



AFRICAN UNION
**INTERAFRICAN BUREAU
FOR ANIMAL RESOURCES**

**REPORT OF THE MEETING ON
OPERATIONALIZING
THE AFRICAN FISHERIES REFORM MECHANISM
(AFRM)**

NAIVASHA, KENYA, 19-21 JUNE, 2014



**OPERATIONALISING THE AFRICAN FISHERIES REFORM
MECHANISM (AFRM). 19TH-21ST JUNE 2014
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TABLE OF CONTENTS

SUMMARY	1
1. INTRODUCTION	3
2. CONDUCT AND ORGANIZATION OF THE MEETING	3
2.1. Organization and financing	3
2.2. Conduct of the workshop	3
2.3. Opening session	3
2.4. Participants and organizers	4
2.5. Program and adoption of the agenda	4
2.6. Officers of Meeting	4
3. OBJECTIVES AND MODALITIES OF THE MEETING	4
3.1. Technical session	5
3.1.1 Presentation of the Background to the meeting	5
3.1.2 Presentation of the AFRM- Structure and Policy Functions	5
3.1.3. Experience from PAF Working Group and their TORs	6
4. AFRM WORKING GROUPS	7
4.1. Constituting the AFRM Working Groups and their Terms of Reference	7
4.1.1. Working Groups	8
4.1.2. Justification and Terms of reference	8
4.2. Criteria for membership of the working groups	12
4.3. Modus Operandi of the Working Group	13
5. TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR AFRM ORGANS	13
5.1. Executive Committee	14
5.2. Advisory Council	14
5.3. CAMFA Secretariat	14
6. ROLE OF AFRM IN COORDINATING FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE IN AFRICA	15
7. CONCLUSIONS AND NEXT STEPS-EVALUATION	15
7.1. Evaluation of the meeting	15
7.2. The next steps	16
8. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING	16

SUMMARY

The meeting on 'Operationalizing the African Fisheries Reform Mechanism (AFRM)' was concluded on the 21st June 2014. Then meeting, organized by AU-IBAR in collaboration with NPCA , had participants from a broad spectrum of stakeholders from academia, from regional institutions to representatives of fishing communities. The meeting proposed seven AFRM Working Groups and developed their terms of reference: I. Policy, Governance and Institutions, II. Sustainable Aquaculture Development, III. Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS), IV. Fish trade and market promotion, V. Small-scale fisheries Development VI. Finance & Investment and VII. Human Capacity Development. Memberships for the various proposed Working Groups were also suggested.

The meeting also reviewed the terms of reference of the principal policy organs of the AFRM, which are the Executive Committee, Advisory Council and CAMFA Secretariat.

I. INTRODUCTION

Following the adoption of the Policy Framework and Strategy Reform for the African Fisheries and Aquaculture by the Joint Ministerial Conference of African Ministers of Agriculture, Rural Development and Fisheries and Aquaculture held in from 28 April - 2 May 2014 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, the AU-IBAR jointly with NPCA initiated a meeting on 'operationalizing the African Fisheries Reform Mechanism (AFRM). The overall objective of the meeting was to develop the institutional framework for the formal operationalization of the AFRM following its adoption by the African Ministers.

2. CONDUCT AND ORGANIZATION OF THE MEETING

The meeting composition of the participants was representative of the various interest groups who had major stakes in the fisheries and aquaculture sector. The composition, as much as possible, reflected regional in terms of institutions that were present and as well representativeness of institutions.

2.1. Organization and financing

The gathering was held in Naivasha, Kenya from the 19 to the 21 June 2014 and was organized by AU-IBAR and NPCA with support from the European Union –African Union project on “Strengthening institutional capacity to enhance governance of the fisheries sector in Africa”.

2.2. Conduct of the workshop

The meeting was informed by relevant presentations that gave background to the AFRM which were followed by working group discussions on various thematic items. The reports of the working were discussed interactively in plenary sessions to reach consensus on agenda items under discussion.

2.3. Opening session

The opening ceremony was jointly chaired by Prof. Ahmed El- Sawalhy, Director of the AU-IBAR and Dr. Sloans Chimatiro, Senior Fisheries Advisor of the NEPAD Planning and Coordination Agency (NPCA). Dr. Simplicie Nouala, the Chief Animal Production Officer of AU-IBAR was the facilitator.

