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Report of the

TWENTY-FIFTH SESSION OF THE COORDINATING WORKING PARTY ON FISHERY STATISTICS

Rome, 23–26 February 2016

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FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS
Rome, 2016

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PREPARATION OF THIS DOCUMENT

This document is the report of the twenty-fifth session of the Coordinating Working Party on Fishery Statistics (CWP), held in Rome from 23 to 26 February 2016.

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ABSTRACT

This document contains the report of the twenty-fifth session of the Coordinating Working Party on Fishery Statistics (CWP) held in Rome, Italy, from 23 to 26 February 2016. The two subject Groups on Fisheries and Aquaculture had their own meetings to review the progress made and develop work plan for the next intersessional period prior to the main session. The main session received the report from the two Groups and approved the work plans presented. Other main topics discussed were the revision of Standards and Classifications, the dissemination and future updates of the CWP handbook, the establishment of two CWP Task Groups, one for reviewing the International Standard Statistical Classification of Aquatic Animals and Plants (ISCAAP) groupings and the other for Reference harmonization for capture fisheries and aquaculture statistics (SDMX DSDs) and the improvement in visibility of CWP.

CONTENTS

OPENING OF THE SESSION AND WELCOME

(Agenda item 1)

1. The twenty-fifth session of the Coordinating Working Party on Fishery Statistics (CWP-25) was held in Rome, Italy, on 26 February 2016 in conjunction with the Aquaculture Group meeting and Fishery Group meeting, following the "Operational guidelines corresponding to the establishment of two subject groups" agreed at the 23rd session of CWP (Appendix 5 of the CWP-23 Report).

2. Representatives from the seven following organizations participated the meeting:

- General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM)
- Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
- Inter-American Tuna Commission (IATTC)
- International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES)
- Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)
- South East Atlantic Fishery Organization (SEAFO)
- Statistical Office of the European Communities (Eurostat)

Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO) and Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism (CRFM) participated a part of discussion through on-line. Participant list is in Appendix 1.

ELECTION OF CHAIRS

(Agenda item 2)

3. Following the "Operational guidelines corresponding to the establishment of two subject groups" agreed at the 23rd session of CWP (Appendix 5 of the CWP-23 Report), Mr Xiaowei Zhou (FAO), newly appointed co-coordinator of Aquaculture Group and Ms Jennifer Gee (FAO), newly appointed co-coordinator of Fishery Group, were elected as Co-chairs.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

(Agenda item 3)

4. The meeting noted that the Agenda 8.1 "Statistical Area" and the Agenda 11.1 "Request from United Nations General Assembly for modification of FAO capture production statistics" were already reported and discussed at the Fishery Group. The session kept them for the purpose of recording and would not re-open the discussion.

5. The meeting considered that the Agenda 10.1 "Revision of CWP Rules of Procedure" was an issue already concluded. The meeting agreed to handle this issue under the Agenda 5 "Endorsement of decision taken at the CWP-24". The meeting agreed to discuss the establishment of Task Group(s) on overarching issues under the Agenda 10 "Overarching issues". FAO requested to insert item for reporting on Sustainable Development Goals under Agenda 11 "Other relevant issues and activities".

6. The agenda was adopted with these modifications (Appendix 2).

REVIEW OF MEMBERSHIP

(Agenda item 4)

7. The CWP Secretary informed that there were not received any submissions to the membership since the previous session.

8. The CWP Secretary reported on the communication with the organization who have not participated at the last three consecutive sessions as well as any of intersessional activities during the corresponding period, following the agreement at the Intersessional Fishery subject Group meeting held in February 2016 in Namibia. Three member organizations, Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC), International Whaling Committee (IWC) and North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization (NASCO), were contacted based on the criteria and all three organizations confirmed their intention to remain as participating organizations of the CWP. Accordingly, the CWP Secretary informed of no change in membership since the previous session.

9. This meeting was attended by 7 member organizations out of total 19 members, which does not constitute a quorum according to the Rules of Procedure of CWP. The session could not make any legally binding decisions.

10. The meeting noted an increasing difficulty in securing physical attendance of member organizations at the CWP meetings, including the last two consecutive sessions, despite of general interest in and strong support to the CWP activities expressed by the member organizations. Recognizing that the member organizations face increasing difficulty in securing travel funds, the meeting stressed the urgent needs of establishing more effective and flexible operating mechanism, reflecting the modern communication capacity, to allow timely decision-making.

ENDORSEMENT OF DECISIONS TAKEN AT THE CWP-24

(Agenda item 5)

11. The CWP Secretary informed that two issues, the amendment of CWP Rules of Procedures and the revision of International Statistical Standard Classifications of Fishing Gears (ISSCFG), have remained pending for final endorsement to make them legally binding.

12. The meeting expressed strong frustration to the situation that the prompt decision-makings have been blocked from external logistics and re-confirmed and stressed that the session itself is the final Governing body of the CWP. After substantive discussion on the way of moving forward, the meeting was reminded that the amendment of the Rules of Procedure was in fact already formally agreed at the 23rd session of CWP and therefore, the process of amendment was considered to have completed at the time when the FAO Legal Office cleared the proposed amendments just prior to the 24th session of CWP. The amended Rules of Procedure is attached in Appendix 3.

13. Article VIII of the amended Rules of Procedure gives an option to make a decision by simple majority with vote. Accordingly, the session requested the Secretary to ask for the vote on the acceptance of the revised ISSCFG through communication. Since those Members participating at the CWP-25 already indicated their agreement, three additional positive votes would be required for the final endorsement.

14. Following this request, the secretariat has asked the CWP Members that were not present at the meeting to cast their vote by correspondence for the endorsement of the revision of International Statistical Standard Classification for the Fishing Gears, as presented and discussed in the CWP 24. Six additional votes by correspondence were received by the Secretariat; these are the votes in favour of: CCAMLR, CCSBT, ICCAT, NASCO, NAFO and SEAFDEC. These six votes together with the votes from the Members participating at the CWP-25 summed up to 13 votes. The Classification was then officially approved with 13 votes in favour and 6 abstentions.

AQUACULTURE GROUP ACTIVITIES

(Agenda item 6)

Report of inter-sessional activities (Agenda item 6.1)

15. Ms Friderike Oehler, the coordinator of the Aquaculture Group (CWP-AS), reported that the activities of the Group during the inter-sessional period focused mainly on the development of the AQ questionnaire

under the Task Force established at the time of previous CWP-AS meeting. The Task Force met three times: in June 2014 in Luxembourg with the participation of Eurostat, FAO, GFCM, and EC Joint Research Centre, in May 2015 in Rome with the participation of Eurostat and FAO, and in October 2015 in Brasilia with the participation of Eurostat, FAO, NACA and SPC. The Task Force conducted the work according to the Terms of Reference and submitted the draft standard questionnaires at CWP-AS meeting just prior to the session for its review and approval.

16. The draft standard questionnaire contains four parts: AQ1 for aquaculture off-farm production, AQ2 for the input of seeds, AQ3 for artificial seed production and AQ4 for the size of aquaculture facilities. The CWP-AS reviewed the draft and introduced several amendments, including an introduction of the standard "unit of measures" for each measurement, and splitting the category of "pond" into "earthen pond" and "sealed pond". The CWP-AS adopted the draft standard aquaculture questionnaires after these amendments.

Points required endorsement by the CWP Session (Agenda item 6.2)

17. The CWP-AS asked the session to approve the standard aquaculture questionnaires to be the CWP Standards. Corresponding to the questions on the status of questionnaires, the AS Coordinator confirmed that the items to be included in the standard questionnaires were finalized, while the accompanying guidelines, terminologies, and recommended code lists would require further work. The session agreed to approve the submitted questionnaires as a list of standard minimum items to be collected for aquaculture, with the recognition of further refinement works to be continued. It considered that the final endorsement should be made at the time when all accompanying materials would become ready. Agreed aquaculture questionnaires are in Appendix 4.

18. The CWP-AS recognized that the existing ISSCAAP groupings were not necessarily effective in addressing the needs for describing aquaculture production. It also noted that the national and international statistical institutes often create ad-hoc arbitrary species grouping according to their own needs. On the other hand, it also recognized the benefits of establishing well-balanced species groupings with appropriate hierarchies for enhancing harmonization and comparability of global statistics, in particular to support the cases where species-level identification of statistics would cause pragmatic difficulties. Since the issue has relevance for both aquaculture and capture fisheries statistics, the CWP-AS proposed to establish a Task Group for reviewing and developing a proposed revision of the ISSCAAP groupings under the session. The issue was discussed under the Agenda 10.

Workplan for the next inter-sessional period (Agenda item 6.3)

19. Ms Oehler introduced the work plan of the CWP-AS for 2016–2019, which foresees to continue the Task Force of establishing the standard aquaculture questionnaires with particular focus on:

- Further development of the guidelines, including best practices in data collection;
- Development of a glossary with clear definitions of relevant terms and concepts; and
- Identification of the needs for standard classifications/ codes, and development of a draft proposal.

20. In addition, the CWP-AS encouraged its members to:

- Collaborate and communicate to harmonize respective data collections, share glossaries currently in use and share other relevant information in order to minimize the discrepancies and duplication, as well as to reduce reporting burden of the countries, by establishing or re-establishing mutual data sharing among international and regional aquaculture statistical data collecting institutions and organizations; and
- Implement the newly agreed standard aquaculture questionnaire, to the extent possible, and report back experiences encountered.

21. The session acknowledged the progress made and approved the work plan for the next inter-sessional period. The Report of CWP-AS meeting held on 23 February 2016, prior to the session, is in Appendix 5.

FISHERY GROUP ACTIVITIES

(Agenda item 7)

Report of inter-sessional activities (Agenda item 7.1)

22. Mr Marc Taconet who chaired the Fishery Group meeting held on 24 and 25 February 2016, prior to the session, reported the outcome of the meeting on behalf of Mr George Campanis, the Coordinator of CWP-FS. The CWP-FS held its intersessional meeting on 25–27 February 2015, in Swakopmund, Namibia. With recognition of relatively slow progress of many of the planned activities, the intersessional meeting focused its discussion on the ways to vitalize the CWP and developed a list of potential task groups to be established for the forthcoming intersessional period.

Points required endorsement by the CWP Session (Agenda item 7.2)

23. The CWP-FS informed about changes of boundaries within the FAO Major Area 27. Since these changes have no impact on the boundaries of Major FAO areas, the issue was covered under the Agenda 8.1.

24. The CWP-FS proposed to establish an ad-hoc Task Group on "Reference harmonization for capture fisheries and aquaculture statistics" under the session. Although this Task Group aims for disseminating the global Data Structure Definition (DSD) for Statistical Data and Metadata eXchange (SDMX), considering some uncertainty about the FAO's commitment for supporting SDMX as a corporate, the Group chose to use more generic title. When necessary, this ad-hoc Task Group could be downgraded by concentrating on code harmonization following the general "SDMX driven" approach and removing the pure IT components from its objectives. The proposal was discussed under Agenda 10.

Work plan for the next inter-sessional period (Agenda item 7.3)

25. The CWP-FS identified its work plan during the next inter-sessional period as follows:

- Placing the first priority to develop and publish the CWP handbook webpages with emphasis on dissemination of existing materials in new format, and further refinement of socio-economic and GIS sections based on the discussion at the CWP-FS.
- Harmonizing references utilized for capture fisheries and aquaculture statistics, including possible dissemination of the global DSD for SDMX, through the ad-hoc Task Group under the session as proposed above.
- Continue the existing streamlining activities among Eurostat, FAO and ICES, with an expansion to include OECD. GFCM is encouraged to actively contribute. The task of this group should include discussions on Statlant 27 and NS1 as indicated by ICES.

26. In addition, the CWP-FS will liaise with the Global Record Working Group to distribute relevant information to enable participation of the interested CWP Members to the process as appropriate, as well as with RDA to inform about the establishment of the SDMX Task Group and maintain communication to inform to the interested CWP Members.

27. The session acknowledged the progress made and approved the work plan for the next inter-sessional period. The report of the CWP-FS meeting held on 24–25 February 2016 is in Appendix 6.

REVISION OF STANDARDS AND CLASSIFICATIONS

(Agenda item 8)

Statistical Area (Agenda item 8.1)

28. CWP-FS raised the attention on the report from ICES that informed about three modifications of boundaries within FAO Major Area 27, endorsed by ICES ACOM meeting in December 2015, where various area-related questions were revised based on international and internal needs for revision of scientific

definition of ICES statistical areas. The modifications included the sub-division boundaries within Division 27.3.A with the particular reference to Skagerrak and Kattegat, the boundaries between Belt Sea/Baltic West of Bornholm, and the Division 27.3.d as referred as “defunct” in FAO dissemination. Also, ICES informed to revise ICES historical references with use of Latin numbers and alphabet, and to apply the modern hierarchy references. In addition, it was decided to create an online master document for ICES areas that would include area codes, names, and definitions.

29. The session acknowledged the modifications, congratulating ICES for finally resolving long-pending issues. The session recommended FAO to revise its dissemination accordingly once ICES would provide all relevant information. The details of description on the modification are in Appendix 7.

DISSEMINATION AND FUTURE UPDATES OF THE CWP HANDBOOK

(Agenda item 9)

30. At the CWP-FS intersessional meeting held in Namibia in 2015, FAO proposed to develop new IT framework to support the dissemination of the CWP Handbook with enhanced capacity of dynamic searching and an improved interface. The meeting accepted the concept and high-level structure of web dissemination of the Handbook, emphasizing the importance to distinguish the standards and classifications developed and endorsed by the CWP from those developed at other international organizations and accepted by the CWP as standards for fisheries statistics. It would be useful to include the standard practices actually utilized by each of the CWP Members.

31. Actual development and further refinement of web-dissemination format of the Handbook would require substantial and direct inputs from Member organizations, even though some parts could be transferred from the old format relatively easily. The meeting considered it beneficial to follow the similar iterative web-pages development process as happened in FIRMS and agreed on collaborative work toward the revised dissemination of the CWP Handbook to be the first priority among the inter-sessional tasks.

32. Regarding the contents, the concept note on the GIS was tabled prior to the meeting, for review and additional inputs. Participating organizations were requested to provide comments within two weeks after the completion of session to finalize the concept note. Eurostat indicated it no longer possible to lead the drafting of socio-economic component. Recognizing that Eurostat, FAO, and OECD have expertise in different areas of socio-economic statistics, it was agreed that the three organizations would work collaboratively to cover the issue. It also encouraged active participation of other organizations including GFCM. The latest version of the Handbook developed by Mr Hans Lassen before the CWP-24 and other background materials are available at CWP wiki (http://figisapps.fao.org/FIGISwiki/index.php/CWP#Revision_of_CWP_Handbook).

33. Possible benefits of collaboration between the Capture and Aquaculture group were noted regarding the development of standards concerning species captured for aquaculture farming (wild seed) or aquaculture products used to restore wild fish stocks, or high value species of reef areas. This discussion was not conclusive and the meeting decided that a letter will be drafted by the Secretariat and sent to the CWP Members calling for their attention and feedback on the matter.

OVERARCHING ISSUES

(Agenda item 10)

Establishment of CWP Task Group(s) (Agenda item 10.1)

34. The meeting discussed the need to establish new Task Groups under the session, following two proposals, one for reviewing ISSCAAP groupings proposed from CWP-AS and the other for Reference harmonization for capture fisheries and aquaculture statistics (SDMX DSDs) proposed from CWP-FS. The two proposals were discussed together since both address mechanisms of enhancing harmonization of classifications and code lists use.

