REGIONAL SEMINAR TO ESTABLISH A CONCERTED MANAGEMENT MECHANISM FOR SMALL PELAGICS IN NORTH-WEST AFRICA DAKAR, SENEGAL 15 – 17 APRIL 2009

> SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION ON MANAGING SMALL PELAGICS WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF CECAF

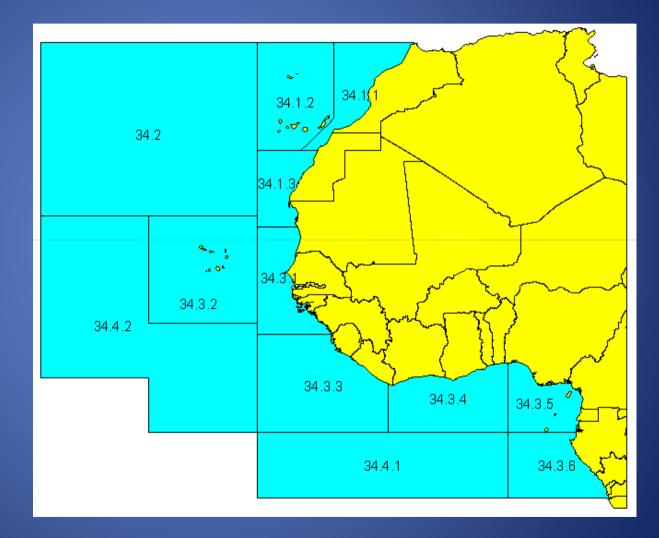
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INTRODUCTION

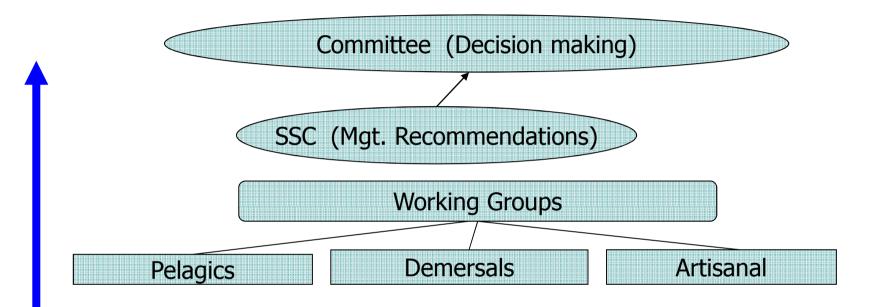
- Established under Article VI-2 of the FAO Constitution by Resolution 1/48 of the FAO Council at its Forty-eighth Session held in Rome in June 1967
- Members consist of FAO Member Nations in Africa which border the Atlantic Ocean from Cape Spartel to the southern boundary of Angola

CECAF AREA 34

AREA NOW INCLUDES ANGOLAN WATERS



STRUCTURE OF CECAF



National assessments are used in the regional Working Groups, including catch and effort data.

FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT IN CECAF ZONE

- Rich fishing area from Mrocco to Guinea (vessels from Europe and Asia)
- Coastal migration of small pelagic species shared responsibility among countries
- Three distinct ecological zones
 - northern sector from the Straits of Gibraltar to
 5°N continuous upwelling resource abundance
 - 5°N to the Equator fisheries resources less
 - Equator to Namibia abundance of resources

SHARED FISH STOCKS

Fish Stocks	Coastal States Sharing
North West Africa	
Hakes (Merluccius merluccius, M. senegalensis and M. Cadenati)	Mauritania, Morocco, Senegal
Cephalopods (octopus)	Mauritania, Morocco
Moroccan sardine	Morocco, Mauritania (Northern Zone)
Sardinella, Mackerels and horse mackerels	Mauritania, Senegal, Gambia, Guinea- Bissau
Certain pelagic stocks (Pomatomus saltator, Scyris alexandrinus, Lichia vadigo)	Senegal, Guinea-Bissau

Occurrence of shared stocks in the region and their distribution and migration patterns require concerted action for rational exploitation.

Sub-regional and regional approach for their assessment and exploitation necessary

CECAF ACTIVITIES

- Improving national catch data collection through capacity building and introduction of more effective techniques
- Stock assessment in working groups
- Resource evaluation in working groups
- Resource management activities will be maintained and complemented by socioeconomic studies and interventions
- Resource management recommendations

CONSTRAINTS

- lack of funding;
- a complacent attitude and lack of commitment to CECAF activities of some Members;
- low participation and attendance at sessions
- inadequate implementation of recommendations by countries problems of communication between partners;
- emergence of fishery management and advisory organizations or arrangements
- inadequate collaboration between CECAF and these bodies.

CONCLUSION

- fishermen in the region are fishing off coasts of several countries
- shared stocks and shared fisheries make regional scientific and management cooperation imperative

 SRFC, COREP, and FCWC should be encouraged in resources management to ensure that fisheries resources management decisions taken by CECAF will be implemented in the countries they cover.