Dr. Sloans Chimatiro gave the opening statement on behalf of the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the NPCA and extended felicitations from the CEO to the participants. Dr. Chimatiro reiterated the significance of the collaboration between AU-IBAR and NPCA and how this inter-agency collaboration contributed to the successful hosting of the CAMFA 2. He gave historical perspectives of the Working Groups established under the DFID-funded Partnership for African Fisheries (PAF) programme and their quality inputs to the eventual finalization of the draft policy framework and reform strategy document. He reminded the participants of the conceptualization of the PAF programme particularly underscoring the rationale for blending foreign or external and local expertise in the working groups. This was a situation in Working Areas where there was dearth of local expertise but also the strategy was prompted by the need to exchange local and international experiences in advancing reforms in the fisheries and aquaculture sector. He admonished the audience therefore that it is critical to learn of successes and failures from members of the PAF working groups present in the meeting as the modalities are being developed for transitioning to the AFRM Working Groups.

The opening statement of the meeting was given by the Director of AU-IBAR, Professor Ahmed El-Sawalhy. He welcomed the participants and expressed his gratitude for their continued commitments to the AU process of the sustainable development of African fisheries and aquaculture. Dr. El-Sawalhy gave historical review of the consultative events that led to the formulation of an AU-based, coherent continent-wide

partnership platform designed to lead the process of coherent, coordinated and evidence-based African fisheries and aquaculture development. He reminded the participants of the purpose of the gathering which is to set in motion the functional operations of this Mechanism to be able to serve the African continent in an expeditious manner. This entails defining the specific roles of the various organs that constitute the Mechanism itself in an interactive fashion but the deliberations, he advised, should also endeavour to draw lessons from the PAF Working Groups which had hitherto undertaken an impressive amount of activities in the fisheries and aquaculture sector. This, he emphasized, would avoid the needless effort of re-inventing the wheel. The Director informed the meeting that the selection of the participants, comprising of academia, state and non-state actors, was deliberate so to ensure inclusiveness in the outcomes of the meeting that would reflect all shades of opinion that are relevant in the fisheries and aquaculture sector. He encouraged the participants to be objectives in the selections of memberships of the working groups as well as reminding participants of the difficult task that lies ahead following the adoption of the Policy framework and reform strategy for fisheries and aquaculture in Africa. He formally declared the meeting open.

2.4. Participants and organizers

The meeting was attended by about 30 participants comprising of Representatives from Regional Economic communities, Regional Fisheries Organizations, Civil Society Organizations, Private sector, Water basin management commissions, Research institutions and academia, Development partners ' Institutions as well as Individual Experts or consultants (annex I list of participants).

The meeting was organized by AU-IBAR in collaboration with the NPCA with support from the European Union –African Union project “Strengthening institutional capacity to enhance governance of the fisheries sector in Africa”

2.5. Program and adoption of the agenda

The program of the meeting was adopted by the participants (annex 2)

2.6. Officers of Meeting

The following were the officers of the meeting

Dr. Satia and *Prof. Eyiwunmi Falaye* were the presidents of the Group I and Group II respectively

Dr. TALL Amadou and *Mr. Edward Kimakwa* were the two rapporteurs respectively

Technical session

3. OBJECTIVES AND MODALITIES OF THE MEETING

The overall objective of the workshop was to develop the institutional framework for the full operationalization of the African Fisheries Reform Mechanism.

The specific objectives were to:

- reviewing the functions of the principal organs (Executive Committee (EC), CAMFA Secretariat (CS) and the Advisory Council (AC), working groups (WG)) established under the African Fisheries Reform Mechanism
- identification of working group areas and constitution of the membership composition of the working groups
- identification of appropriate institutions for the relocation of the respective working groups
- institutionalizing the functions of the AFRM, rule of procedures, meetings

The workshop was highly participatory allowing each participant to freely give their inputs during working sessions and plenary discussions.