35. The meeting approved the establishment of two distinct ad hoc Task Groups established under the main session that would operate under principles of visibility and flexibility. The References harmonization group will be led by the Capture group, while the ISSCAAP groupings will be led by the Aquaculture group, but each Task Group will have representatives of both Capture and Aquaculture.

36. The first activity will be to prepare TORs and work plan and will be submitted to members for validation. Regarding the Task Group for Reference harmonization, the SDMX provides a protocol of coding system, including those required for aquaculture statistics, based on the standard concepts and classifications established at the organization/mechanisms such as CWP. As first step for reference harmonization, an inventory of datasets and associated code lists among CWP Members will be required, which is expected to lead to a proposal for a global DSD including a mechanism for harmonization/mappings. For the more IT oriented on-going activities of developing SDMX and DSDs for fisheries based on CWP standards, the meeting encouraged FAO and collaborating Members to continue their efforts and to keep the CWP informed on the progress for possible future action. Regarding the Task Group for ISSCAAP groupings, the discussion revealed differences of priority in data and statistics needs between capture fishery and aquaculture managements. The need of global harmonization of species grouping is much stronger for aquaculture statistics, for securing adequate level of segregation of fresh water species cultured in a pragmatic way as well as for mitigating confidentiality, without losing comparability among data collected. Recognizing that the standard aquaculture questionnaires would require further elaboration of classifications and coding in multiple items, the meeting requested this Task Group to table concrete proposal of necessary classifications and corresponding codes, including revised species groupings, at the next session.

Improvement in visibility of CWP (Agenda item 10.2)

37. The meeting agreed that all Members would continue the individual efforts for improving the visibility of CWP, through broadcasting, social media, posters and other communication mechanisms. The collaboration with RDA and SDMX registries would give additional opportunity for improving visibility of CWP as a responsible institution for fishery statistics. The Secretary reported that the UN Statistical Commission recently listed the CWP as an authoritative agency for fishery statistics.

OTHER RELEVANT ISSUES AND ACTIVITIES

(Agenda item 11)

Request from the United Nations General Assembly for modification of FAO capture production statistics (Agenda item 11.1)

38. The issue was fully covered at the CWP-FS meeting and FAO asked the collaboration of relevant RFBs. The meeting pointed out that the allocation of catch location through model would not be the standard approach adopted by the CWP, while noting that the data collection and statistics were two different issues. The meeting stressed that the main role of CWP is to set up global standards for fisheries statistics and that the actual implementation would be under the responsibility of individual organizations, including FAO.

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) (Agenda item 11.2)

39. The issue was already presented and well discussed at the CWP-FS meeting. The meeting acknowledged the on-going development of SDGs and noted that the refinement of indicators under certain targets might require intervention from the CWP. The meeting asked FAO to keep reporting to the CWP on the progress.

MEETING ARRANGEMENTS FOR CWP–26

(Agenda item 12)

40. The CWP has held recent sessions at intervals of approximately three years, with one inter-sessional meeting between each session. This schedule was generally preferred, and the meeting tentatively agreed to hold the CWP-26 in three years, i.e. by early 2019. The meeting also agreed to consider the possibility to hold the inter-sessional meetings of two subject groups in a consecutive way at the same location, which may mitigate problems of securing travel arrangements for participating organizations who are involved in both of the subject groups. Any organization interested in hosting the next session was requested to inform the Secretary.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

(Agenda item 13)

41. The CWP noted that the Secretary of CWP, Ms Sachiko Tsuji, would retire at the end of April 2016. It was also informed about the forthcoming retirement of Mr Ben van Zyl, the CWP focal point for the SEAFO. The meeting expressed its gratitude for their long years of service and dedication to the CWP. Pending the appointment of a new Senior Fishery Statistician, the meeting was informed that Mr Marc Taconet, Chief FIAS, will act as CWP Secretary.

ADOPTION OF REPORT AND CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

(Agenda item 14 and 15)

42. The participants expressed their gratitude to the Secretary of CWP, for acting as rapporteur and for her dedication in supporting the twenty-fifth session. It was agreed that the meeting report would be adopted through correspondence. The meeting was closed on 26 February 2016.

APPENDIX 1

List of participants

Participants	CWP-AS	CWP - FS	Main Session
Eurostat OEHLER, Friderike Ms Statistical Officer, Fisheries Statistics, European Commission – Eurostat, Unit E1 BECH-C2/608, 5, A. Wiecker, L-2721, Luxembourg, Grand Duchy Tel: +352 4301 35088 - Fax: +352 4301 37318 Email:Friderike.OEHLER@ec.europa.eu (Eurostat Nominee, CWP-24 Chair, CWP-AS Coordinator)	✓	✓	✓
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APPENDIX 1

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APPENDIX 1

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On-line participation			
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Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism (CRFM) MASTER, June Ms		✓	✓

APPENDIX 2

Integrated Agenda of the 25th Session of Coordinating Working Party on Fisheries Statistics (CWP)
(Rome, Italy, 23–26 February 2016)

SESSION MEETING

26 February 2016

1. Opening and welcome
2. Election of chairs
3. Adoption of the Agenda
4. Review of Membership

   The Secretariat will report the changes in memberships since the CWP-24.

5. Endorsement of decisions taken at the CWP-24

   The meeting is invited to review and endorse the issue that was agreed but could not finalized due to quorum at the CWP-24.

   5.1. Revision of "Rule of Procedures"

   5.2. Revision of International Statistical Standard Classifications of Fishing Gears (ISSCFG)

6. Aquaculture Group
   The Aquaculture Group coordinator(s) will report the activities and achievement made since the CWP-24, together with the issues required endorsement by the CWP session and work plan for the next inter-sessional period.

   6.1. Report of inter-sessional activities

   6.2. Points required endorsement by the CWP Session

   6.3. Work plan for the next inter-sessional period

7. Fishery Group Activities
   The Capture Fishery Group coordinator(s) will report the activities and achievement made since the CWP-24, together with the issues required endorsement by the CWP session and work plan for the next inter-sessional period.

   7.1. Report of inter-sessional activities

   7.2. Points required endorsement by the CWP Session

   7.3. Work plan for the next inter-sessional period

8. Revision of standards and classifications
   Participating organizations may raise the issues that require an establishment of standard concepts and classification under the CWP.

   8.1. Statistical Area
   Participating organizations may report modification in the definition of subareas within its relevant FAO Major Statistical Area. The meeting will discuss if any modification on the boundary of FAO Major Statistical Area is proposed by participating organizations.

   - Issue the Skagerrak and Kattegat areas (Area 27.3a)
     ICES and Eurostat will report the issues regarding the codifications and boundaries issues of the Skagerrak and Kattegat areas that correspond to FAO Area 27.3a and current status of on-going discussion. This is information only.

9. Dissemination and future updates of the CWP Handbook
   The meeting is invited to review the progress and proposal of revised web-page of CWP Handbook and comments for further works.

APPENDIX 2

10. Overarching issues

    10.1. Establishment of CWP Task Group(s)

    10.2. Improvement in visibility of CWP
    Member organizations and Secretariat to report their effort made since CWP-24. The meeting is invited to discuss possible measures to improve the visibility of CWP.

11. Other relevant issues and activities

    11.1. Request from United Nations General Assembly for modification of FAO capture production statistics (FAO: *information only*)

    11.2. Sustainable Development Goals (FAO: *information only*)

12. Meeting arrangement for CWP-26, AS and FS Group sessions and other intersessional meetings. – Needs, time and venue
    The meeting to decide tentative schedule of activities until the time of CWP-26

13. Any other business

14. Adoption of report

15. Closure of the meeting

AQUACULTURE AND FISHERIES GROUP MEETING
(held prior to the main session)

Aquaculture Group Meeting

23 February 2016

1. Opening and welcome, logistic arrangements

   The CWP Secretary shall open the Aquaculture Group meeting and will provide information on meeting logistics and other administrative arrangements.

2. Adoption of the Agenda

3. Review of progress during the intersessional period

   The Secretary and participating organizations will briefly report major activities and changes occurred since the CWP-24.

   3.1. Activities by CWP participating organizations

   3.2. Review of activities of CWP/AS

   3.3. Task Force for developing new standard aquaculture questionnaire and corresponding guideline (FAO)

4. Finalization of draft for the aquaculture standard questionnaire

   The meeting is invited to review and agree the final draft of the new set of aquaculture standard questionnaire for submission to the CWP-25.

5. Needs of global standards, concepts, and classifications for aquaculture

   Secretariat will provide general overview on existing concepts and classifications related to aquaculture statistics. The Meeting is invited to comments on a need of CWP standards concepts and classifications for consideration of the Work plan for the next inter-sessional period.

6. Working procedure of CWP/AS

   Based on difficulties of conducting inter-sessional activities in the past period, the meeting is invited to discuss any measure of improvements, including possible modification of CWP/AS Rules of Procedures.

APPENDIX 2

7. Work plan for 2016-2019

   The Meeting is invited to discuss and agree on a work plan of Aquaculture Group for the submission to CWP25.

8. Selection of Aquaculture Group Coordinator(s)
9. Other business
10. Closure of the Aquaculture Group meeting

Fishery Group Meeting

<u>24-25 February 2016</u>

1. Opening of the meeting

   The CWP Secretary shall open the Capture Fishery Group meeting and will provide information on meeting logistics and other administrative arrangements.

2. Adoption of the Agenda
3. Progress since CWP-24

   The Secretariat and participating organizations briefly report major activities and changes occurred since the CWP-24 in 2013.

   3.1. Review of activities by participating organizations

   3.2. Inter-sessional activities of CWP/FS

4. Progress in Work plan for 2013-2016

   The meeting is invited to review the progress made in the work plan for 2013-2016.

   4.1. Dissemination of the revised Handbook at the CWP web page (FAO)

   4.2. Enhancement of socio-economic section of Handbook (Eurostat)

   4.3. Elaboration of Handbook in GIS (FAO/ SEAFO)

   4.4. Streamlining national statistics reporting (Eurostat, FAO, GFCM, ICES)

5. Establishment of new Task Groups

   The Secretariat will report the responses to the calls for interests to participate eight ad-hoc task groups. Meeting is invited to consider and agree the actions for the next inter-sessional periods relating on those groups.

6. Review and revision of standards, concepts, and codes

   The Meeting is invited to comments on a need of revising and/or establishing new global standards, concepts and classifications for fisheries statistics under the CWP for consideration of the inter-sessional Work plan.

7. Work plan for 2016-2019

   The Meeting should discuss and agree on a work plan of Capture Fishery Group for the submission to CWP-24.

8. Selection of Capture Fishery Group Coordinator(s)
9. Other business

   9.1. Possible actions related to the current cycle of UNGA on the Fish Stock Agreement

   9.2. CWP as clearing-house mechanism for metadata standard

10. Closure of the Capture Fishery Group meeting

APPENDIX 3

Coordinating Working Party on Fishery Statistics – Rules of Procedures
(amended at the CWP-23)

1. SESSIONS. Unless contrary to the views of the majority or participating organizations, the interval between successive sessions of the Coordinating Working Party on Fishery Statistics (CWP) shall not exceed three years. The Working Party shall meet on announcement by the CWP Secretary who shall respect the wishes of the majority of participating organizations. The announcement shall generally be made at least six months before the session starts.

2. AGENDA. A provisional agenda for each session shall be prepared by the CWP Secretary in collaboration with the secretariats of the participating organizations. The first item on the provisional agenda should be the adoption of the agenda. The provisional agenda shall be distributed with the announcement of the session.

3. NOMINATION OF EXPERTS. Participating organizations should notify the CWP Secretary of the names and affiliations of their nominated experts before the session.

4. DOCUMENTATION. Documents for each session should be made available to all participating organizations and nominated experts at least two weeks before the session. Each participating organization shall be responsible for the timely distribution of its documents in accordance with the mailing list supplied by the CWP Secretary.

5. OFFICERS. At the start of the session, the Chair or Vice- Chair appointed at the previous session shall call the session to order. In their absence, the CWP Secretary will call the session to order. Following adoption of the agenda, the Working Party shall elect a Chair and Vice-Chair from among its members; they shall remain in office until the election of the new Chair and new Vice-Chair at the next session. The outgoing Chair and Vice-Chair shall be eligible for re-election.

6. EXPENSES. The expenses incurred by experts attending session of the Working Party shall be borne by the nominating organization or as otherwise arranged between the experts and the respective nominating organization.

7. WORKING LANGUAGE. English shall be the working language of the Working Party.

8. VOTING. A majority of the participating organization shall constitute a quorum at any session. Each participating organization is entitled to one vote. Decision of the Working Party shall be taken by a simple majority of votes cast by those present at the session, or by a simple majority of votes of all the participating organizations by correspondence, if it selects to do so. When necessary, the Chair may exercise a casting vote.

9. REPORTS. At each session the Working Party shall adopt a report of the session which will include *inter alia* all decisions and recommendations. The report shall be made available by the CWP Secretary to the participating organization and nominated experts, and to other individuals or organizations as requested by the Working Party. FAO should make the report available as widely as possible.

10. MONITORING OF RECOMMENDATIONS. Although recommendations and decisions of the Working Party are not binding on participating organizations, the Working Party shall monitor and report on the implementation of recommendations and decisions.

APPENDIX 3

11. REGIONAL OR SUBJECT GROUP. The Working Party may establish regional or subject groups as are required for its effective functioning. The Working Party should determine purpose and composition of each group with the term terminating no later than at the end of following session. Groups shall deliver report of activities and recommendations, and the proposal of terms of reference and work plans for the next term if necessary, to the session for its consideration, decision and adoption.

12. INTERSESSIONAL ACTIVITIES. The Working Party may arrange intersessional activities including *inter alia* holding informal preparatory meeting, holding meetings of regional or subject groups, preparation of working papers, and communication by correspondence.

13. SUSPENSION OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE. Suspension of the Rules of Procedure may be adopted by the Working Party by a two thirds majority of the votes cast, provided that 24 hours' notice of the proposal for the suspension had been delivered to the Working Party.

14. AMENDMENT TO THE RULES OF PROCEDURE. Amendments to the Rules of Procedure may be adopted by the Working Party by a two thirds majority of the participating organizations provided that three months notice of the proposal for the suspension had been delivered to all participating organizations. An amendment shall come into force unless any objection is received by the CWP Secretary from any participating organization within three months of being adopted.

15. NEW PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS. An intergovernmental organization having competence in fishery or aquaculture statistics may become a participating organization of the Working Party if it is so decided by a two thirds majority of the participating organizations provided that three months notice of the proposed admission had been delivered to all participating organizations.

16. WITHDRAWAL OF PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS. Any participating organization may withdraw from the Working Party by notifying its intention to the CWP Secretary who will inform other participating organizations. If a participating organization does not provide any experts for two consecutive sessions without notification, it will be deemed to have withdrawn. The CWP Secretary shall communicate with such organization and shall announce its withdrawal upon the receipt of the confirmation from the withdrawing organization or absence of response up to the designated date.

