (data on FIRMS, country, or other sites) or specific information which may relate to the results of studies in a country, poverty profile, gender, etc.

42. The standardization of General information per country and the statistical page of the plans will be proposed respectively by FCWC SG and Mr Paul Banerman from Ghana. Similarly a FishCode coordination support was accepted for the recruitment of a consultant and training of staff of the FCWC Headquarter, over a period of two (2) months are measures selected for the completion and functioning of the FCWC web site

21. ORGANIZATION AND SUSTAINABILITY OF THE STATISTICS WORKING GROUP

43. This point has been introduced by FCWC Secretary General who insisted on the sustainability of the statistics Working Group.

44. Meeting was informed that the first phase of the FishCode project financing so far the Working Group shall end in October 2010, and the second phase will begin in 2011. The FishCode project will therefore continue funding the meetings of the Working Group for 2 or 3 years more.

45. However the meeting adopted that FCWC must ensure the sustainability of the Working Group on fishing statistics starting right now searching for more permanent funding by asking countries to include expenditures relating to their delegates' participation in the national budget and seeking other partners such as UEMOA.

46. In order to make the Working Group more dynamic and more operational, meeting endowed the working group with a structure including a post of: (i) Chairman, (ii) Vice- Chairman and (iii) Secretary.

47. To this effect, Mr Paul BANERMAN from Ghana was elected as Chairman, Mr. Kossi Maxoe SEDZRO from Togo as Vice

Chairman and Mr. Alain KODJO of Côte d'Ivoire as Secretary for a term of 2 years.

48. The meeting adopted that the rules of procedure of the organisation of the Working Group will be developed by Mr. Paul Bannerman during next session and will specify the different tasks for each post.

22. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE MEETING

- 1- Following the presentations of national reports on progress made on Fish Code STF pilot project, significant lessons and information on the fisheries sector at each country level have been recorded; to enable exchange of information between all countries, and documenting knowledge on Fisheries in the sub region, meeting recommends that each delegate shall provide national reports at GT meetings with information available at the level of member countries and calls for this purpose, Nigeria to send without delay, the latest results of frame surveys to FCWC Secretariat
- 2- The Software to process data of frame survey and socioeconomic survey on continental and maritime fisheries made available to countries through FAO FishCode STF, being in its first version, even though accepted to be satisfactory, shows some limitations in functionality. Meeting recommends improving this software by the FishCode STF project for better functionality and training by the countries of their users.
- 3 - As part of implementing frame and socioeconomic surveys in small scale fisheries in FCWC countries, it is found that specialists in economics, sociology, etc. are not associated to all stages of those surveys. It is recommended that in future a multidisciplinary team comprising specialties is created at national level and contributes to surveys from forms design until the phase of analysis/interpretation of the results for their best interpretation.

- 4 - Registration of small scale fisheries vessels being recognized as one of the important steps in improving fisheries statistics, it is recommended that:
 - a / FCWC Member States conduct the registration of the dugout in all small scale fisheries.
 - b / holding information and training session on the procedures for registration of the dugouts.
- 5 - As part of the harmonisation of codes and names of fish species, there is need for identification of captured and landed species on the FCWC States' shores. Therefore, it is recommended that agents in charge of species capture identification surveys are trained and that FAO FishCode STF supports the FCWC to provide countries appropriate documentation (identification keys) for fishery resources in the region.
- 6 - In the context of standardization of General information per country, meeting recommends that the FCWC Secretary General proposes a project plan
- 7 - Concerning the statistical page of FCWC site web the meeting recommends Ghana proposes a project
- 8 - Based on the recommendations above, the following action plan is retained:
 - a. Preparation of reports per country (technical and final report and activity report) before end of July,
 - b. Support the improvement of FCWC website and training of staff before mid-September 2010,
 - c. Development of the country website before end of August 2010
 - d. Development of a outline of the statistical data per country,

- e. Development of the report of this workshop before end of August 2010
- f. Filling spread sheets on harmonisation before end of September 2010
- g. Preparation of the FCWC information system
- h. Next meeting first term 2011

23. CLOSING SESSION

31 The Benin Director of Fisheries made the closing remarks of the meeting on behalf of the Minister of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries.