3.1. Technical session

3.1.1 Presentation of the Background to the meeting

The Senior Fisheries Officer of AU-IBAR, Dr. Mohamed Seisay, gave a background to the AFRM recognizing that though the African continent is endowed with rich and diverse fisheries resources, both marine and inland which together generate significant economic benefits to the continent in terms of revenues, food and livelihoods, the sector is characterized by ineffective governance combined with policies that are both poorly conceived and implemented, and which are rarely coordinated between neighbouring states and regions. He illustrated this observation by noting that despite numerous involvements in supporting a wide range of fisheries development projects throughout Africa, many of these interventions have failed to ensure sustainable outcomes commensurate with all three pillars of sustainable development – economic, social and environmental.

He pointed out that the AFRM, as a coherent and coordination mechanism, would add value to regional initiatives that are particularly geared towards the sustainable management of shared fisheries resources. In this regard, he underpinned the observations made by the CAMFA I that single states may well reform their fisheries policies and governance, yet remains vulnerable to the activities of their neighbours.

He reminded the participants that CAMFA saw the need for a mechanism to facilitate better coordination of fisheries development activities on the continent and thus charged the AU to develop and implement a coordination mechanism to ensure coherence of fisheries policies and initiatives and to consider options for fisheries reforms and strengthening of institutional arrangements in order to improve the productivity of fisheries and aquaculture.

The rationale for AFRM was therefore based on the realization of the absence of an informed, pan-African mechanism able to take a political and technical leadership in guiding more effective development and the implementation of reforms. Providing leadership at a continental level, he noted, would help articulate the regional issues on fisheries that would constitute a framework for realistic policy formulation based on innovation and best practice.

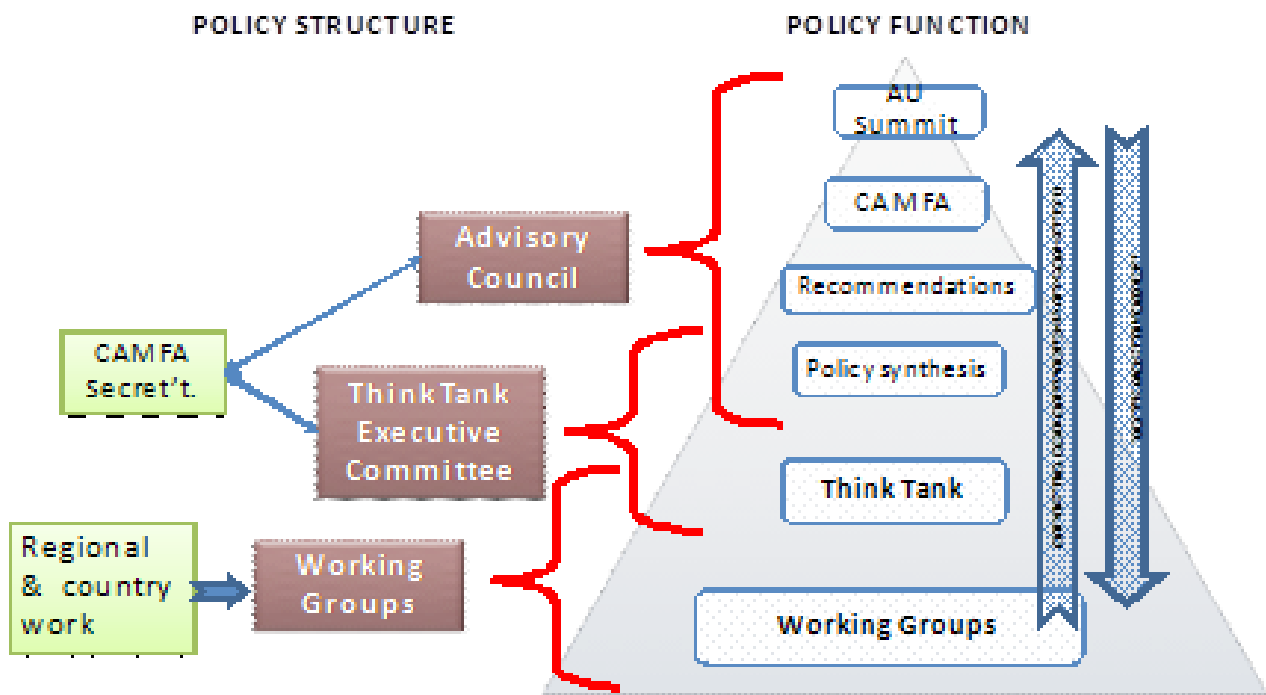
3.1.2. Presentation of the AFRM- Structure and Policy Functions

The Senior Fisheries Officer of AU-IBAR, Dr. Mohamed Seisay, made a presentation that described the major stake-holders consultations that resulted in the formulation of the final architecture and the policy functions of the AFRM. He reminded the participants that the Nairobi meeting agreed to establish an AU-based African Fisheries Reform Mechanism- AFRM, a new coherent continental partnership platform to facilitate the development, adoption and implementation of reforms in fisheries and aquaculture. He stressed that the overarching objective of the mechanism is to strengthen governance, coherence, minimize duplication and hence improve progress in development of African fisheries and aquaculture. He noted that the African Fisheries Reform Mechanism serves as a platform for coordination, information sharing, knowledge generation, advocacy, policy development and resources mobilization.

He described the structure as a pyramid with the evidence-generation functions at the base of the pyramid that informs that the Think tank events for policy synthesis and recommendations to the CAMFA. He elaborated that these functions are performed by the various organs that are integral components of the mechanism. The participants were informed that the **Working Groups** are technical, policy-related groups

to discuss key issues in fisheries and aquaculture on the continent and provide technical support to Think Tank events. The **Executive Committee** directs and manages the African Fisheries Think Tank process and ensures that policy recommendations and syntheses are provided to the **Advisory Council**. He explained that The Think Tank process involves research to generate knowledge necessary to inform policy, as well as conducting policy dialogues by multiple stakeholders. The Advisory Council takes policy messages to political level (including AUC) and informs CAMFA. The **CAMFA Secretariat** is hosted by AU-IBAR, with overall responsibility for CAMFA events; monitoring CAMFA decision implementation.

African Fisheries Reform Mechanism



3.1.3. Experience from PAF Working Group and their TORs

The Senior Fisheries Advisor of NPCA, Dr. Sloans Chimatiro, reminded the participants of the original aim of the PAF programme which was to support emerging political commitment to strengthen Africa's capacity to consider, determine and implement responsive policy reforms in fisheries governance and trade. This objective was mainly premised on the observations that reforms are needed not only to ensure that benefits are sustained, but also to generate and sustain wealth from fisheries. He noted that PAF was designed to help define the contribution fisheries to NEPAD's overall objectives which are Good governance, Sustained economic growth and development, increased sub-regional and continental, political and economic integration and improving Africa's competitiveness and strengthening Africa's participation in multilateral global institutions.

Dr. Sloans briefed reviewed the working groups established under the PAF programme which were:

- Governance (coordinated by IDDRA-UK/France & African partners)
- Trade (coordinated by INFOSA - Namibia)
- 'Stop Illegal Fishing' (coordinated by NFDS-Botswana)
- The Think Tank (coordinated by NEPAD with support from Chatham House, UK)
- Aquaculture & inland fisheries (led by Lilongwe University of Agriculture & Natural Resources (LUANAR) with support from University of Stirling-UK)/NEPAD Fish Node)
- Enterprise Development (led by Development Bank of Southern Africa with support from NRI-Greenwich University)

- FishNet (Network of African Tertiary Fisheries Institutions)-CAADP Expert Pool on Fisheries & Aquaculture (led by LUANAR-NEPAD Fish Node)

The terms of reference of these working groups were:

- To stimulate a ‘think tank’-style process (Chatham House Model) of knowledge exchange, networking and debate policy between African states and international partners.
- To inform the Think tank processes through series of technical and policy research-based components in the domains of (i) fisheries governance, (ii) tackling illegal fishing and (iii) trade and access to markets; and others.
- To undertake case studies of best practice, and pilot activities will be undertaken to validate policy pathways for the Reform Strategy.

