



RSN 3 7 – 8 February 2011

A note by the NEAFC Secretariat

Introduction

The third meeting of the Regional Fishery Body Secretariats Network, RSN 3, was held 7-8 February at FAO HQ, Rome.

The meeting, preparation and participation

There are around 50 partners in the RSN and 28 participated in the meeting. In addition to organisational and housekeeping the meeting was organised under three main headings.

1. The Network and overall cooperation.
2. Relations to FAO and the UN family of organisations in general
3. Thematic approaches to important issues of common interest with information sharing and reciprocal support.

1. The Network and overall cooperation.

The **first** heading covers internal matters between the regional fisheries bodies themselves. It started with a round the table where the members gave a short oral statement on what they see as the major problems to address in their organisation and their region. Under this segment it will also be possible to investigate the possibilities for between meetings cooperation and assistance. The RSN website gives access to information about individual organisations (See Annex I). A last element was the continuation of the discussion at RSN-2 about the role of RFBs in promoting responsible fisheries management.

2. Relations to FAO the UN family in general

The **second** heading covered relevant external issues, items of information from FAO and FAO related items, including the decisions made by COFI-29, developments in other organisations of the UN-family with a bearing on fisheries issues in short external factors affecting Fisheries Management.

3. Thematic approaches to important issues of common interest with information sharing and reciprocal support

The **third** heading covered themes of importance to move forward.

The agenda was as follows:

DRAFT for AGENDA - RSN-3

Opening of Meeting

Adoption of Agenda and Meeting Arrangements

Adoption of Agenda

Meeting Arrangements

Observers



RSN internal matters

Round the table presentation, by member and by region, identifying main problems since

RSN-2

Sharing of information electronically intersessionally

The Future of RSN

FAO, IGOs and UN family initiatives

a) Review of COFI-28 Decisions Relating to RFBs

Other FAO related activities

FIRMS

CWP

Global Record of fishing vessels

RSN website

D4-Science project

Legally-binding Agreement on Port Measures

Climate change

Any other matters

UN family initiatives, CITES, OECD

i. The 2010 Review Conference

ii. Listing of fisheries managed or dealt with by RFBs, CITES

OECD report on RFMOs

Listing of fish stocks managed or dealt with by RFBS

Other discussions in the UN

Johannesburg commitments as regards fisheries

Outcome

A draft report is available. The final report of the meeting will be published on the FAO website.

The meeting made a declaration on behalf of the Network. It can be found on the NEAFC and FAO websites, <http://www.neafc.org/system/files/Press%20release%20RSN%203%207-8%20february%202011.pdf> . It is titled: The Regional Fishery Body Secretariats Network addresses priority areas for fisheries governance.

Annex 1 RSN 3 side event

See below

The Regional Fishery Body Secretariats Network

- ❑ RSN is a picture of diversity in tasks and background and richness in geographical coverage, which aspires to meet the many and different challenges in fisheries around the globe.
- ❑ They are different, because the work in very different environments with respect to species, ecosystems, economy, politics etc.
- ❑ In often very difficult circumstances they try to create frameworks that create a sustainable balance between utilisation and conservation.
- ❑ This important work should always be supported, not just criticised, when things do not play out as we hoped and expected.
- ❑ Details of an increasing numbers of fisheries of the around the world, submitted by RFBs is found at the FAO FIRMS Factsheet database.

RSN Side event Kjaran Hoydal 1 February 2011 FAO HQ

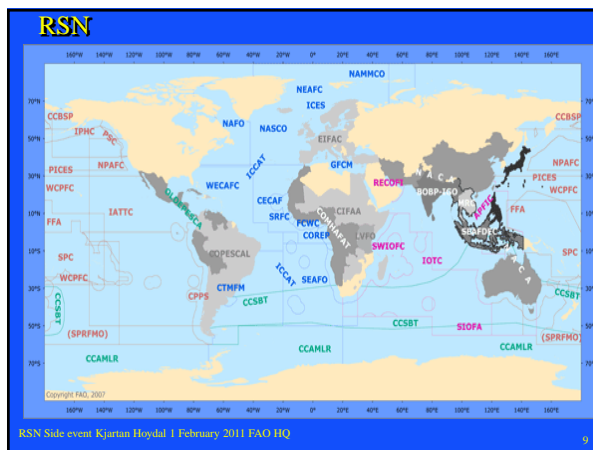
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The Regional Fishery Body Secretariats Network

- ❑ It is impossible in the time we have to let each organisation a brief snapshot the particular problems and challenges they meet.
- ❑ I have asked 5 organisations to do so covering some of the variety. These are
- ❑ Tuna, Africa and straddling stocks, SEAFO, Asia, the South East Asian Fisheries Development Centre, the Pacific, the Pacific Islands Fish Forum Agency and Central America, Industrial Fisheries Producers' Organization. This leaves out large geographic areas and some types of organisations.
- ❑ In the time left RFBs present will answer questions

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