APPENDIX 4

Minimum list of items to be collected for aquaculture statistics

General Introduction:

- The Task Force (FAO, Eurostat, GFCM) under the Aquaculture Group of the Coordinating Working Party on Fishery Statistics (CWP-AS) has developed this **Zero Standard Aquaculture Questionnaire** as a recommendation for aquaculture data collections on the national or regional level. The draft was reviewed and admitted by the 4th CWP AS meeting held in Rome on February, 23rd, 2016 and finally adopted by the CWP-25 (February 2016).
- It has been designed with three main objectives: (1) to enable global comparability of aquaculture statistics, (2) to support new aquaculture data collections in their endeavor to produce useful, high quality statistics, (3) to collect meaningful data without duplication and unnecessary burden.
- The single questionnaires adopt a concept of accounting and all measures should be referred to events occurred during a certain calendar year.
- The contents included in the required questionnaires AQ1 - AQ4 reflect the minimum data need defined within the CWP Aquaculture Handbook. They are further simplified, based on experiences accumulated by the Institutes who developed the first draft, to facilitate complete and good quality data submissions.
- The forms presented are indicative, only the contents are to be maintained. This means equivalent contents may be collected through questionnaires which have been adapted to own needs. However, standard data collection and transmission concepts like SDMX facilitate data flows between institutions and their use is highly recommended.

AQ1 Aquaculture Production:

Year	Country	FAO Major Area	SPECIES			PRODUCTION					
			3-alpha code	Local name	Scientific name	Quantity	Unit of quantity	Price per unit	Currency	Final use	Comment
							[TLW (tonnes live weight)]			Human_food	
										Non-food_use	
										live ornamental (optional)	
										animal feeds/ baits (optional)	

- This questionnaire collects **the quantity and value of aquaculture production at first sale**.
- The reference period is defined as a period between 1st January and 31st December of the reference year.
- This questionnaire includes **the production of all aquatic organisms farmed and harvested**, including fish, crustaceans, molluscs, other aquatic vertebrates and invertebrates, aquatic plants and seaweeds.

APPENDIX 4

- This questionnaire includes only the quantities of products destined for **final utilization**, and does not include any products that will continue to be subject to aquaculture practices.
- **Quantity** of production should refer to tonnes of live-weight equivalent [TLW]. The TLW includes shells and bones. When utilizing number of individuals as original unit of measurement, the average weight shall be estimated. It is imperative to indicate the **unit of measurement**.
- The **price per unit** should refer to the value of products at first-sale. If no commercial value is applicable, the value of equivalent products should be used.
- The **final use** should refer to either human food consumption or non-food use. Further breakdown of non-food uses, such as live ornamental, functional (e.g. cleaners, police fish, leech), industrial, feed, and others (see codes), is optional supplementary data. When one species has multiple final uses, the quantity for human food consumption and the quantity for non-food use should be recorded separately.
- When the production includes commodities with relatively minor live-weight equivalent but high commercial value, e.g. fish roes or caviar and pearls, it is recommended to record the production of such commodities separately.

AQ2 Input of seeds:

Year	Country	FAO Major Area	SPECIES			INPUT					
			3-alpha code	Local name	Scientific name	Quantity	Unit of quantity	Unit price	Currency	Source	Comment
							[numbers]			Wild	
										Domestic hatchery	
										Foreign hatchery	

- This questionnaire collects the quantity and value of aquaculture seed introduced from either domestic hatchery, foreign hatchery or wild during a reference period.
- The reference period is defined as a period between 1st January and 31st December of the **reference year**.
- The **source** should be defined either from hatcheries within the country, hatcheries located in foreign countries, or from wild through capture fishery. Sources other than those three and countries of origin for imported seeds can be further elaborated in comment.

AQ3 Artificial seed production for culture-base fisheries:

APPENDIX 4

Year	Country	FAO Major Area	SPECIES			PRODUCTION					
			3-alpha code	Local name	Scientific name	Stage	Quantity	Unit of quantity	Unit price	Currency	Comment
						Fertilized eggs/hatchlings		[numbers]			
						Juveniles (ready for stocking)		[numbers]			

- This questionnaire collects the quantity and value of aquaculture seed production at first sale destined to utilisation on another farm.
- The reference period is defined as a period between 1st January and 31st December of the **reference year**.
- This questionnaire includes the production of all aquatic organisms farmed and harvested, including fish, crustaceans, molluscs, other aquatic vertebrates and invertebrates, aquatic plants and seaweeds.
- *Different life stages may be distinguished for the input of seeds. No decision on which life stages to use was made (for example, 0+, 1+, 2+, etc. or simply fertilised eggs and juveniles?). The stage separation needs to be applicable to aquatic plant.*

AQ4 Size of active aquaculture facilities:

Year	Country	FAO Major Area	AQUACULTURE FACILITIES			*MAIN SPECIES CULTURED (optional)*			*SECONDARY SPECIES (optional)*			
			Type of production unit	Surface Area	*Volume (optional)*	3-alpha code	Local name	Scientific name	3-alpha code	Local name	Scientific name	Comment
			Ponds	ha								
			Tanks and raceways	ha								
			Recirculation systems	ha	m^3							
			Cages	ha	m^3							
			Enclosures & pens	ha								
			Lake, Coastal lagoons, Reservoir, Dam, Barrage	ha								
			Rice-fish paddies	ha								
			On-bottom	ha								
			Off-bottom	ha								
			Others	ha								

- This questionnaire collects the size of active aquaculture facilities during a reference period. In other words, the questionnaire refers to all facilities where target species are kept at any time within a reference period.
- The reference period is defined as a period between 1st January and 31st December of the **reference year**.
- The **size of facilities** refers to a surface area and maybe water volume covered by aquaculture production units.
- Total volume of water that aquaculture facilities can hold is an optional measure to report.
- Main target species cultured are optional. If one entity is producing different species groups, respondents should either report the size of the production units by target species or provide combined figures for the size of production units.

APPENDIX 5

Report of the 4th Aquaculture subject Group Meeting
Rome, Italy, 23 February 2016

Opening of the meeting:

The fourth meeting of the Coordinating Working Party on Fishery Statistics Aquaculture subject Group (CWP-AS) was held on 23 February 2016 in Rome, Italy, in conjunction with the 25th session of CWP based on agreement taken by the 23rd session of CWP. The meeting was attended by the five CWP participating organizations (Eurostat, FAO, GFCM, IATTC, and OECD). In addition, CRFM participated through on-line. The list of participants is in Appendix 2 of CWP-25 session report.

Adoption of agenda:

Draft Agenda was adopted without modification, which is in Appendix 1 of CWP-25 session report.

Review of progress of CWP-AS activities during the intersessional period:

Ms Friderike Oehler, the CWP-AS Coordinator, reported that the activities of the CWP-AS during the inter-sessional period since the completion of CWP-24, February 2013, focused mainly on the development of the AQ questionnaire under the Task Force established at the time of previous CWP-AS meeting. The Task Force met three times and conducted the work according to the Terms of Reference agreed.

In June 2014, in Luxembourg, the Task Force reviewed the aquaculture questionnaires of Eurostat, FAO and GFCM to identify overlaps and differences and discuss about possible ways of harmonization with the participation of Eurostat, FAO, GFCM, and EC Joint Research Centre. Summary records of the meeting are in Annex 1 (page 6), together with a summary table of the comparison results (page 10).

In May 2015, in Rome, the Task Force (Eurostat, FAO) developed a first version of the zero draft standard aquaculture questionnaire, taking into account the minimum data reporting referred to in the CWP Aquaculture Handbook and current practices and experience of the participating institutions. Some concepts and definitions were also discussed and refined where the CWP AQ Handbook did not provide sufficient guidance. These points are to be included in the guidelines to the zero draft standard questionnaire. Both the questionnaire and guidelines were further elaborated in the follow-up of the meeting. Notes of the discussion are in Annex 2 (page 11). The zero draft questionnaire was further revised based on the agreement in this discussion.

In October 2015 in Brasilia with the meeting held in conjunction with the FAO COFI, the Task Force reviewed and further improved the second version of the zero draft standard aquaculture questionnaire. The meeting was originally planned as the intersessional meeting of CWP-AS but due to low attendance, it decided to focus on the Task Force activities. This meeting had particular importance for incorporating the views and requirements from Asian and Pacific regions, through the participation of NACA and SPC. The minutes of the meeting are in Annex 3 (page 14).

Activities by CWP Members:

Eurostat continues its data collection of aquaculture data based on the 2008 regulation (EC) 762/2008. The data is collected separated by species with ASFIS codes, FAO Major Area, cultivation method, and water environment. This level of disaggregation has made a quite substantial amount of the data to be classified as confidential which means Eurostat cannot disseminate this data nor can aggregates be produced in an automatized way. Substantial effort was made to mitigate the problem with some improvement for 2014 data, but only a very resource consuming case-by-case treatment of the data

could reach satisfactory results. Alternatively, the level of detail of the data collection will need to be reduced.

Eurostat also reported about the collaboration with DG Mare. Following a complaint of the European Court of Auditors, a harmonization of aquaculture data collected under the Data Collection Framework with the statistical regulation (EC) 762/2008 was achieved in terms of aligning definitions and some segmentation used under the DCF with Eurostat standards. By contrast, the suspected overlap of both collections cannot be avoided as the data serve two different purposes (socio-economic assessment of the aquaculture sector (DCF) and aquaculture production statistics (Eurostat)).

GCFM continues to collect data from member countries according to the Recommendation GFCM/35/2011/6 on "reporting of aquaculture data and information". GFCM reported that during the intersessional period Georgia and Ukraine have newly joined the GFCM data collection system on aquaculture as Cooperating non-Contracting Parties. Their cooperation enhances the data collection and improves aquaculture information activities in the Black Sea area in addition to Bulgaria, Romania and Turkey. GFCM indicated the difficulty of linking species with a certain culturing environment in the Region where culturing fresh water species in a marine environment, and vice versa, is common for some species. Certain species, such as molluscs, go through multiple farms during their grow-out, including transferring between different environments as well as between different countries. This raises concerns on how to track transfers between countries and the way to record the intermediate product when assessing the whole production.

IATTC reported its data collection on the inputs of Bluefin tuna into the farming with scientific observers. The data is included in total catch of Bluefin tuna for purposes of stock assessments. The IATTC does not monitor the final outputs from the farming and does not track the fish from finishing to markets.

OECD informed that it collects quantity and value of aquaculture production from the OECD Members as well as key economic partners by species groups. The species groups currently in use do not carry adequate details to capture all information that countries can provide and the meeting encouraged to utilize the ASFIS species list.

<u>Finalization of the draft aquaculture standard questionnaire:</u>

The CWP-AS Coordinator introduced the draft aquaculture standard questionnaire developed by the Task Force. She explained that the Zero Standard Aquaculture Questionnaire has been designed with three main objectives: (1) to enable global comparability of aquaculture statistics, (2) to collect meaningful data without duplication and unnecessary burden, (3) to support new aquaculture data collections in their endeavour to produce useful, high quality statistics. In particular, effort was made to focus on identifying really essential minimum core data items and standard way of reporting them.

The draft standard questionnaire contains four parts; AQ1 for aquaculture off-farm production, AQ2 for the input of seeds, AQ3 for artificial seed production and AQ4 for the size of aquaculture facilities. In addition, the Task Force developed two supplementary sheets, one for land and water use for aquaculture and the other for employment. These two supplementary sheets are still under development and were not tabled for review of the CWP-AS. It was noted that the responsible agencies for reporting the supplementary data may not be the same as those responsible for aquaculture production statistics.

The meeting reviewed the four parts one by one as follows:

AQ1 aims to collect quantity and value of off-farm aquaculture production, applying the first sale criteria, and does not include the intermediate production that goes to another grown-out farm nor hatchery production. In the context to provide a standard of measurement, the meeting agreed to indicate the standard measurement to be "live-weight equivalent volume". The appropriate level of

the reporting requirement on product destination was discussed and at the end concluded to keep food and non-food use in destination as obligatory and any additional details as optional, as proposed by the Task Force.

Further discussion focused on how to collect information on caviar and roes that have higher commercial value than the meat representing the majority of the weight. Similar situation was observed in other products such as swim bladder of croakers and sea urchins. The meeting confirmed the principle of defining the aquaculture primary production as those of raw materials produced directly from the farming process and separating the production of commodities. The meeting agreed that the aquaculture standard questionnaire will focus only on primary products from the farming process.

AQ2 is for collecting seeds input into the farming process. Considering the objective of the standard questionnaire to provide a standard way of statistics dissemination, the meeting agreed to indicate the standard measurement of seeds to be “number”. When countries/ organizations collect seeds input information in another measurement unit, they should provide the original unit of measurement in addition to the standard unit of measurement "number" in order to make the conversion transparent.

The meeting argued about the appropriate classification of “life stage” and concluded to drop this category due to the low prospect that it will be utilized in a harmonised way in the statistics compilation at the end.

The meeting also argued about the appropriate classification of “sources” and concluded to keep three categories as proposed, i.e. “imported”, “domestic hatchery” and “wild”. Since no organization has experience in separating this information, this categorization should be reviewed for possible revision after a certain experience will have accumulated.

AQ3 is for artificial seed production from hatcheries. The meeting agreed to apply the same approach as above: “number” as standard unit of measurement and the first sale criteria (i.e. not including intermediate transfers between farming system).

AQ4 is for collecting the size of aquaculture facilities. The discussion focused on whether it is appropriate to associate the size of aquaculture facilities with the species (or species group) produced. While the association may be useful in simple aquaculture systems common in Europe, it will encounter difficulties to identify the main and secondary species in multi-species culture common in East- and Southeast Asia. Considering the generally good local knowledge by aquaculture specialists, the meeting agreed to keep this association as optional.

The meeting confirmed the decision taken at the Brazil meeting not to use the number of facilities as unit of measure. If countries/ organizations collect the size of facilities in numbers, they should convert to the extent of the surface area using general knowledge of the average size. In this case, the data providers are encouraged to provide the data in original measurement together with the methods of conversion as required metadata.

Regarding the type of facilities, the meeting confirmed that “LAK (lake)” in addition to lakes, dams, barrages and reservoir includes also coastal lagoon.

With the above amendments, the meeting adopted the four sheets of the standard aquaculture questionnaire and agreed to submit it to the plenary session for its endorsement. The agreed questionnaire is in Annex 4 (page 16).

<u>Needs of global standards, concepts, and classifications for aquaculture:</u>

The meeting recognized that the existing ISSCAAP grouping is not necessarily helpful for grouping aquaculture products whose large majority is freshwater species. It also noted the increased need of pragmatic species grouping of aquatic animals and plants with appropriate level of details. Since the issue has relevance for both FS and AS, the Meeting decided to table the proposal of the Task

APPENDIX 5

Group for reviewing and developing a proposed revision of the ISCCAAP group and Mr Xiaowei Zhou is tasked to develop a Terms of Reference for submission to the session.

Working procedure of CWP/AS:

Although the Terms of Reference of CWP/AS indicated to hold the Group meetings in conjunction with FAO COFI Sub-Committee of Aquaculture (COFI/SCA), the Secretariat informed that this arrangement does not work well. The two consecutive meetings one in Cape Town, South Africa 2011 and the other in Petersburg, Russia, in 2013 were cancelled due to no attendance other than FAO, and the one in Brasilia, Brazil, in 2015 was changed into a Task Force meeting due to the low level of participation.

The Secretariat sought an advice to improve the situation but due to time constraints the discussion had to be postponed.

Work plan for 2016-2019:

The meeting agreed the need to continue the work of the Task Force on establishing the standard aquaculture questionnaire and accompanying guidelines. The meeting agreed that the Task Force should focus on the following areas for the next inter-sessional period:

- Further development of the guidelines, including best practices in data collection;
- Development of a glossary with clear definitions of relevant terms and concepts;
- Identification of the needs for standard classifications/ codes, and development of a draft proposal;

The meeting considered the harmonization of concepts and classifications as the first priority for enabling a seamless data exchange. To this end, it noted the intention of the Capture Fishery Subject Group (CWP-FS) to submit the proposal for a Task Group for developing standard Data Structure Definitions registered in a global SDMX registry. The meeting agreed to support this initiative and encouraged all the Members to actively participate.

In addition, the meeting encouraged all the members of CWP-AS to:

- Collaborate and communicate to harmonize respective data collections, share glossaries currently in use and share other relevant information in order to minimize the discrepancies and duplication, as well as to reduce reporting burden of the countries;
- Implement the newly agreed standard aquaculture questionnaire, to the extent possible, and report back experiences encountered.

Selection of Aquaculture Group Coordinator(s):

Ms Friderike Oehler of Eurostat, the current Group Coordinator, kindly accepted to continue in the position, expressing her commitment to conclude the work of establishing a standard aquaculture questionnaire and accompanying guidelines.

The meeting selected Mr Xiaowei Zhou of FAO to be another Group Coordinator.

Other business:

There was no other business.

Close of the meeting:

With the agreement that the Report will be adopted through written communication, the meeting was formally closed.

Annex 1. Summary record of the CWP-AS Task Force meeting (video conference)

Time: 25/06/2014 14:00 – 16:15

Participants:

- Eurostat: Friderike Oehler (Coordinator), Anne Foltete, Andreas Lazar
- GFCM: Federico De Rossi(Coordinator), Fabio Massa
- FAO: Xiaowei Zhou, Sachiko Tsuji (CWP Secretary)
- JRC: Fabrizio Natale

Summary of discussion:

The CWP Secretary opened the meeting, asking the Group to focus on the main objective of the meeting, i.e. to develop a draft global standard questionnaire for aquaculture data collection. The standard questionnaire is meant to enhance comparability among data collected by individual institutions through the sharing of common concepts and an agreed set of minimum core variables. It does not prevent individual institutions to further elaborate the data collection, according to their own data and information needs.

Following the agreement at the CWP-AS held on 12 June 2014 in Rome, Eurostat, FAO and GFCM exchanged the questionnaires currently in use. Eurostat and FAO made a quick comparison among them during the morning and acknowledged many commonalities as well as some areas of discrepancy and areas encountering conceptual and/or operational difficulties. The meeting agreed to focus the discussion on those problem areas that include the value of production, metadata collection, seeds production, and facilities/ culture methods. FAO will develop a draft for the remaining areas where all three questionnaires more or less adopt a common procedure and classifications (e.g. countries name, reference of year, species name) **[Action: FAO]**.

GFCM conducted similar comparison exercise and in particular noted a difference of terminologies and ambiguity of definition of several concepts. GFCM would share the result and provide a list of terminologies that would require harmonization to the Group **[Action: GFCM]**.

The Group noted that GFCM as well as SEAFDEC collect the production of ornamental fish. Even though the current reporting is rather incomplete, the Group considered it important to keep the production for ornamental use in an overall coverage of the global standard statistics.

<u>Value of production:</u>

Currently, all three organizations take the value of production reported by countries as they are, without clear guidance on how to define and collect farm-gate value data nor collecting associated metadata and definitions utilized by the countries. Eurostat and FAO collect the unit price, while GFCM collects the total value by species produced in each ‘segment’ (i.e. combination of species and type/ stages of operations) that may be transformed to unit price.

FAO questioned the procedure to handle the value of production in the case of producing small quantities of a high value product (e.g. caviars, pearls) and large quantities of a low value product (e.g. meat of sturgeon, pearl shell) from the same organism. Eurostat collects the meat value as general aquaculture production (corresponding to live-weight equivalent in volume) and the caviar value in a separate questionnaire. GFCM and JRC indicated no relevance of such cases. The possibility to collect value not for species but for commodities was raised.

JRC informed that the Data Collection Framework (DCF) monitors the turnover of enterprises with aquaculture as their main activity and therefore does not collect a unit price corresponding to species.

In other words, the production value recorded as in a System of National Accounts (SNA) is not directly comparable to the value of aquaculture production disseminated by Eurostat and FAO.

JRC further informed that the EUMOFA, the EU Market Observatory for Fisheries and Aquaculture products, monitors the price index at various stages of market value chains, including the first sale producer market, although aquaculture products have not been covered yet.

Responding to the question about technical difficulties encountered at collecting a set of quite detailed information on economic variables under the DCF, JRC pointed out that the DCF utilizes the enterprise as a sampling unit, different from the current data collection schemes on aquaculture production by Eurostat, FAO and GFCM.

The discussion revealed a rather weak technical capacity of the Group in this area and FAO expressed its interest to further explore the best way to move forward, especially in line with the existing data collection mechanisms of the economic value of production including SNA and asked further guidance and collaboration to JRC **[Action: FAO, JRC]**. This was noted as a common issue for both aquaculture and capture production.

Metadata:

It was noted that the discrepancies and inconsistencies of statistics usually reflect the differences in the methodologies used, objectives and target population (e.g. total aquaculture production including non-commercial and subsistence production). An accurate understanding of coverage, i.e. which part of the population the individual statistics represent, would be essential in interpreting the statistics properly. The Group agreed the need to include the metadata collection into the global standard questionnaires.

Since Eurostat and JRC have experience of regularly collecting metadata, it was agreed that Eurostat would develop the first draft of this component in collaboration with JRC and FAO **[Action: Eurostat]**.

Seeds production:

The questionnaire comparison indicated that Eurostat, FAO and GFCM currently collect similar but different information concerning seeds/ hatchery production, quantity of ‘eggs’ and ‘juveniles’ by Eurostat, quantity of ‘eggs’ and ‘fingerlings’ for aquaculture inputs by GFCM, and quantity and intended use of hatchery production by FAO. In particular, while GFCM intends to collect such data as input to grown-out to forecast aquaculture production, FAO considers this to monitor reproduction capacity and their destination including release to the natural environment (restocking), inputs to aquaculture, and even for baits and feeds. All organizations encountered problems in receiving reliable high quality data.

The Group noted the ambiguity and possible inconsistencies of concepts and terminologies but also recognized a difficulty to develop a unique definition/ terminology to cover a vast range of seeds transactions. It was agreed that the standard classifications should be kept as simple as possible, while requesting countries to explain clearly what they are reporting for (i.e. metadata) if necessary. Some considered it beneficial to focus on commercial important species to begin with.

The need to separate between products destined to the final market and products to be utilized at an intermediate stage was pointed out. The Group was reminded that the Handbook requests such information as “intended use” of the products and that the component to be utilized as an input to grown-out should be clearly identified.

The Group reconfirmed that the wild seeds should be recorded separately as an input to aquaculture, although their production would be counted as capture fishery production. Similarly, harvest of larvae

and juveniles that are destined for human consumption or any use other than aquaculture input should be considered as capture production.

It was agreed that FAO would lead to draft this component in close collaboration with Eurostat and GFCM **[Action: FAO]**.

Production areas, facilities and culture methods/ farming systems:

The questionnaire comparison indicated that Eurostat, FAO and GFCM collect production disaggregated into a similar number of categories of culture methods. The categories used are not mutually consistent. The DCF further defines 'segments', which are not directly comparable to the other statistics. While the disaggregation of production by culture methods contributes to an increase of confidentiality problems in the case of Eurostat and FAO, GFCM requires culture method as the first layer of their questionnaires and does not encounter any reporting problem, but the reported information is generally confidential and not subject to dissemination unless agreed otherwise in the future.

There was no in-depth discussion regarding the appropriate set of culture method categories. Some considered it important to separate cages as well as recirculation systems because of their significant difference in environmental impacts.

It was noted that while the institutions responsible for management would be able to collect any detailed information for internal use to support management decision-making, the purpose of statistics is to provide a broadly accessible data base. In that sense, the Group recognized the need to clearly separate the guidance on data needs for aquaculture management and the standard and minimum core data set for global statistics. For the latter, it would be better to avoid including confidentiality sensitive items.

The Group also noted the lack of clear guidance on standard measures of culture facilities and that various measures co-exist in the questionnaires currently in use. Even though the Handbook indicates the general use of area as a measure of facilities, it is not clear how exactly it should be measured, e.g. only the caged surface, whole areas occupied by facilities, or even including areas of production centers containing multiple facilities. There was a preference to use volume and/ or other size measurement suitable for individual culture methods, in particular, to measure productivity. On the other hand, the need of common measures across culture methods was noted. The question was also raised how to measure if multiple culture methods are implied under the same surface area.

Considering that this is an area still premature to develop a global standard guidance for statistics, the Group agreed not to include this component to the global standard questionnaire at this moment and to continue the discussion.

The Group noted that the concept of aquaculture was clearly defined in the Handbook but not necessary well understood by national and regional statisticians, especially for the case of culture based capture and capture based aquaculture. It would be useful to provide adequate examples by adding a note to the standard questionnaires and the field guide of data collection.

During the discussion, the potential use of satellite images was raised and noted that preliminary work has been under way both by JRC and FAO independently. Both organizations agreed to further exchange information on their experience and avoid unnecessary duplication.

Others:

The Group recognized the need of additional codes for sub-species, hybrids, and Salmonids (Salmonidae) that have different names and behaviour between land-locked and sea-going groups of commercial importance for aquaculture, which was not covered under the ASFIS list. It was agreed to develop a formal proposal as the CWP-AS to the CWP session to modify the existing criteria of

ASFIS to incorporate organisms groups under species level into the list together with the proposed criteria of inclusion of such sub-species categories, under the lead of the CWP-AS Coordinators **[Action: AS Coordinators]**.

The Group was informed that other points discussed in the morning between Eurostat and FAO include: i) inclusion of bait and live feeds use in the 'intended use' for aquaculture production, ii) inclusion of data collection on loss and damage caused by catastrophic events including extreme climate events (e.g. floods, drought, heat wave, cyclone), disease outbreak or others (e.g. pollution, plankton blooming, poaching), and iii) need to monitor standing stocks. The Group indicated general support to the direction.

Timeline:

The CWP Secretary indicated the need to table the final draft of global standard questionnaire and corresponding field guides of data collection to the next CWP-AS meeting that would be in October 2015 in Brazil in conjunction with the next COFI/AS according to the TOR of the Group. Taking this into consideration, she requested to complete the first draft of questionnaire following the actions agreed, as soon as possible after the conclusion of this discussion. The first draft would then be distributed to the key members of CWP-AS including ICCAT, NACA, SEAFDEC, and SPC as a minimum for their review and feedback. The next round of discussion would be organized in the period of September and early October 2014 to review the feedback and to plan for the next actions. For that purpose, the CWP-AS Coordinators were requested to develop a table of contents of the field guideline of data collection with identification of possible materials to table at the next round of discussion. **[Action: all Members]**

The discussion was closed around 16:15 with a gratitude for fruitful discussion and active involvement of all participants.

APPENDIX 5, Annex 1

Table 1 Comparison of aquaculture data collections from FAO, GFCM and Eurostat, June 2014

		Eurostat	FAO	GFCM
AQ production volume (in tonnes)	by species	Y	Y	Y
	by technique	Y	Y	Y
	by environment	Y	Y	Y
	by FAO Major Area	Y	Y	Y
	by culture system	N	N	Y
	by product	N	N	Y
	including ornamental species	N	Y[1]	Y[2]
AQ production value (unit price)	by species	Y	Y	Y
	by technique	Y	Y	Y
	by environment	Y	Y	Y
	by FAO Major Area	Y	Y	Y
	by culture system	N	N	Y
	by product	N	N	Y
	including ornamental species	N	Y[1]	Y[2]
AQ production of eggs for human consumption	volume	Y	N	N
	value	Y	N	N
AQ production of eggs for on-growing		Y	Y	Y
	transferred to controlled environment	optional	Y	N
	released to the wild	optional	Y	N
	including ornamental species	N		Y[2]
AQ production of juveniles (in numbers)		Y	Y	Y
	transferred to controlled environment	optional	Y	N
	released to the wild	optional	Y	N
	including ornamental species	N		Y[2]
Input to capture based AQ	volume	Y	N	Y[2]
	value	Y	N	Y[2]
	including ornamentals	N	N	Y[2]
Production centres	number of centres	N	Y	Y
	size of facilities	Y	Y	Y
	size of facilities by method	Y	Y	Y
	size of facilities by environment	Y	Y	Y
	species group	Y	Y[3]	Y
	product destination	N		Y

[1] separate questionnaire

[2] incomplete data

[3] including aquatic plants

APPENDIX 5, Annex 2

Annex 2. Note of agreed point (18 May 2015)

Table 1: Harvest only from grown-out, measure – live-wt equivalent, unit price (in local currency) – whole 'minimum data requirement' – avoid the term 'obligatory' or 'compulsory'

- Add one column indicating currency
- how to define / distinguish grown-out vs hatchery [HW]
- environment – vs. location: ZH – area to be marine and inland, inland with two environments – ES stopped, -- still continued discussion
- Food and non-food (incl. aquatic plant)> in separate Q – eggs (caviar)
- What to be included in recreational, ornamental, industrial use (incl. phermatical), functional species (cleaning fish), coral, shells and pearls, leech, feeds
- Target > leave from aquaculture process
- Q on fish going to recreational ponds; release to wild should be counted (even with no value by releasing by State)
- Volume of off-farm/ volume and price

Table 1.1. Option – to separate Table 1 for food and non-food – Agreed

- Core or optional? - importance in high economic, bio-diversity influence, / national registry system – live-fish export certificate, potential live-fish providing farm should have info/ >> measure allow both number or weight;
- standard measures to be in guideline
- optional destination: ornamental, functional species (e.g. cleaners, police fish, leech), industrial, recreational, others, feed fish [GFCM - ornamental, fry and fingerings, food, eggs, and derived products; GFCM definition of fingering]

Table 2: Hatchery and nursery production – artificial seeds [Xiaowei]

- Definition of hatchery -
- How to separate stage – fertilized eggs .vs. juveniles – eggs+ hatchling/ juvenile (def > Fred.) – explanation [ready for stocking, aquatic plant] / year-ling/ brooders and spawners –
- The purpose of Tab > seed production capacity in general, or species specific mortality and effectiveness.
- production of broodstock for market
- major economic species, - not possible to have all species – how to define threshold – [treat the same way as Tab 1]
- Destination – add "UNK" unknown, and feeds
- Only counted off-farm
- ~~Add "number of hatchery~~"> go to facility, if needed,
- Recommend supplemental survey in Guideline for every 3-5 yrs, together with wild seed collection,

Table 3: Capture seeds – Wild seeds [Xiaowei]

- Who is the target of questionnaire – aq, not fishers
- ~~should be optional?~~ > core
- purchase weight, and/or? Vol, and unit price
- ~~Either combined with Table 2?~~
- Eels, tunas, milkfish, mullets – substantial quantity, pearlspot in India, coral reef species, molluscs, Seriora [Xiaowei]

Table 4: Facility > core + land: bring from FAO: "Aquaculture Area" [Tsuji]

- including both idle/ more administrative registered area

- ~~Ownership~~ Right of dedicated use to be provided to – individual, corporate, or big farm – public or private – ownership of operation, not for land/water
- Either only grow-out or artificial seeds production, combination> both
- SEEA/UNSD – land use and water use > should avoid double counting, e.g bottom vs ; size or property, water surface area dedicated for aq activities
-

Table 4.1: Type of Aquaculture facility

- what to monitor, what to measure? – eg. Total sq surface of cages – Total Area by facility type, <u>following the Handbook recommendation</u>; number as <u>operational units</u> (# of farms, # of hatcheries)
- ~~Every 5 yrs or, every 3 yrs?~~ – EU very mature and stabilize; annual
- Idle or <u>active</u>? (secondary) – some point in the reference year > definition: tips for data collection, ask questionnaire for % of facilities actually used in a reference year./ need how to define % of use/ definition – stocked with target species
- Seasonal fluctuation
- Measuring units – either through enterprise or facilities?
- Methods disaggregation – ?, aquaponics, earthen ponds, ponds for lining,
- Integrate facilities, production unit; surface + volume,
- Xiaowei – pond –cerain area green for feeding fish, green manuea, > grass carp, forage area,/ aquaponics – cubic meters,; rice field –
- GFCM – cultivation measures – similar fully correspond to GFCM, coastal as the other coastal lagoons missing need to be included when aquaculture activities are applied such the case for dams, lake, ect… under the LACK s , / 'Lagoon' – Asia , diff definition, in Eu,

Table 5- X: Integrated reporting format: Account – productivity – sustainability [optional alternative] >> move as alternative option for integrated reporting of all

- "segmentation" – species –method combination: suitable or not
- can be alternative of Tab 1

Table 6: Standing stock and unexpected loss optional [Xiaowei/Sachiko]

- <u>unexpected</u> or normal – SEEA extraction
- escapees, steal, extreme weather, pollution, discharge of bad materials
- not include facilities loss – further discussion
- Current stock > standing stock at the end of year
- Actual loss of stock .vs. opportunity of loss
- Loss of targeted production volume/ Ch: area affected - diseases, draught, pollution, others – causes/ loss – production loss in tonnes, damage to facilities (ponds, cages, km of pen, sunken boats), ~~escapee -- flood, "~~ " natural hazard" – careful for definition of "unexpected"

~~Table 7: Feed use in Aquaculture -- optional~~

- Commercial aquaculture feed production/ import
- need or not?
- What to be included?
- If feeds in, fertilized, land area allocated should be in
- Feed production and feed use different
- Add economic loss (check with the procedure of SEEA-

Table X: socio-economic [Frederike to initiate]

Table X: commodity production – after farm sale – outside of aquaculture,

APPENDIX 5, Annex 2

XXX: Number of hatchery, number of production centre

Q: need for commodity statistics

Confidentiality – threshold, guideline, -- need to have total as priority Tab 1 and 2

Best format of guideline – one for each Table or make it as general as Handbook

Guidance how to define priority, most important;

Introduction: over-arching issues

- basic concept and principle
- confidentiality – how to handle, first priority for providing total; how far go to data dissemination, treatment of minor
- minimum core – countries are encouraged to go further details as required

Description of tables

- clear definition on what to be measured, targeted coverage
-

Methodology – tips

- utilizing multiple data collection opportunities – census, sample survey, questionnaires, administrative data,
- small scale producers; production centre (operation unit, e.g. farm, production entities operate aq as business, making own business, marketing, and operation, used in Chile, and GFCM; one big company have many production centres),
- Country with specialized wild seeds collection, mention about possible monitoring of those activities.

Appendix – terminology:

- Terminology important – clear definitions
    - Juvenile
    - Wild seed

Annex 3. Minutes of the meeting on 4 October 2015 in Brasilia

Participants:

Friderike Oehler (Eurostat), Xiaowei Zhou (FAO), Cherdsak Virapat (NACA), Ruth Garcia-Gomez (SPC); Sachiko Tsuji (CWP Secretariat -- FAO),

1. Participation and venue of CWP AQ inter-sessional meetings
    - Due to the low level of participation of CWP AQ Group members, it was decided to consider the current meeting to be a **Task Force meeting**, instead of an inter-sessional CWP AQ Group meeting.
    - NACA (the Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia-Pacific) proposed to hold **an inter-sessional CWP AQ Group meeting in Bangkok in September 2016 back to back with the NACA meeting** to which all NACA member countries participate. The high interest of NACA member countries, which are the most important aquaculture producers world-wide, in aquaculture statistics and the work of the CWP AQ Group was highlighted. NACA is an intergovernmental organisation that promotes rural development through sustainable aquaculture. **It was agreed to table the issue at the next CWP-AQ meeting for decision.**

2. Discussion of the draft Standard AQ Questionnaire
    - **Format**: The CWP Secretary emphasised that the standard AQ Questionnaire should focus on the contents, including concepts and standard classifications where applicable, of a standard aquaculture data collection only, not on the format, since the format of the actual questionnaire will vary according to the needs and practices of the implementing institutions. Eurostat insisted that a standard data collection and transmission concept and common code lists are as important as the contents of the questionnaire to achieve comparable statistics and allow automatized data processing and that the "format" should thus definitely be discussed in the next step. NACA supported the idea of a standard format and cited the World Meteorological Organization as a good example for automated standard data transmissions centralized in one organization. SPC also showed interest in new developments for data exchange, informing that SPC is currently setting up a new AQ data collection and is planning to use FAO templates.
    - **AQ1**: Eurostat asked for an introductory page to the questionnaire, since the purpose, structure and ideas behind this standard questionnaire are difficult to be understood otherwise. Regarding the **unit of measurement**, FAO insisted that numbers should be used for production destined to life ornamental uses since this is the unit being used globally for ornamentals. Production of life ornamentals is increasing and weight does not capture this importance. This was supported by SPC. The lengthy discussion on the importance of recording **non-food uses** (live ornamental, industrial, feed/bait, functional, other) concluded to separate human food (in tonnes) from non-food uses (in tonnes) on the first level, and optionally to collect details on live ornamental (in numbers), feed/bait or other uses for non-food production on a second level. Eurostat prefers to separate the production of **commodities** such as caviar and pearls from the production of bulk aquaculture products collected through AQ1, while FAO pointed out the problem of possible double counting of production of relevant species and expressed its preference to use one questionnaire to cover all production as currently the practice at FAO.
    - **AQ2/AQ3:** It was decided to merge AQ2 and AQ3 to some extent to avoid duplication. Thus, AQ2 would collect data on the **input to aquaculture** and AQ3 would collect **nursery production destined to be released to the wild**. Data on brood stock, if

necessary, would be part of AQ3 as a measure of hatchery productivity and not be counted as input. The unit for both AQ2 and AQ3 will be numbers.

- **AQ2, Seed input**: Different **life stages** may be distinguished for the input of seeds. No decision on which life stages to use was made because the proposed 0+, 1+, 2+, etc. may be the most correct division, but adds very much detail as well and risks to introduce confidentiality. Instead a simple division in fertilised eggs and juveniles could be used. As regards the **source** of seeds three categories were proposed: Domestic production, import and input from the wild. It was argued, however, that data providers may not be able to know whether seeds were imported or domestically produced. Some considered the need to separate public and private hatcheries production.
- **AQ4/AQ+ 5:** There was no agreement whether both "capacity of aquaculture facilities" and "total land and water area use" are necessary. Each measure has its own advantages and uses (productivity of aquaculture entities vs. marine/coastal area development). Also, the source of these data differs with the first being provided on farm level and the second being known from registers. The area of marine production units may be measured through remote sensing. However, if capacity is to be measured, the area alone is insufficient, but total water volume in active use must be recorded.
- **AQ+ 6**: Eurostat would like to use FTE by gender to measure **employment** in the aquaculture sector. The FTE concept is clearly defined, easy to use and it allows global comparability of data. FAO insists on maintaining their current use of full-time, part-time, occasional and subsistence employment to continue time series. A solution would be to use FTE as obligatory measure and further details as optional measures. NACA would like to further divide into national and foreign labour force, but others were concerned about a division into ethical groups.

3. Next steps
   The CWP Secretary, together with FAO, will amend the draft Standard Questionnaire v2 taking into account the results of the discussion. The new version will be sent to the participants for their review by the end of the week. Subsequently, common code lists and definitions shall be defined.

Annex 4. Zero draft standard aquaculture questionnaire,
as adopted by the CWP at the 25th session in Rome, February 2016

Zero draft Standard Questionnaire for Collecting Aquaculture Statistics

	Title	Requirement	Frequency
Core data:			
AQ 1	Aquaculture off-farm production	Minimum data required	Annual
AQ 2	Input of seeds	Minimum data required	Annual
AQ 3	Artificial seed production for culture-base fisheries	Minimum data required	Annual
AQ 4	Size of aquaculture facilities	Minimum data required	Annual
Additional data:			
AQ+ 5	Land and water use for aquaculture	Supplementary data	Annual
AQ+ 6	Employment	Supplementary data	Annual

Explanations:

- The Task Force (FAO, Eurostat, GFCM) under the Aquaculture Group of the Coordinating Working Party on Fishery Statistics (CWP-AS) has developed this Zero Standard Aquaculture Questionnaire as a recommendation for aquaculture data collections on the national or regional level. The draft was reviewed and admitted by the 4th CWP AS meeting held in Rome on February, 23rd, 2016.
- The Zero Standard Aquaculture Questionnaire has been designed with three main objectives: (1) to enable global comparability of aquaculture statistics, (2) to collect meaningful data without duplication and unnecessary burden, (3) to support new aquaculture data collections in their endeavour to produce useful, high quality statistics.
- The single questionnaires adopt a concept of accounting and all measures should be referred to events occurred during a certain calendar year.
- The contents included in the required questionnaires AQ1 - AQ4 reflect the minimum data need defined within the CWP Aquaculture Handbook. They are further simplified, based on experiences accumulated by the Institutes who developed the first draft, to facilitate complete and good quality data submissions.
- The forms presented are indicative, only the contents are to be maintained. This means equivalent contents may be collected through questionnaries which have been adapted to own needs. However, standard data collection and transmission concepts like SDMX facilitate data flows between institutions and their use is highly recommended. The CWP may work on a standard data transmission and dissemination format for fisheries statistics.
- "AQ+" indicates supplementary questionnaires. The statistics in AQ+ are either those collected by other data collection mechanisms or those considered to be useful for an improved understanding of the whole aquaculture sub-sector.

APPENDIX 5, Annex 4

AQ1 Aquaculture production

Year	Country	FAO Major Area	SPECIES			PRODUCTION					
			3-alpha code	Local name	Scientific name	Quantity	Unit of quantity	Price per unit	Currency	Final use	Comment
							TLW (tonnes live weight)				

Instructions:

- This questionnaire collects the quantity and value of aquaculture production at first sale.

- The reference period is defined as a period between 1st January and 31st December of the **reference year**.

- This questionnaire includes the **production of all aquatic organisms farmed and harvested**, including fish, crustaceans, molluscs, other aquatic vertebrates and invertebrates, aquatic plants and seaweeds.

- This questionnaire includes only the quantities of products destined for **final utilization**, and does not include any products that will continue to be subject to aquaculture practices.

- **Quantity** of production should refer to tonnes of live-weight equivalent [TLW]. The TLW includes shells and bones. When utilizing number of individuals as original unit of measurement, the average weight shall be estimated. It is imperative to indicate the **unit of measurement**.

- The **price per unit** should refer to the value of products at first-sale. If no commercial value is applicable, the value of equivalent products should be used.

- The **final use** should refer to either human food consumption or non-food use. Further breakdown of non-food uses, such as live ornamental, functional (e.g. cleaners, police fish, leech), industrial, feed, and others (see codes), is optional supplementary data. When one species has multiple final use, the quantity for human food consumption and the quantity for non-food use should be recorded separately.

- When the production includes **commodities with relatively minor live-weight equivalent but high commercial valu**e, e.g. fish roes or caviar and pearls, it is recommended to record the production of such commodities separately.

APPENDIX 5, Annex 4

AQ2 Input of seeds

Year	Country	FAO Major Area	SPECIES			INPUT					
			3-alpha code	Local name	Scientific name	Quantity	Unit of quantity	Unit price	Currency	Source	Comment
							numbers			Wild	
										Domestic hatchery	
										Foreign hatchery	

Instructions:

- This questionnaire collects the quantity and value of aquaculture seed introduced from either domestic hatchery, foreign hatchery or wild during a reference period.

- The reference period is defined as a period between 1st January and 31st December of the **reference year**.

- The **source** should be defined either from hatcheries within the country, hatcheries located in foreign countries, or from wild through capture fishery. Sources other than those three and countries of origin for imported seeds can be further elaborated in comment.

APPENDIX 5, Annex 4

AQ3 Artificial seed production for culture-base fisheries

Year	Country	FAO Major Area	SPECIES			PRODUCTION					
			3-alpha code	Local name	Scientific name	Stage	Quantity	Unit of quantity	Unit price	Currency	Comment
						Fertilized eggs/hatchlings		numbers			
						Juveniles (ready for stocking)		numbers			

Instruction:

- This questionnaire collects the quantity and value of aquaculture seed production at first sale destined to utilisation on another farm.

- The reference period is defined as a period between 1st January and 31st December of the **reference year**.

- This questionnaire includes the production of all aquatic organisms farmed and harvested, including fish, crustaceans, molluscs, other aquatic vertebrates and invertebrates, aquatic plants and seaweeds.

APPENDIX 5, Annex 4

AQ4 Size of active aquaculture facilities

Year	Country	FAO Major Area	AQUACULTURE FACILITIES				MAIN SPECIES CULTURED (optional)			SECONDARY SPECIES (optional)			
			Type of production unit	Surface Area	*Volume (optional)*		3-alpha code	Local name	Scientific name	3-alpha code	Local name	Scientific name	Comment
			Ponds	ha									
			Tanks and raceways	ha									
			Recirculation systems	ha		m^3							
			Cages	ha		m^3							
			Enclosures & pens	ha									
			Lake, Coastal lagoons, Reservoir, Dam, Barrage	ha									
			Rice-fish paddies	ha									
			On-bottom	ha									
			Off-bottom	ha									
			Others	ha									

Instruction:

- This questionnaire collects the size of active aquaculture facilities during a reference period. In other words, the questionnaire refers to all facilities where target species are kept at any time within a reference period.

- The reference period is defined as a period between 1st January and 31st December of the **reference year**.

- The **size of facilities** refers to a surface area and maybe water volume covered by aquaculture production units.

- This questionnaire covers aquaculture facilities, regardless of the type of ownership (private or public), type of registration and nature of the facility, e.g. grown-out, nursery, or hatchery facilities.

- Total volume of water that aquaculture facilities can hold is an optional measure to report.

- Main target species cultured are optional. If one entity is producing different species groups, respondents should either report the size of the production units by target species or provide combined figures for the size of production units.

Required definitions

Production unit: single pond, cage, raceway, tank etc. A production unit is considered "*active*" if stocked with a target species anytime during the reference year

- How to measure, exactly the size of aquaculture facilities. Also related to SEEA land/water use for aquaculture
- Clarification of the difference from land use, water use for aquaculture facilities defined in SEEA

APPENDIX 6

Report of the 25th Fishery subject Group (CWP-FS) Meeting - Rome, Italy, 24-25 February 2016

1. Opening of the meeting

The Capture Fishery subject Group meeting (CWP-FS) was held on 23-24 February 2016 in Rome, Italy, prior to the 25th session of Coordinating Working Party on Fishery Statistics (CWP). The meeting was attended by the six CWP participating organizations (Eurostat, FAO, IATTC, ICES, OECD, SEAFO). Ms June Masters (Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism), Mr Emmanuel Blondel (FAO) participated a part of the meeting through on-line. The list of participants is in Appendix 2 of the CWP-25 session report.

This was the second CWP session after establishing two subject groups at the 23rd CWP session. Following the "Operational guidelines corresponding to the establishment of two subject groups" (Appendix 5 of the CWP-23 Report), the Fishery Group and the Aquaculture Group held their Group meetings prior to the CWP session. The objective of the meeting was to finalize the activities and achievement of the Group during the inter-sessional period and its achievements, and develop the proposal of work plan for the next intersessional period for approval at the CWP session.

In the absence of the Fishery Group Coordinator, Mr George Campanis of SEAFO, the CWP Secretary informed the meeting to ask Mr Marc Taconet to chair the meeting, based on his attendance to the Intersessional meeting held in Namibia in February 2015 and his commitment in a number of Fisheries Group activity. The meeting supported the decision and Mr Taconet kindly accepted the role of Chair. The Secretariat informed the apology from Mr Campanis.

2. Adoption of the Agenda

FAO informed its intention to discuss two items, "possible actions related to the current cycle of UNGA on the Fish Stock Agreement", and "CWP as clearing-house mechanism for metadata standard", under the Agenda 9 other business. It also requested to list all the Task Groups to be discussed under the Agenda 5. With this modification, the agenda was adopted (Appendix 1 of the CWP-25 session report).

The Chair indicated that the order of discussion, in particular for the Agenda 5, would be modified in order to accommodate the needs of colleagues participating remotely.

3. Review of progress since CWP-24

Each Member Organisation reported on progress since the CWP-24.

The Fisheries Subject Group held its intersessional meeting on 25–27 February 2015, in Swakopmund, Namibia. The report of the meeting is in Annex 1. The Chair summarized outcomes of the intersessional meeting, following the note prepared by Mr Campanis.

The Group noted that many of planned activities resulted in rather slow progress and remarked that the participating organizations generally have faced difficulties to strongly lead the working groups agreed upon by the Group. Accordingly, the Group consider that the CWP should limit to a manageable number the working groups and concentrate on focused areas in order to ensure quality and delivery.

4. Progress in Work plan for 2013-2016

4.1. Dissemination of the revised Handbook at the CWP web-page

Corresponding to the request from the intersessional meeting, the latest version of the CWP Handbook developed by Mr Hans Lassen before the CWP-24 is now available at CWP wiki (http://figisapps.fao.org/FIGISwiki/index.php/CWP#Revision_of_CWP_Handbook). The FAO proposed to the intersessional meeting the development of IT framework to support the dissemination of the CWP Handbook with enhanced capacity of dynamic searching and a new user interface, which was generally supported as long as the contents remained in line with the agreement made at the CWP-24. FAO reported that the development of such IT framework was in progress but required more

time than expected and that the refinement of text and contents were suspended until the framework and structure became further clarified.

Similarly to what happened in FIRMS, the Group agreed that the progress can be achieved only with an actual development of the new Handbook Web page structure. The high level structure presented at FS meeting in Namibia was supported, and this structure will have to be refined while sections are moved from the Wiki to the public dissemination. The Group confirmed the need of clearly distinguishing in the new web dissemination between the standards and classifications endorsed by the CWP, those standards that was developed at other international fora but accepted by the CWP as standards for fisheries statistics, the standards actually utilized in practice of the CWP Members and other organizations, and standards, guidelines and best practices in domains where the emergence of a global standard could not yet be addressed. It is also necessary to distinguish recommendations for current standards from emerging standards which CWP anticipates having strong future prospects.

The Group considered that the CWP handbook should also contain a generic statement strongly recommending "that when there exists a well-established international standard for a concept (e.g. UN or ISO codes for the country concept), the use of such standard is strongly recommended in compiling fishery statistics. For each such concept, the handbook should also include "extension guidelines", e.g. describing how to extend the international ISO code for specific countries or territories.

In terms of implementation, FAO should complete the development of the Handbook webpage structure, and disseminate all the standards and classifications which are under the direct control by CWP (e.g. catch diagram, FAO Major Areas, CWP endorsed ISSC families). Concerning other domains (socio-economic, ecosystems, and confidentiality), the Group considered it rather practical to start by disseminating the standard practices and standards adopted by the CWP participating organizations, and this could later lead to the establishment of global standards.

4.2. Enhancement of socio-economic section of Handbook

Regarding development of the socio-economic section of the Handbook, no progress has been made since the CWP-24. Eurostat indicated its difficulty to lead this task, considering that the experts for socio-economic data on fisheries within the European Commission are DG Mare and the Joint Research Centre (JRC). It recalled that the current practices collecting socio-economic data under the Data Collection Framework had been presented by DG MARE at the 24th session of the CWP. With the new recruit of fleet and employment statistician FAO has recently enhanced its involvement in the socio-economic statistics, and confirmed its intention to lead the task as agreed at the time of intersessional meeting. OECD indicated its intention to actively participate and Eurostat committed its involvement, in particular for connecting with JRC. As part of the handbook development, the Group agreed to first focus its effort of disseminating the standard practices adopted by individual organizations as well as guidelines developed. The Group also encouraged to involve other organizations that are collecting socio-economic data, such as SPC, SEAFDEC and GFCM, to reflect the standard practices in respective regions.

4.3. Elaboration of Handbook on geographic information system (GIS)

Mr Fabio Carocci of FAO presented a concept note for elaborating the Handbook contents on the GIS. The concept note introduced two proposals that might be further elaborated for inclusion in the CWP handbook:

1. Relevant to best practices to implement internationally-recognized standards (e.g. ISO and OGC) and regulations (e.g. the EU INSPIRE directive), a piece of Java software, GEMS (GIS Enforcing Metadata and Semantics), developed by the FAO to perform the batch creation and web-publication of GIS layers and their associated metadata was briefly introduced.

2. Relevant to reporting of spatially gridded statistical collections, a set of best practices and current available standards were presented and documented. Statistics provided by Tuna Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (tRFMOs) was shown as examples of data collated by FAO and assembled into a global harmonized dataset. A set of recommendations for follow-up actions were also presented and discussed.

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The Group considered that the concept note presented was sound and agreed to include it as an annex in the meeting report, once the joint review of the document by CWP members will have been completed in two-week time. The concept note thus finalized will provide the substantive source to the dissemination of the GIS standards and guidelines through the handbook.

The Group considered it important for the CWP handbook to indicate minimum standards applicable by the majority, and simultaneously to point on the future directions as a medium term target, such as NetCDF.

4.4. Streamlining national statistics reporting

Eurostat, ICES and FAO regularly met for exchange of views on the harmonisation of fisheries statistics, back to back with the Eurostat Fisheries Statistics Working Group meeting. During this inter-sessional period, two consultations were held, in October 2013 and April 2015. Both meetings confirmed mutual commitments on continued collaboration, and in particular early exchanges (i.e. prior to publication) of received information. The close communications among the three organizations was confirmed to be quite effective in detecting the data discrepancies and potential problems at an early stage.

It was agreed to further enhance this collaboration by including both OECD and GFCM into the collaboration network.

5. Establishment of new Task Groups

The intersessional meeting in February 2015 identified eight potential areas of establishing new Task Groups:

- Standard concepts for measuring capacity and fishing effort
- Development of guidelines on conversion factors
- Meta-data standards for catch documentation schemes
- Meta-data standards for global catch reporting
- Master Data Management (MDM) enabling consistency among existing standards for the use of CWP standard classifications
- Global Record and associated meta-data standards
- Meta-data standards for MCS (e.g. Logbooks)
- Meta-data standards for science data (e.g. observer system data)

The CWP Secretary reported that the Member organizations were asked their intention to participate any of those new potential Task Groups during the intersessional period but no response was received so far.

FAO indicated its interest in the area of metadata for global catch reporting and Master Data Management (MDM) and made presentation as follows.

<u>Metadata standards for global catch reporting - Towards development of global guidelines and standard for SDMX-based catch reporting</u>

Mr Erik Van Ingen of FAO presented the SEIF2 project that is expected to build on the experience of SEIF (SDMX for Eurostat and FAO) and to come along with parallel progress and plans for Master Data Management. The objective of the project is to develop global Fishery DSD[1] standards for capture fisheries and aquaculture statistics, as well as guidelines and best practices for the publication of DSDs on these domains. The SEIF2 project was presented as a governance structure with a Maintenance Group, Owner Group and Technical Group for the future maintenance of the DSDs. The CWP would act as authorizing agency by signing off the DSDs, guidelines and best practices before publication. The two global DSDs would be formally published in the global SDMX registry, while the CWP handbook would refer to it and also describe and document the DSDs in a normal language so it is clear what it is about. Links to the operational implementation of those DSDs could be accessible from the CWP handbook once FAO, Eurostat, OECD or other interested organizations will have eventually published their yearly code list updates in SDMX format through their respective platform and websites.

[1] Data Structure Definition: in SDMX terminology, a DSD is a conceptual data model which does incorporate the agreed code lists.

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Eurostat made a presentation to complement. Main advantage of SDMX is its multi-domain nature, enabling comparability among different statistics by using the same concepts across domains. So far, the fishery domain does not fully exploit the benefits that SDMX offers. Nevertheless, it already enjoys the benefits, automatic validation tools, agreed structure for data transmission, improved interpretability, etc. Eurostat will focus on the harmonisation of the global DSDs with DSDs currently in use. Clear processes for the management and maintenance of the DSDs need to be put in place and flexible enough to accommodate small ad-hoc modifications.

The project governance must permit individual organizations to use light deviations (including for instance versions with subsets of code lists) of the global DSDs. Such deviations should be reported to the CWP and, if possible and relevant, to be included in the global DSDs at the next update.

The process explained through the SDMX SEIF2 initiative whereby involved agencies will be requested to describe their dataset structures, code lists, definitions, and formats, will not only contribute to the definition of a global DSD for capture and aquaculture, but would also potentially lead to registration (e.g. on the CWP handbook) of individual organization's reference data, as well as if requested, to reference data and/or mappings dissemination services.

While there was no interest expressed to start working on global DSDs, the Group agreed for FAO to publish data in SDMX including the DSDs. During the discussion on the needs for MD, OECD and Eurostat expressed strong support for SDMX, and IATTC re-iterated the need for the CSV format. The discussions confirmed the need to publish data both in CSV format using underlying SDMX concepts.

Under the precondition that FAO-Corporate support to SDMX is confirmed during the next few months, FAO proposes to lead the process of developing a global DSD for Capture (for both removals and landings) and Aquaculture statistics. The process will include a survey whereby all participating organizations will be requested to describe their dataset structure and related reference data and formats and future needs. Analysis of the survey results will allow defining the core structure of a global DSD, while guidelines for DSD extension and publishing will be also provided. The DSDs will be published on the Global SDMX registry and referred to from the CWP handbook. FAO, Eurostat, OECD and ICES will collaborate closely in the definition of the global DSDs.

FAO, Eurostat and OECD will operationalize their SDMX exchange capacity through their respective platforms.

<u>Master Data Management - Reviewing RFB needs in light of developments at FAO</u>

Messrs Thomas Berger, Anton Ellenbroek and Francesco Calderini of FAO presented the current status of MDM (Master Data Management), and curation of MD artefacts. FAO already achieved an improvement in form of RefPub REST-API used internally for implementation in the dynamic CWP handbook. A new corporate project for MDM is being initiated at FAO; with the goal to streamline the MDM curation and also to improve electronic publication of MD (hierarchies); including publication of DSD's (Data Structure Definition) for data already being published.

Participants were asked on the status on MDM in their organization. ICES explained its reference management system. The MDM application has a web-portal to allow all codes used in ICES databases searchable and downloadable by data users. IATTC indicated that its metadata references are well developed, and that full documentation is externally available together with mapping for all hierarchies. OECD informed that it utilizes internal code lists that do not necessarily correspond to any international standards such as ASFIS but plans to conduct review the way of data collection in the fisheries domain. Eurostat publishes metadata based on the Euro SDMX Metadata Structure (ESMS), documenting methodologies, quality and the statistical production processes in general. The DSDs containing all code lists are published at the Eurostat SDMX registry, although the DSD is used for data collection, not data dissemination, and may thus not be a user-friendly way to access code lists.

For species, ICES generally uses WoRMS that disseminates comprehensive taxonomic hierarchies, while their use of ASFIS codes is limited to the Statlant-27 catch statistics because this data collection is based on the dataset provided by Eurostat. On the other hand, many other CWP Members use ASFIS as species code and appreciate the existing updating process (including for VME species), which enable to add new species every year. Recognizing a conservative approach in the changes of names because

of the statistical nature of ASFIS, FAO described its quality assurance process regarding ASFIS maintenance in particular how new records are added to ASFIS or revisions are made. Addition of new species includes consultation of authoritative sources such as WoRMS, ITIS and FishBase, consideration of the importance of the specie to fishery statistics, and reference of the specie by ASFA. Modifications to species name are made only when the references with new name in ASFA exceeds those to the old name.

Species names disambiguation (such as the iMarine Bionym) would be a useful service for organizations receiving data with species local names. On the American continent, ITIS is yet another authoritative taxonomic system equivalent to WoRMS.

A public service that would support an updated dissemination of mappings between ASFIS on one side, and WoRMS and/or ITIS on the other side, appears to be in demand. Such service may be provided by FAO as part of its ASFIS maintenance process, and the group recommended it. Strengthened process could be obtained through collaborative arrangements with other concerned sources.

Likewise, the availability of mapping services among gear type references used in individual organizations, and of transformation services among area referential systems, would improve collation and harmonization processes. The lack of easily accessible reference data dissemination is a limiting factor for an efficient collation and harmonization process, e.g. for a dataset such as the Tuna Atlas maintained by FAO. This requires a lot of manual handling which hampers timely updates, and becomes a heavy maintenance issue with the growing number of sources.

FAO proposed to act as leading CWP member and called for interest by CWP members to be involved. IATTC did not see a use for IATTC itself, but agreed to contribute to the process. Eurostat and OECD expressed their interest to be involved. CWP member agencies (ICES, IATTC, Eurostat, SEAFO, FAO) generally have internal systems for reference data management, with various levels of capacities. These have functionalities including searching codes, downloading lists. Managing mappings and hierarchies are presented as more advanced needs which are now required by some agencies (ICES, FAO, Eurostat) but not yet fully implemented. With the exception of Eurostat (making use of DSDs) FAO and ICES, dissemination systems of reference data for public use in participating organizations are more basic (e.g. CSV files downloadable from websites) or not available. Secretariats of organizations also run queries in their systems to serve their scientists requests.

While during an initial phase, this work will be limited to participating organizations, the group agreed that the target of this work should reach out to countries. Mechanisms such as RDA could provide a pathway to extend this work during the second phase. The group agreed that RDA should be informed about CWP's initiative to set up an ad-hoc task group on SDMX in fisheries and will welcome any feedback from RDA.

Global Record and associated Metadata standards - Work of the Global Record Working Group, and Considerations on Fishing Vessels Standards

Ms Dawn Borg Costanzi of FAO introduced the Global Record of Fishing Vessels, Refrigerated Transport Vessels and Supply Vessels (Global Record). The Global Record aims to close the global information gap on vessels involved in IUU fishing by increasing transparency, traceability and dissemination of data to a wide range of stakeholders. This requires effective submission of certified information about vessels used for fishing and fishing-related activities by the official State authorities responsible for it. The Global Record programme has been collaborating with the EU's DG MARE on an XML-based UN/CEFACT certified standard for the Vessel domain. Business Rules Specifications (BRS) were drawn up, to standardize the Vessel information module data fields and definitions, and to form a data model. Such a standard could eventually serve as a best practice for any system involved in the exchange of information about vessels, providing a uniform way to encode and transmit the information. Although the UN/CEFACT standardization process results in well-defined schemas that are vast enough to cover national, regional and global needs, it allows for the definition of specific implementing rules, to ensure that the harmonized data set, may be effectively applied to the tasks at

hand. UN/CEFACT standards may also be extended and refined over time, according to emerging requirements of any interested stakeholders, ensuring that these standards remain relevant and current.

In order to encourage and increase participation and commitment of FAO Members, the Global Record has established working groups to guide the implementation of the policy and technical aspects of the strategy. The first meeting of the Global Record Informal Open-ended Technical and Advisory Working Group was held in February 2015 with the full report available at www.fao.org/3/a-i5025e.pdf. The second meeting will be held at FAO Headquarters, 21-23 March 2016, and all interested CWP Members were encouraged to participate. The outputs of the Working Group will serve to guide the Secretariat on the continued development of the Global Record, and will be presented to the thirty-second session of FAO's Committee on Fisheries in July 2016.

She informed the participants of the Specialized Core Working Groups, which deal with technical matters such as the specification of data requirements and data exchange mechanisms for the Global Record. In relation to the work of the CWP, the Core Group on Data Requirements (GWCG-DR) has recommended data sets for the collection of information related to Vessels, Authorizations, Inspection and Surveillance reports and Port Entry Denials; and the Core Group on Data Exchange (GRCG-DE) has highlighted the need to harmonize data sets and pre-define formats and standards for exchange.

Four CWP Members (GFCM, IOTC, NEAFC, and SEAFDEC) have actively contributed to the Global Record working groups. ICES mentioned their activity of assigning codes to vessels involved in research activities (research vessels and commercial ones) within SEADATANET. IATTC indicated that participation in the Global Record would be favored if the possibility were offered to access a pilot free of confidential data for trial and testing. The Global Record is built on the base of the Vessel Records Management Framework (VRMF) that was developed by FAO and provides support to the Consolidated List of Authorized Vessels (CLAV) of tuna RFMOs, therefore pledging good compatibility between two systems.

Concluding on the development of metadata standards for vessels involved in fishing and fishing-related activities, the Group welcomed the on-going work taking place under the Global Record Working Group. The process followed refers to existing standards, entails broad participation of countries and RFBs, and has a global mandate, and was therefore judged sound by the Group. It was agreed that CWP should not duplicate this work. The Global Record was encouraged to bring its findings to CWP for consideration, once they become mature enough to establish as global standards. The Group encouraged the Member organizations to contribute to the process, and, in order to facilitate the participation, the Group requested the CWP Secretary to liaise with the Global Record team to keep the interested members informed on the progress and up-coming activities of the Global Record Working Group.

Metadata standards for MCS – standards for regional logbooks in WECAFC area

Ms. June Master of CRFM introduced the work under the FAO-CRFM-OSPESCA MoU of the development of regional standards for logbook for 6 countries focusing on small-scale FADs fisheries, with both stock assessment and socio-economic objectives. Data to be recorded in the logbook include catches, effort, biological samples, and socio-economic data enabling fishermen to track their profit (e.g. how much sold, how much for domestic consumption).

The Group also noted other initiatives regarding the development of regional standards for logbooks, including the initiative in the North-East Atlantic (EC-DG Mare, ICES, NEAFC) to encompass scientific data collected on board and VMS and FFA standards of logbook in the Pacific. The attempt of tuna RFMOs to setup a standard encountered difficulties of harmonizing difference in specific data requirements. IATTC reported that its established logbook standard was oriented towards taxation goals, and has recently more relied on the scientific observers on-board for data collection. SEAFO has its own standard of the logbook.

The Group discussed the needs for a global standard for logbook and concluded that an all-encompassing global standard would not make sense, though it could endorse guidelines highlighting minimum data required against specific goals. The Group acknowledged the need to enhance the logbook section of the CWP handbook by linking with other related standards and regional practices/ standards. The group

also encouraged communication among the participating organizations, including the progress regarding the WECAFC regional standards, so to better draw upon experience and lessons learned.

Metadata standards for science data - Opportunity of the Research Data Alliance as possible support mechanism to ad-hoc group

Mr Anton Ellenbroek of FAO introduced the RDA https://rd-alliance.org/ as an opportunity to build on a cross-continental mechanism which could be used to reach out to national levels the work and objectives of CWP on harmonization and data exchange. The participation to RDA (Research Data Alliance, https://rd-alliance.org/) is foreseen through the BlueBRIDGE project, for example to bring the results of the Tuna atlas and related application to an international audience with an interest in data harmonization. This opportunity can foster coordination between activities which aim at setting up standards related to the Fisheries domain. In RDA, a working group or Interest group can be proposed on standardization of data formats, access protocols, controlled vocabularies (code lists, ontologies ...) related to Fisheries. The CWP could be involved in raising awareness of existing initiatives at a global scale, discussing additional needs and coordination activities (guidelines and best practices).

The Group concluded that it is beneficial to maintain communication with the RDA, in particular for monitoring any outcome of a RDA working group for suitability to include in the CWP handbook. The Group asked FAO to liaise with RDA to inform about the establishment of the SDMX fisheries and aquaculture Task Group and maintain communication with RDA to inform the interested CWP Members.

6. Review and revision of standards, concepts, and codes

Modifications of boundaries within FAO Area 27:

ICES informed about three modifications of boundaries within FAO Area 27, endorsed by the ICES ACOM meeting in December 2015, where various area-related questions were revised based on international and internal needs for revision of scientific definition of ICES statistical areas. First, relating sub-division with Division 27.3.A with the particular reference to Skagerrak and Kattegat where multiple boundaries existed, it was agreed that a) the split between the Kattegat and the Skagerrak should be according to the EC TAC border; b) the split between North Sea and Skagerrak should be changed to the diagonal line (not the ICES rectangle delimitation) according to the EC TAC border. This should be inforce after the 1st January 2016. New area references will be: 27.3.a.20 (Subdivision 20) for the Skagerrak and 27.3.a.21 (Subdivision 21) for the Kattegat.

Second, relating with the boundaries between Belt Sea/Baltic West of Bornholm, the definition of the line between Divisions 3.b/c and 3.d should be in line with the SD 22 and 24 border line, namely the "line starting at Gedser Odde (54°34' north latitude, 11°58' east longitude); thence due east to 12°00' east longitude; thence due south to the coast of Germany.

Third, FAO area definitions refer to division 27.3.d as "defunct", but sub-divisions within it being valid. FAO hosts area references from ICES 2004 document on ICES area definitions. The document in question does not provide details as to why this division is noted as defunct, and does not point that as a target issue for the proposal. As area reference 27.3.d is being in use by ICES and data contributors, it was agreed that the validity of division 3.d should be restored.

In addition, it was decided that the outdated country references should be updated through all area descriptions respectively. At last, it was decided to revise ICES historical references with use of Latin numbers and alphabet, and to apply the modern hierarchy references. In addition, it was decided to create an online master document for ICES areas that would include area codes, names, and definitions hosted by ICES.

ICES would pass all relevant information to FAO for revising its dissemination. The Group welcomed the achievement and congratulated ICES for finally resolving long-pending issues.

APPENDIX 6

Sustainable Development Goals, and needs for standards in Small-Scale Fisheries

FAO introduced the framework of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) adopted by the United Nations in late 2015 as the bold and transformative goals to be achieved before 2030. This framework includes 17 goals, including Goal 14 specifically targeting on the sustainable oceans, in addition to the goals relating with no pervert, zero hunger, gender equity, responsible consumption and production and climate action that also have some relevance to fisheries and aquaculture. The framework intends to monitor the progress with fact-based indicators, however the progress in establishing a set of agreed indicators for each goals and targets has been rather slow. FAO has proposed several indicators for the Goal 14, including the proportion of fish stocks maintained at sustainable level of harvests (target 14.4), management actions to enhance small scale fisheries access (14.b) and the status of compliance with the CCRF based on the CCRF questionnaires (14.c) and all of them are still under category of continued discussion.

Participants were requested to share their involvement in the SDG process and identify any need for CWP to take actions. Eurostat's fisheries statistics are not involved in the SDG process and do not distinguish the scale of fisheries operators. Eurostat informed that the EC is in the process of developing an indicator for sustainable fisheries that may be published by Eurostat under the EU Sustainable Development Indicators (SDIs) in the future. IATTC is not involved in the SDG process, though conducting stock assessment and data collection including from small-scale operation. It considers for stock and fisheries management purpose, there is no need to separate small-scale operations from industrial ones. One of ICES's main goals is to provide scientifically sound advice on fisheries and marine environment in the North Atlantic, corresponding to the EC request. At this moment, it does not work directly on the SDGs. OECD has highlighted in the Programme of Work and Budget 2017-2018, that will be discussed at next COFI session in April 2016, the need to further analyse the financial and economic aspects of IUU fishing. OECD regularly disseminates statistics on government financial support to fisheries (GFT database); this database will be soon revised following the implementation of the revised classification of government support. A new dataset called Fisheries Support Estimates will be available at the end of 2016, and it will contain also data and descriptions of country-level programmes. SEAFO indicates their efforts in combatting against IUU through compliance report summarizing national actions, providing funds for assisting the developing Contracting Parties to implement the requirement of the Convention such as Port State Measures and joint listing agreement of IUU vessels with CCAMLAR, NEAFC and NAFO.

FAO raised a more specific point relating to the adoption of the Voluntary Guideline for Small-Scale Fisheries. While the Voluntary Guideline recognizes that no one global definition of "small-scale fisheries" is possible, FAO called the Group to consider a possibility in developing non-prescriptive guidelines on common elements that can identify small-scale fisheries (e.g. boat size, number of crew, vessel ownership, duration of fishing trips) in regional, sub-regional and national contexts, which could support the development of a standard for SSF statistics. This would seem a constructive way forward to support sector-disaggregated data collection at country level.

FAO recalled that regarding "statistics requirements for small scale fisheries", the global frameworks including Strategy-STF, Strategy-STA, VGSSF do not refer to assessment or monitoring needs on SSFs at global level, but instead at regional and sub-regional levels. The FAO Guidelines to Enhance Fisheries and Aquaculture Statistics through a Census Framework do address the data collection aspects for SSF as per directions provided by Strategy-STF and STA. In terms of assessment and monitoring needs, these guidelines by design should allow for comparability among sectors (agriculture, fisheries, and aquaculture) and among countries. However a possible gap is perceived when it comes to management of the sector at regional or sub-regional level, i.e. how do we address the linkage/mapping between the national definitions of small scale fisheries/aquaculture sector (when such definition exists) and the categories/classifications used in the census framework guidelines.

The Group was reminded that the mandate of CWP is to provide standards for enabling comparability of global statistics and that the CWP has until now not instructed to collect fisheries and aquaculture statistics according to the level of operational scale. In this context, countries and regional and sub-regional organizations choose their own definition of small-scale according to their management needs and political incentive. For similar reasons, the CWP has not attempted to define several terms such as

"bycatch". According to other opinion expressed among the FAO participants, the Voluntary Guideline, as well as the Strategy-STF and Strategy-STA which emphasized the importance of monitoring and data collection of small-scale fisheries, can be implemented without problem based on individual perception on what "small-scale" means for each case. As well a more fundamental problem in statistics is the weak base to cover non-commercial components, regardless the size of operational scale, including recreational activities.

The Group concluded that the issue requires more argumentation and evidence for consideration at the CWP and asked FAO to bring up the question again, if necessary, when the concept becomes more matured and sound for consideration as global standard.

7. Work plan for 2016-2019

As per diagnostic made during agenda item 3.2, the group decided to limit to a manageable number of the inter-sessional activities in order to concentrate on priority areas in order to ensure quality and delivery.

The Group reaffirmed that the first priority was to develop and publish the CWP handbook webpages with emphasis on dissemination, socio-economic and GIS work areas as described under Agenda items 4.1, 4.2, and 4.3.

The Group supported the establishment of an ad-hoc Task Group on "Reference harmonization for capture fisheries and aquaculture statistics". Considering the cross-sectoral nature of the work, the Group agreed to propose to set-up this ad-hoc Task Group directly under the CWP. Although this Task Group aims for disseminating the global DSD for SDMX, considering some uncertainty about the FAO-Corporate support to SDMX, the Group chose to use more generic title. When necessary, this ad-hoc Task Group could be downgraded by removing the pure SDMX-IT objective while sticking to the objective of codes harmonization and following the general "SDMX driven" approach explained under Agenda item 5.

The existing streamlining activities among Eurostat, FAO, and ICES will be continued, with an expansion to include OECD. GFCM is encouraged to actively contribute. The task of this group should include discussions on Statlant and NS1 as indicated by ICES.

The Group asked the CWP Secretariat to liaise with the Global Record Working Group to distribute relevant information to enable participation of the interested CWP Members to the process as appropriate.

The Group asked FAO to liaise with RDA to inform about the establishment of the SDMX Task Group and maintain communication to inform to the interested CWP Members.

8. Selection of Capture Fishery Group Coordinators

First, the Chair examined the possibility of the existing Coordinator to stay in that position. However, due to difficulty for Mr Campanis to travel in near future, the Group decided to select new Coordinator. The Group considers the benefit of having two co-Coordinators, one from FAO and the other from non-FAO Members. Ms Jennifer Gee kindly accepted to take the role for the Coordinator from FAO. The meeting waits for the confirmation for another Coordinator.

After the completion of the meeting, ICES informed to the Group its acceptance for Ms Anna Osypchuck of ICES to act as the Coordinator of Fishery Subject Group for the next inter-sessional period in the condition that the relevant meetings would be held in the Europe. The Group appreciated for the decision taken by ICES.

9. Other business

9.1. Possible actions related to current cycle of UNGA on Fish Stock Agreement

FAO explained the history of recommendation from the Review Conference on the United Nations Fish Stocks Agreement (UNFSA) to FAO to revise its catch database with distinction of catches within and outside EEZs. In view of the upcoming resumed Review Conference on the UNFSA to be held in 2016,

and of the developments foreseen in resolution A/RES/69/292 of 6 July 2015 titled "Development of an international legally-binding instrument under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction", FAO decided that a thorough and argued response was necessary in order to explain the practical difficulties in the implementation of this request, and pave the way to future action. After explained what has been done, FAO asked advices from the participating organizations. The matter is expected to be brought to COFI 2016 for discussion with Member States on envisageable actions, including the provision by FAO of a platform for global compilation and dissemination. In anticipation, it has been decided that COFI's agenda will include an item to review FAO Fisheries statistics program.

The discussions pointed out that in the context of well-established RFMOs and industrial fisheries, flag states are technically capable to report catches with accurate geographic precision to their RFMO Secretariat. IATTC and SEAFO are for example technically able to contribute to the expected FAO revised database including the additional field "within EEZ/outside EEZ". However confidentiality requirements (relating to either privacy or political sensitiveness) actually prevent this to happen for a number of fisheries. Reports aggregating total catch statistics across Flag States could be provided by species and with distinction of "within/ outside EEZ", but this might encounter difficulties where EEZ boundaries are often matter of conflicts. A calculation of statistics can be made by assuming the boundaries to be with the concept of 200 nautical miles.

Revision of historical data is generally felt problematic.

The Group stressed that Flag States are primarily responsible for the provision of geographic position where catch occurs, and the key role which RFMOs have to foster such reporting among their constituency and to eventually channel catch statistics "within/outside" EEZs to FAO. However, such disaggregation has no use for stock assessment and management of highly migratory and straddling fish stocks.

In addition, and in particular if it is confirmed that the UNGA request has focus on fish stocks sustainability, the group agreed that the FIRMS Secretariat should be approached to consider including in its minimum reporting requirements both stock status and amount of catches.

9.2. CWP as clearing-house mechanism for Metadata standards

FAO asked to include this item intending to establish a mechanism for enabling CWP to make authoritative decisions relating to metadata standards. The discussion of the Group affirmed the role of CWP to review and evaluate the appropriateness as global standards for fisheries statistics, once certain standards, concepts, and/or classifications have been developed. In that sense, the mechanism already exists and it concluded neither additional discussion nor action required.

10. Close of the Capture Fishery Group meeting

With the agreement that the Report will be adopted through written communication, the meeting was formally closed.

APPENDIX 7

Revision of ICES area definitions within FAO major fishing area 27

Executive summary

Following ICES ACOM meeting in December 2015, where various area-related questions were revised based on international and internal needs for revision of scientific definition of ICES statistical areas and request by DG Mare for better data collection and request from European Commission for aligning definitions of ICES statistical areas, this document presents an outcome of the meeting.

Issue 1. New sub-divisions within division 27.3.a

Introduction

Skagerrak and Kattegat are two important areas as regards fishing activities and advisory processes.

There are several stocks in ICES Advice that refer to Skagerrak or Kattegat separately. In the meantime, fishing data are reported for the whole ICES statistical division 27.3.a, or at times per statistical rectangle, which is not precise enough.

Therefore, ICES is requested by DG MARE and EUROSTAT with reference to discussions with Denmark, Sweden, and Norway, to define (based on the best scientific approach) ICES statistical sub-divisions that would correspond to Skagerrak and Kattegat. DG MARE, Member states, and other interested parties are to be informed of ICES decision, so the new area references could be implemented in data collection and reporting.

Background information

Denmark in cooperation with other Member states operating in the Skagerrak and Kattegat areas has raised an issue about precision of reporting fishing activities in these areas. FAO hosting area definitions for the major fishing areas stated that it is the regional regulative bodies that decide on the related statistical areas. In case of Northeast Atlantic it is ICES and NEAFC. NEAFC confirmed that NEAFC is not involved in formulating the definition and denomination of FAO and ICES areas. Therefore, it is ICES that is responsible for formalizing statistical area definitions.

In 2012, ICES received a proposal from Eurostat and DG MARE for splitting the division 27.3.a. Emphasizing being the non-political organization, ICES forwarded the request to DG MARE to solve any possible political implications with the member countries. Proposal was further discussed by DG MARE and Member states, and followed by the EUROSTAT fisheries statistics sub-group meeting of representatives from ICES, DG MARE, and Norway at on the 16th of April 2015. Proposal presented at the meeting had an altered western border for Skagerrak, which could not be approved by the ICES representative at the meeting. DG MARE and member countries agreed that data collection and reporting is out of political discussions, and it is solely up to ICES to denominate the most scientifically correct borders for statistical areas Skagerrak and Kattegat. Therefore, ICES was requested to derive a scientifically correct decision on borders for the statistical areas of Skagerrak and Kattegat, and to inform all parties interested.

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Figure 1. Division 27.3.a borders from EUROSTAT presentation 2013

1. Continuous red line: IHO border. Dotted red line: TAC border
2. Dotted blue line: border between FAO 27.III. and 27.IV. Continuous blue line: Border of Skagerrak defined by TAC & IHO

Figure 3. Border lines from the DG MARE proposal (16th of April 2015) based on the TAC borders

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ICES ACOM Decision

ACOM established a subgroup that included representatives of all countries interested in the areas to address this issue.
The subgroup revised and considered all facts and arguments, and suggested that a) the split between the Kattegat and the Skagerrak should be according to the EC TAC border; b) the split between North Sea and Skagerrak should be changed to the diagonal line (not the ICES rectangle delimitation). This should be inforce after 1st January 2016.
ACOM endorsed the suggestion from the subgroup. It was also agreed that new area references will be: 27.3.a.20 (Subdivision 20) for the Skagerrak and 27.3.a.21 (Subdivision 21) for the Kattegat.
So the border lines should follow the lines as follows.
Skagerrak (27.3.a.20): The geographical area bounded on the west by a line drawn from the Hanstholm lighthouse to the Lindesnes lighthouse and on the south by a line drawn from the Skagen lighthouse to the Tilstlarna lighthouse and from this point to the nearest point on the Swedish coast.
Kattegat (27.3.a.21): The geographical area bounded on the north by a line drawn from the Skagen lighthouse to the Tilstlarna lighthouse and from this point to the nearest point on the Swedish coast and on the south by a line drawn from Hasenøre Head on the east coast of Jutland thence across the Great Belt to Gniben Point on the west coast of Zealand, thence along the north coast of Zealand to Gilbjerg Head; thence across the northern approaches of the Øresund to the Kullen on the coast of Sweden.
Border line and area definition for sub-area 27.4 and divisions 27.4.a and 27.4.b should be adjusted accordingly.

Issue 2 Revision of division and sub-division definitions for the IIIb and IIId boarder

Introduction
Tim Lemmens, Coordinator for Operational Data Management in the European Commission addressed ICES to solve the irrelevance in area definitions of the divisions IIIb/IIIc and IIId compare to the separate sub-divisions 22 and 24. ICES, as the local regulative body for the area definitions in the Northeast Atlantic is requested to align the definitions and to inform all interested parties.

Background information
Area definitions currently used for divisions IIIb,c and d are originating from the ICES C.M 1987/D:22 Statistics Committee report “An updated description of the ICES statistical area (North), statistical sub-areas, divisions, and sub-divisions”.
Descriptions for divisions in question are presently as follows [FAO Area 27 list: http://www.fao.org/fishery/area/Area27/en#str]:

Sound and Belt Sea or the Transition Area (Divisions IIIb, c)
The waters bounded by a line from Hasenøre Head on the east coast of Jutland to Gniben Point on the west coast of Zealand to Gilbjerg Head; thence across the northern approaches of the Øresund to the Kullen on the coast of Sweden; thence in a southerly direction along the coast of Sweden to Falsterbo Light; thence across the southern entrance of the Øresund to Stevns Light; thence along the southeast coast of Zealand; thence across the eastern entrance of the Storstrøm Sound; thence along the east coast of the island of Falster *to Gedser Odde; thence to*

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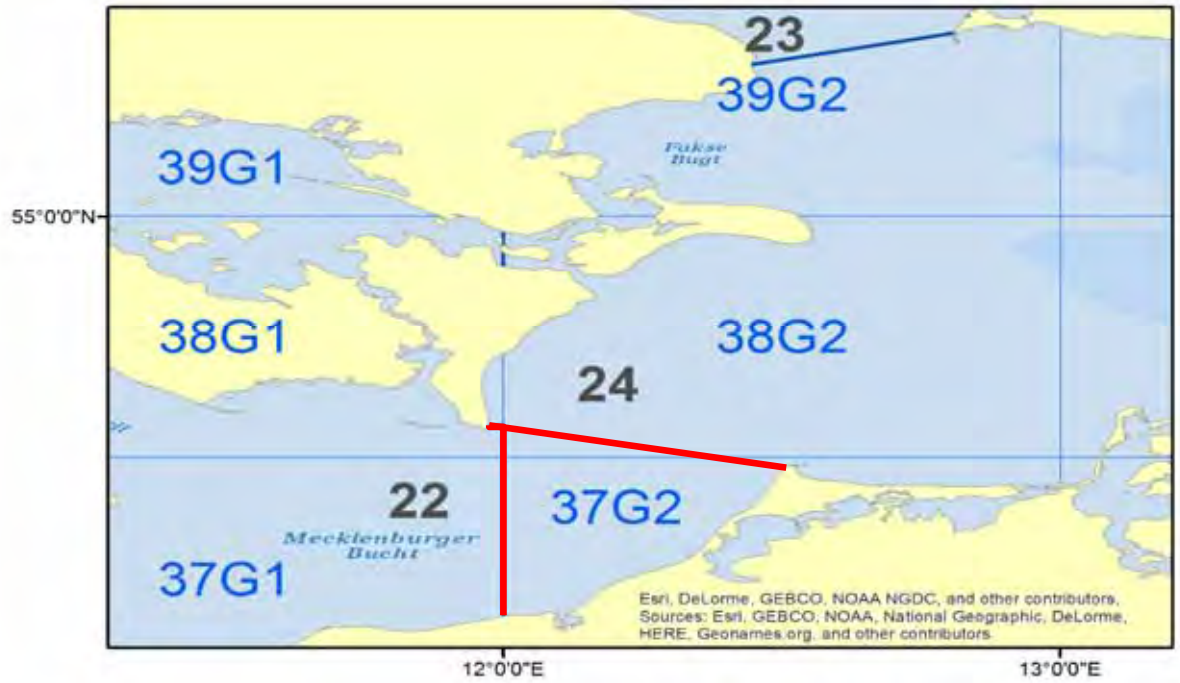
Darsser Ort on the coast of the German Democratic Republic; thence in a southwesterly direction along the coasts of the German Democratic Republic and the Federal Republic of Germany and the east coast of Jutland to the point of beginning.

Baltic Sea (Division IIId) [Defunct]
The waters of the Baltic Sea and its dependent gulfs, bights, and firths bounded to the west by a line from Falsterbo Light on the southwest coast of Sweden across the southern entrance of the Øresund to Stevns Light; thence along the southeast coast of Zealand; thence across the eastern entrance of the Storstrøm Sound; thence along the east coast of the island of Falster to *Gedser Odde; thence to Darsser-Ort on the coast of the German Democratic Republic*.



Compare to the descriptions for sub-divisions:

Belt Sea (Subdivision 22)
The waters bounded by a line from Hasenøre Head (56°09' north latitude, 10°44' east longitude) on the east coast of Jutland to Gniben Point (56°01' north latitude, 11°18' east longitude) on the west coast of Zealand; thence along the west and south coasts of Zealand to a point at 12°00' east longitude; thence due south to the island of Falster; thence along the east coast of the island of Falster to *Gedser Odde (54°34' north latitude, 11°58' east longitude); thence due east to 12°00' east longitude; thence due south to the coast of the German Democratic Republic;* thence in a southwesterly direction along the coasts of the German Democratic Republic and the Federal Republic of Germany and the east coast of Jutland to the point of beginning.

And

Baltic West of Bornholm (Subdivision 24)

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The waters bounded by a line from the Stevns Light (55°18' north latitude, 12°27' east longitude) on the east coast of Zealand through the southern entrance to the Sound to the Falsterbo Light (55°23' north latitude, 12°50' east longitude) on the coast of Sweden; thence along the south coast of Sweden to the Sandhammaren Light (55°24' north latitude, 14°12' east longitude); thence to the Hammerodde Light (55°18' north latitude, 14°47' east longitude) on the north coast of Bornholm; thence along the west and south coasts of Bornholm to a point at 15°00' east longitude; thence due south to the coast of Poland; thence in a westerly direction along the coasts of Poland and the German Democratic Republic to a point at 12°00' east longitude; thence due north to *a point at 54°34' north latitude, 12°00' east longitude; thence due west to Gedser Odde (54°34' north latitude, 11°58' east longitude);* thence along the east and north coasts of the island of Falster to a point at 12°00 east longitude; thence due north to the south coast of Zealand; thence in a westerly and northerly direction along the west coast of Zealand to the point of beginning.

General Note. Whenever in the text reference is made to the former (i) Federal Republic of Germany, (ii) German Democratic Republic and (iii) USSR, these country names should be intended to refer to the present Germany after unification in 1990 and to the present Russian Federation

The area descriptions in *italic* are the ones in question. Maps used by ICES are aligned with the second description.

ICES ACOM Decision

ICES ACOM agreed that the definition of the line between Divisions 3.b/c and 3.d should be in line with the SD 22 and 24 border line, namely the “line starting at Gedser Odde (54°34' north latitude, 11°58' east longitude); thence due east to 12°00' east longitude; thence due south to the coast of the German Democratic Republic.

Issue 3. Revise Division 27.3.d validity

As seen from the previous issue, FAO area definitions on www.fao.org/fishery/area/Area27/en#FAO-fishing-area-27.3.b,c refer to **division 27.3.d** as **defunct**, but sub-divisions within it being valid. FAO hosts area references from ICES 2004 document on ICES area definitions [Proposal for additional reporting areas under the STATLANT programme in FAO area 27. 16 March 2004. ICES]. The document in question does not provide details as to why this division is noted as defunct, and does not point that as a target issue for the proposal. As area reference 27.3.d is being in use by ICES and data contributors, it was suggested to change its status to valid. ICES ACOM agreed to the proposal, and agreed that the validity of division 3.d should be restored.

Issue 4. Northeast Atlantic area referencing

Information and proposal
ICES is pointed as the regulative body for defining regional statistical area units within the Northeast Atlantic. In the past it was the ICES Statistics Committee that was responsible for area definitions. Later on, this task was taken over by ACOM. At present, ICES area-related decisions are scattered in reports and proposals, and the most advanced and complete description of ICES area definitions is hosted by FAO.

This leads to several issues on area referencing taken up at the ACOM meeting 2015.

For the first, FAO's general note to ICES area definitions highlights the **outdated country references** in the area descriptions: "Whenever in the text reference is made to the former (i) Federal Republic of Germany, (ii) German Democratic Republic and (iii) USSR, these country names should be intended to refer to the present Germany after unification in 1990 and to the present Russian Federation." It was decided that the note should be removed, and all the country references updated through all area descriptions respectively.

For the second, major organizations in the Northeast Atlantic use **reference codes** for ICES areas that refer to the complete hierarchical structure: areas, subareas, divisions, subdivisions and units. For example, references like 27.5.b.1.b or 27.3.d.28.1 contain the complete hierarchy information that is easy to track, locate, program and query. Therefore, it was decided to revise ICES historical references with use of Latin numbers and alphabet, and to apply the modern hierarchy references as above from now on. Internal documents, where reference to the Northeast Atlantic is obvious, might omit the prefix 27.

In addition, it was decided to create an online master document for ICES areas that would include area codes, names, and definitions. The document would also store reference information to reports and proposals leading to any changes in area definitions. Hence, any changes from the proposals above would be published in the same document and visible to all parties with interest in the Northeast Atlantic.

This document contains the report of the twenty-fifth session of the Coordinating Working Party on Fishery Statistics (CWP) held in Rome, Italy, from 23 to 26 February 2016. The two subject Groups on Fisheries and Aquaculture had their own meetings to review the progress made and develop work plan for the next intersessional period prior to the main session. The main session received the report from the two Groups and approved the work plans presented. Other main topics discussed were the revision of Standards and Classifications, the dissemination and future updates of the CWP handbook, the establishment of two CWP Task Groups, one for reviewing the International Standard Statistical Classification of Aquatic Animals and Plants (ISCAAP) groupings and the other for Reference harmonization for capture fisheries and aquaculture statistics (SDMX DSDs) and the improvement in visibility of CWP.

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