He gave an overview of the major accomplishments of the PAF working groups as:

- Supporting COMESA with integration of fish in country CAADP
- Establishing the NEPAD Impact Investment Fund for Small & Medium Enterprises in Fisheries & Aquaculture (NEST). To be managed by independent Fund Manager and capitalised at US\$150 million of “Equity Financing”
- Supporting SADC to develop Regional Aquaculture Strategy
- Supporting CAADP Review for fisheries and aquaculture
- Establishing a “Climate Change Technical Group”

Dr. Sloans gave an illustration of the linkage between the PAF design, the CAADP and the policy framework and reform strategy, the AFRM and the African Voice. He stressed the role of the AFRM working groups which should provide vital policy analytic functions for the Think Tank and the Executive Committee in the coordination mechanism and underscores the need for north-south cooperation in order to help develop African expertise through a gradual process of capacity development and experience sharing

4. AFRM WORKING GROUPS

4.1. Constituting the AFRM Working Groups and their Terms of Reference

Two discussion groups were established comprising of the meeting participants and were tasked to identify priority areas that would support sustainable reforms in fisheries and aquaculture in Africa. The two groups were also requested to provide justification for the identified priority areas as well as develop terms of reference for these areas. In order the two discussion groups, a presentation was made by Dr Mohamed Seisay on the key pillars of the policy framework and reform strategy for fisheries and aquaculture in Africa:

Discussion Group I comprises of the following participants:

Prof. Benedict Satia as the Chair; Prof. Gamal Naggat, Dr. Richard Ball, Mr. Maturin MBodji, Mr. Sylvano Namadoa, Mrs. Dienaba Beye Traore, Mr. Diegane NDong, Dr. Andrew Bao, Mr. Godfrey Monor, Mr. Georges MBA-Asseko, Mr. Emile Essema with Dr. Amadou Tall as rapporteur.

Discussion Group II comprises of the following participants:

Prof. Eyiunmi Falaye as chair; Prof. Emmanuel Kaunda; Mr. Pedro Garcia; Mr. Seraphin Dedi; Mr. Kaitira Ibrahim Katonda; Prof. Adel Shaheen; Dr. Papa Gora Ndiaye with Mr. Edward Kimakwa as Rapporteur.

4.1.1. Working Groups

The groups presented their respective reports to the plenary. Group I identified 5 working groups; namely, **Governance, sustainable aquaculture development, fish trade and marketing, small-scale fisheries and Human Capacity Development.**

Group II identified 6 Working Groups, **policy, governance & institutions, aquaculture, Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS), Trade & Marketing, Finance & investment and Small- scale fisheries.**

There was general consensus that MCS is a complex issue on the continent that requires serious attention and should not be subsumed as a governance issue alone. Thus it agreed to flag out MCS to show how critical it is in protecting fisheries resources and should therefore stand alone as a separate working group.

Human capacity development was identified as an important area for consideration as a working group. It was suggested that capacity needs should be addressed in the various thematic areas and think tanks. However given that capacity is a serious constraint to fisheries and aquaculture development on the continent, a consensus was reached to give serious consideration to it as a working group at least at the initial stages of the AFRM operationalization.

On finance & investment, financial resources are required to help in making fisheries reforms and investing in the fisheries as well as the aquaculture sector.

In view of the above discussions, the meeting proposed the following working groups for further consideration;

- i. **Policy, Governance and Institutions**
- ii. **Sustainable Aquaculture Development**
- iii. **MCS**
- iv. **Fish trade and marketing promotion**
- v. **Small-scale fisheries Development**
- vi. **Finance & investment**
- vii. **Human Capacity Development**

4.1.2. Justification and Terms of reference

The justifications and the terms of reference proposed for the seven working groups are outlined below, which are to be formally adopted by the first meetings of the various working groups:

I. POLICY, GOVERNANCE AND INSTITUTIONS

Justification:

Fisheries represent renewable resources and their overall stewardship and responsible development of aquaculture is primarily a national governance issue. It is essential for wealth generation and livelihoods.

This aspect was re-emphasized by the CAMFA II, in adopting the Fisheries and Aquaculture Policy Framework and Reform Strategy. Because of the weak governance, there is therefore a need to strengthen Policies, Institutions, Regulations, etc. and ensure the inclusiveness of all stakeholders in the decision making process in fisheries and aquaculture.

Terms of reference

The Governance WGS is expected to address approaches and strategies for efficient and effective implementation of the PFRS. The major issues that constrain the effective management of fisheries and the responsible development of aquaculture in the continent will be identified. The WGS will address the following major thematic issues:

- Identify strategies for inclusive Policy Coherence and Legal Framework, including policy gaps and recommending appropriate support
- Interrogate regional and international fisheries arrangements;
- Identifying strategies through which institutional arrangements and regional cooperation and coordination between RFBs, RECs, NGOs and CSOs are strengthened;
- Evaluate emerging management tools and technology applicable to the African fisheries context
- Identify the best approaches to implementing the Fisheries and Aquaculture data collection, analysis, and information sharing and dissemination.
- Identify best practices for sustainable fisheries and environmental resources management
- Increase and consolidate the participation of Africa in the management of high seas fisheries for enhanced benefits
- And any other functions deemed appropriate

II. MONITORING, CONTROL AND SURVEILLANCE

Terms of reference

MCS is integral to national and regional governance, institutional arrangement which ensure sustainable management of fisheries resources and ecosystems. MCS will ensure the protection of fisheries resources

- Adopt an efficient Monitoring, Control and Surveillance system with particular emphasis on compliance, collaboration and IUU fishing;
- Provide technical support at national and regional framework on combating IUU fishing
- Provide evidence based (case studies) to create awareness on the impact of IUU fishing
- Encourage and promote use of appropriate tools and regulations for best fishing practices or responsible fishing
- Provide database, networking and sharing of intelligence
- Strengthen capacity building and information sharing system
- And any other functions deemed appropriate

III. SUSTAINABLE AQUACULTURE DEVELOPMENT

Justification

Aquaculture development represents a critical opportunity for food security, employment, and providing an **alternative** to capture fisheries which are under excessive pressure. There is a need to extend the progress and successes in Egypt and Nigeria (tilapia and catfish) and other countries to many countries in the continent, while ensuring environmental sustainability, and to improve the value chain in the sector.

Terms of reference

The aquaculture WGS is expected to address approaches and strategies for efficient and effective implementation of the PFRS. The major issues that constrain the effective development of sustainable aquaculture in the continent will be identified. The WGS will address the following major thematic issues:

- Identify strategies for inclusive Policy Coherence and Legal Framework
- Identify strategies to ensure that aquaculture initiatives undertaken in national and shared waters bodies

meet international environmental best practices; should be environmentally friendly aquaculture, including application of EAA and bio-security measures, as examples

- Assist member states in identifying opportunities and priorities for aquaculture development
- Identifying strategies through which institutional arrangements and regional cooperation and coordination between RFBs (share Water Bodies), RECs, NGOs and CSOs are strengthened;
- Evaluate emerging management tools ,technology and Best practices applicable to the African Aquaculture context
- Identify the best approaches to implementing the Aquaculture data collection, analysis, and information sharing and dissemination.
- Provide guidelines for technology transfer mechanisms from countries advanced in aquaculture to other countries in the continent. This includes providing linkages for national/regional/international best practices of aquaculture production in Africa (e.g. Nigeria/Egypt) and others]
- Encourage mainstreaming of Aquaculture strategies and plans into national and regional development goals (e.g. CAADP)
- Carry out value chain analyses to improve the aquaculture development in the continent.
- Carry out studies to strength Aquaculture network such as AfriFishnet and ANAF, including providing database and promotion of aquaculture networks to accelerate aquaculture development
- And any other functions deemed appropriate

IV. FISH MARKETING AND TRADE PROMOTION

Justification

Trade is an important engine for economic growth and development. Africa is a net fish exporting continent in value terms (trade surplus) and trade and marketing of fish and fishery products has high potential for increased foreign currency earnings through intra-regional and international exports of value added products and efficient value chains analysis. Furthermore, deepening intra-regional trade can contribute to regional integration and food and nutrition security.

Many African countries are constrained in capitalizing on the potential benefits due to insufficient or lack of harmonized trade legislation; high tariff barriers, illegal road blocks (non-tariff barriers), long , costly and non-harmonized customs procedures; corruptions, harassment of women traders

Terms of reference

The trade and marketing WGS is expected to address approaches and strategies for efficient and effective implementation of the PFRS. The major issues that constrain the effective development of fish and aquaculture products trade and marketing in the continent will be identified. The WGS will address the following major thematic issues:

- Identify strategies to facilitate adoption by countries of sustainable trade policy and legal frameworks applied to trade in fish and aquaculture products;
- Contribute, through the recently adopted Doha Round Trade Facilitation Package), to the development of national and regional trade facilitation strategies;
- Carry out feasibility studies on strengthening the existing Fish and aquaculture products marketing information (weekly price indicators, monthly market trends and yearly structural data); including the promotion of efficient fish trade information networking system.
- Identify strategies to facilitate the use of the WTO trade marketing tools and technology to boost the African fish intra regional trade and marketing;
- Identify strategies facilitating synergy work between different projects, institutions conducting work on

removing road blocks along identified trade corridors in the continent

- Identify strategies to develop and disseminate to the small scale fisher-folks illustrated guidelines on Regional trade Areas and new bilateral trade agreements, including the **EPA** between the **RECs/EU**
- Identify the strategies to facilitate the adoption of the African Ecolabelling Mechanism labels. To also encourage market based approaches to fisheries and aquaculture development, including eco-labelling
- Identify strategies to facilitate the production and development of value added fish and aquaculture products; this includes awareness creation and building capacity on quality and safety standards to better access regional and international markets.
- Carry out value chain analysis for aquaculture products to improve competitiveness including identifying areas of strategic intervention and also including value addition.
- And any other functions deemed appropriate

V. FINANCE AND INVESTMENT

Provide mechanism for accessing funds to finance fisheries and aquaculture development

- Identify sources of funds, opportunities and support for fisheries and aquaculture development, and linkages to the beneficiaries
- Seek investment opportunities and partnership at national and regional level
- Support capacity building for finance and investment for fisheries and aquaculture development
- Facilitate investment and incentives for fisheries and aquaculture development
- Encourage the establishment of the development of fisheries and aquaculture development fund at national and regional level
- And any other functions deemed appropriate

VI. SMALL SCALE FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT

Justification

The small scale fisheries both marine and inland make an important contribute to over 60 per cent to total African fish production. The significant part of this catch is used for human consumption and exports in number of countries. The sector therefore makes an important contribution to wealth generation, income, foreign exchange earnings, food and nutrition. However, the sector is plagued by a number of challenges including poor management, bad fishing practices, inadequate involvement of stakeholders in decision making, poor infrastructure, inadequate policies for alternative livelihoods; absence, inadequate information and data, poor value chain, access rights etc., which need to be addressed.

Terms of reference

The Small Scale Fisheries WGS is expected to address approaches and strategies for efficient and effective implementation of the PFRS. The major issues that constrain the effective management of fisheries and the responsible development of aquaculture in the continent will be identified. The WGS will address the following major thematic issues:

- Identify strategies for inclusive Policy Coherence and Legal Frameworks
- Identify strategies and mechanisms to facilitate the integration of migrant fishers in host countries;
- Evaluate emerging management tools and technology applicable to the African small scale fisheries context. This would entail improving fisheries governance through participatory management (co-management)
- Identify and encourage alternative livelihood for small scale fishers
- Identify the best approaches to implementing the Small Scale Fisheries data collection, analysis, and information sharing and dissemination.

- Carry out value chain analyses to improve the small scale fisheries sustainable development in the continent
- Streamlining the contribution of small scale fisheries in the national economies of African countries
- Strategies and mechanisms for gender mainstreaming; youth participation as well as the inclusion of other stakeholders;
- And any other functions deemed appropriate

VII. HUMAN CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

Justification

The evolution of fisheries stewardship approaches and switches over the past half century onto Fisheries Resource Governance; now encompasses “the sum of the legal, social, economic and political arrangements used to manage fisheries and aquaculture in a sustainable manner”. Moreover, the current emphasis on wealth creation from the use of fisheries resources, demands a broader knowledge base which has not been sufficiently accounted for in the courses offered by educational institution engaged in traditional capacity building in fisheries.

Therefore, there is an urgent need to identify knowledge gaps to improve the management of the sector and empower the stakeholders in order to achieve goals and objectives of fisheries and aquaculture PFRS.

Terms of reference

- Review the human capacity capabilities in institutions responsible for fisheries management and other stakeholders organisations in African countries with respect to the key stewardship approaches
- Identity human capacity development needs from assessment studies
- Develop training programmes (both formal and informal) to develop capacity especially in the socio-economic perspective of fisheries stewardship that is observably in dearth
- Identify strategies and mechanisms for knowledge sharing in fisheries and aquaculture;
- