



Workshop on

Biennial Review of IORA Fisheries & Aquaculture Sectors (suggested) “Harmonization of Fisheries and Aquaculture Information System in the IORA Countries”

29-30 October 2019

Fisheries Support Unit (FSU)

Muscat, Sultanate of Oman

CONCEPT NOTE

SUMMARY

In response to the concept note and its importance to the IORA region raised by South Africa in order to set up a biennial review of IORA fisheries and aquaculture sectors, FSU is pleased to support and takeover such great concept in a discussion meeting table through convening a workshop. The ultimate objective of the concept is to harmonize fisheries and aquaculture information system among IORA countries.

MAIN GAP

Information system on fisheries and aquaculture activities in IORA Region are fragmented and uncoordinated. For example,

- (a) reported landings are estimated to be around two thirds of actual catches;
- (b) reported marine landings are based on fishing from boats, ignoring harvesting by hand and
- (c) estimated numbers of fishers are not available in many countries, or do not distinguish between marine and freshwater fishes.

PURPOSE

The main purpose of the meeting will be Strengthen regional-level Blue Economy initiatives

and to guide regional co-operation through improving reporting and knowledge of fisheries and aquaculture information.

OBJECTIVES

The proposal aims

- (a) To build on existing reporting initiatives coordinated by various fishery and aquaculture bodies (such as FAO, RECOFI, IOTC, APFIC),
- (b) To compile existing and new information into a biennial review of fisheries and aquaculture report for Member States in a user-friendly format and finally to identify the (political, technical or financial) gaps in the collected data with emphasis in similarities and dissimilarities concepts.

BUDGET AND SPONSORSHIP

IORA and Government of Oman represented by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries Wealth will sponsor the workshop with a total budget of 50000 USD. The budget will be split 50/50 between Oman Government and IORA through Special Fund.

DATE AND LOCATION

The proposed workshop will take place in Muscat, Sultanate of Oman. It will be 2-days workshop and held end of October 29-30, 2019. Taking in consideration, the participants should be arrived to Oman at least one day before.

PARTICIPANTS (ALL participants should be experts in Fisheries and Aquaculture Statistical Information Systems)**

1. IORA Member States and Secretariat
2. FSU
3. FAO
4. IOTC

OUTCOME

According to workshop objectives and to fisheries and aquaculture information system collected and discussed throughout the workshop, we hope to understand fisheries and aquaculture status in IORA member states, evaluate progress and identify gaps. In addition, the workshop will provide an overview on a regional basis to inform future research and cooperation and hence produce a consolidated biennial review report on fisheries and aquaculture. Finally, the workshop will setup a work plan for future activities and tasks.