Appendix A: **Second meeting of the Working Group on fishery statistics of the Fisheries Committee for the West Central Gulf of Guinea, on 12th, 13th and 14th May 2010, Cotonou, BENIN**

CONFERENCE ROOM HOTEL DU LAC

DAY I 12 MAI 2010		
HOURS	ACTIVITIES DESCRIPTION	MODERATORS
08:30	Registration	
09:00	Opening (FCWC, FAO Rep., MAEP speeches)	Dedi
09:30	Objectives of the meeting/Agenda and reporting	Dedi
10:00	Coffee	
10:15	August 2009 Meeting report	De Graaf
10:30	Progress national activities STF Following reporting Benin Ghana Togo Liberia Nigeria	De Graaf
12:30	Lunch break	
14:00	Progress national activities STF (Suite) Cote d'Ivoire Nigeria	
15:00	Gear Harmonisation	Kodjo et Sedzro
15:30	coffee break	
15:45	Gear Harmonisation	
17:30	Closure of Day 1	
DAY II 13 MAI 2010		
8:30	BigNumbers FCWC countries	
9:15	ARTFISH FAO open source sample based survey software	
10:00	Coffee break	Tony Jarrett
10:15	Key indicators socio economics/frame surveys	
12:30	Lunch	Sedzro
14 :00	Improvement of data collection-	
15:30		
15 : 45	Coffee Break	Bannermn Kodjo
	Regional harmonization of codes and species	
16:30	Meta data base guidelines	
17:30	Closure of Day 2	
DAY III 14 MAI 2010		
8:30	FCWC Website	Dedi
9:30	FCWC Information system and FAO stat	Gangbazo
10:30	Coffee	
12:30	FCWC Information system and FAO stat (suite)	
13:30	Planning and sustainability of the FCWC WG on statistic	Dedi
14:00	Lunch	
15:00	Recommandations and Workplan	Dedi
15:45	Closure of the meeting	Dedi
16:00	Tea break / closure of day 3	

APPENDIX B - LIST OF PARTICIPANTS/ LISTE DES PARTICIPANTS

BENIN

Mr. GANGBAZO, Herman Kasseau

Chef de la Division Statistique

Direction des Pêches

Ministère de l'Agriculture, de l'Élevage et des Pêches

01 B.P 383 Cotonou

Bénin

Tel : (229) 21 33 15 51 / 90 04 35 05

Fax : (229) 21 35996

Email : KASSEAU@YAHOO.FR

Mr AKPACHOSSOU Victor

Direction des Pêches

+ 229 95 28 13 51

Email : OUSSOUVICTOR@YAHOO.FR

Melle DOUGBA Alice

Direction des Pêches

+ 229 97 21 86 96

Email : ALICEDOUGBA@YAHOO.FR

CÔTE D'IVOIRE

Mr. KODJO Alain, chef du service statistique

Direction des Productions Halieutiques

Ministère Production Animale et Ressources Halieutiques,

01 B.P. 5521,

Abidjan 01, Cote d'Ivoire

Tel: +225 21 25 28 83//225 07930344,

Fax: +225 21 350 409

Email : KODJOALAIN@YAHOO.FR

GHANA

Mr. BANNERMAN, Paul

Assistant Director of Fisheries

Ministry of Fisheries

Marine Fisheries Research Division

P.O Box: BT 62, Tema

Ghana

Tel: (00233) 022 202346

Fax: (00233) 022 206627

Email: PAULBANN@HOTMAIL.COM

MFRA@AFRICAONLINE.COM.GH

NIGERIA

Mr. UDEH, Bertram C.

Chief Fisheries Officer (Statistics)

Fisheries Department Federal

Ministry of Agriculture & Water Resources

P.O.Box: 5953, Garki

Abuja-FCT, Nigeria

Tel: (00234) 08033156159 / 09 6708550

Fax: (00234) 493144665

Email: UDENGENEBC@YAHOO.COM

TOGO

Mr. SEDZRO, Kossi Maxoe

Chef Division des Pêches et Aquaculture

Division des Pêches et Aquaculture

Direction de l'Élevage et de la Pêche

B.P : 4041

Lomé, Togo

Tel: (00228) 221 3470 / 221 3645

Fax: (00228) 221 71 20

Email: PECHE@LAPOSTE.TG

KSEDZRO69@HOTMAIL.COM

FAO/UN

Mr. DE GRAAF, Gertjan

Senior Projects Management Officer

FishCode Programme

Fisheries Department

FAO Headquarters

Viale delle Terme di Caracalla
00100 Rome, Italy
Tel: (+39) 06 57054129
Email: GERTJAN.DEGRAAF@FAO.ORG

Mr JARRETT, Tony
FAO Headquarters
Viale delle Terme di Caracalla
00100 Rome, Italy
Email : TONI.JARRET@FAO.ORG

KATRIEN HOELVET
Programme Pêche et VIH/SIDA en Afrique
+ 229 95 84 46 44
EMAIL : KATRIEN.HOLVOET@FAO.ORG

INTERPRETES

MARIE – AUGUSTE AGBO
+ 229 97842188
Email : AUGAGBO@YAHOO.FR

Norbert GOHOUNGO
+ 229 95 95 65 58

MICHEL DOSSOUMOU
+ 229 96414549
Email : ASHIMIBOLA@YAHOO.FR

FCWC

Mr. DEDI Nadje Séraphin

Secrétaire général

Comité des Pêches du Centre Ouest du Golfe de Guinée

P.O Box : BT 62 Tema

Ghana

Tel: (00233) 020 7568 321

Email: SDEDI.NADJE@YAHOO.FR