

**Expert group meeting entitled "Oceans, Seas and
Sustainable Development: Implementation and
follow-up to Rio+20"**

Regional fisheries management organizations (RFMOs) West African region

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What tools for what future ?



Is it all about sharing?

Sub Regional Fisheries Commission (SRFC)

Atlantic Regional Convention for Fisheries Cooperation (ATLAFCO)

West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU)

1. Sub regional Fisheries Commission (SRFC)(1/3)



- 3500 kms of coastline,
- population of 37 Mn (70% living near the coast),
- Per capita consumption of fish: 20kgs
- Around 1 Mn jobs (direct and indirect)
- 36,000 boats and 1200 industrial vessels (750 foreign vessels)
- Total production close to 1.7 Mn T/year for US\$1.5 Bn
- Exportation: US\$ 412 Mn

1. SRFC (2/3)

The objective of the SRFC is to strengthen cooperation and coordination of Member States' policies in particular through the following areas:

Harmonization of policies for the preservation, conservation and exploitation of fishery resources in the sub-region;

Adoption of common strategies in international fora;

Development of sub-regional cooperation in monitoring, control and surveillance;

Developing countries' capacity to undertake research in the fisheries sub-regional level.

SRFC derives its resources from Member States' contributions and grants from technical and financial partners in the framework of the implementation of projects.

1. SRFC (3/3)

Conference of Ministers (decision-making body, Ministers of Fisheries of the Member States)

Coordination Committee (technical and advisory body, Fisheries Directors or any other Expert designated by Member States)

Permanent Secretary (Executive body, Permanent Secretary under authority of the President of the Conference of Ministers)

Minimal Conditions for Access and Exploitation of Marine Resources (1993 and 2012):

- Access To Fisheries Resources (Authorization to access, obligatory landing)
- Common Provisions (principle of fishing licence, Fisheries management, Data and information on fisheries operations, Boarding of observers/ inspectors, local sailors; Register of fishing vessels, etc.)
- Special provisions applicable to artisanal fisheries
- Port State measures and the fight against IUU

Management and action plans (small pelagics, sharks)

2. The Ministerial Conference on Fisheries Cooperation among African States Bordering the Atlantic Ocean (COMHAFAT) or "Atlantic Regional Convention for Fisheries Cooperation"

Inter-governmental organization created in 1989 and composed of 22 Member States, from south of Namibia to north of Morocco

The Convention establishing COMHAFAT adopted in 1991, sets the fields and modalities of regional fisheries cooperation among the member States.



- Conference of Ministers;
- Bureau
- Executive Secretariat

2. ATLAFCO

The main objectives of ATLAFCO are as follows:

- The promotion and strengthening of regional cooperation on fisheries development; and
- The coordination and harmonization of efforts and capacities of stakeholders for the conservation and exploitation of fisheries resources.

3. West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU)



The WAEMU Treaty was signed January 10, 1994

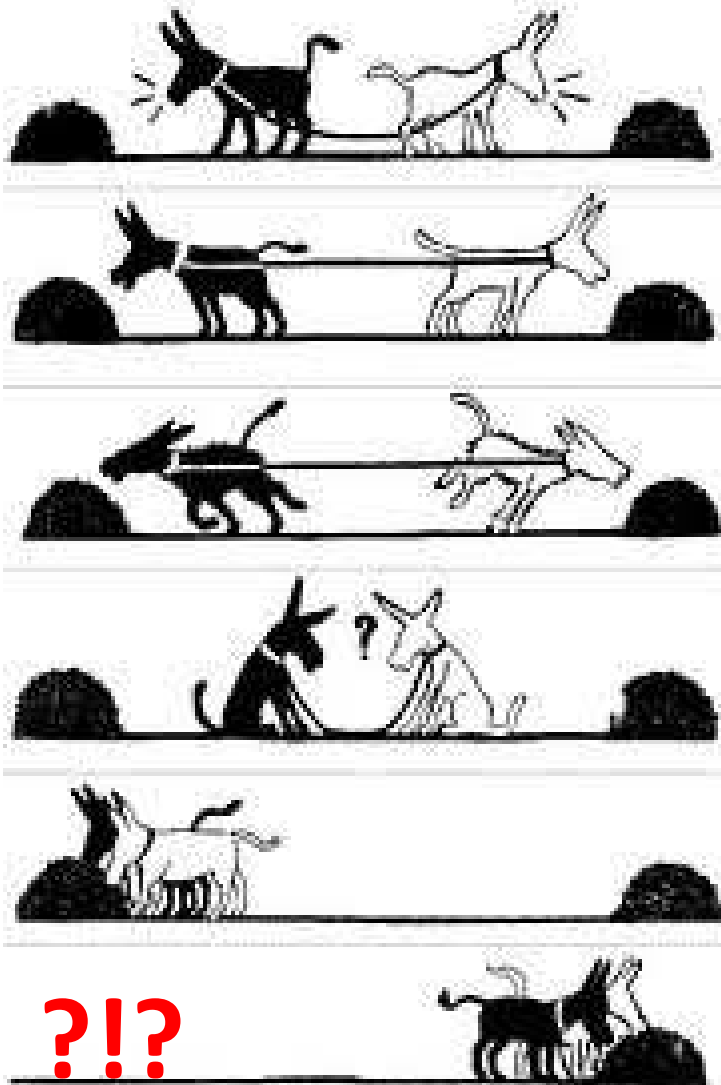
- The Conference of Heads of State,
- Council of Ministers,
- Commission,
- Courts,
- Etc.

3. WAEMU

Fisheries and aquaculture concerted management plan, with 13 programs dealing with:

- Harmonization of legislation on marine fisheries,
- Assessment of fish stocks,
- Fisheries data collection,
- Fisheries co management,
- Etc.

4. What for ?



- Shared resources
- Cooperation agreements
- Common programs conducted to strengthen the cooperation
- Great opportunity to better structure the engagement of the States,
- Pooling of resources
- ...

For sustainable benefits for the population through an effective management

5. But, Quest for legitimacy !

Paramount need for sustainability !

At the level of Member States, decision-makers must have a clear understanding of the common interest, for an effective transcription, at the national level, of the provisions,

Local communities need to know about these bodies and accept them; the enforcement of the measures are therefore more effective; their inclusion and participation, at relevant levels, to take into account their concerns.

6. Major challenges

Limits for consultative bodies,
Mandate of management,
Synergy
Fear of loss of part of sovereignty

Usage conflicts in the exploitation of fisheries resources,
Open access
Safety at sea,
Lack of knowledge about fisheries resources
Fight against IUU fishing
Weakness of Monitoring socio-economic sector,
Lack or obsolescence of the industrial fishing fleet,
Underfunding

Our trans-generational responsibility !



**We'll cross
it !!!**

Contributions count !

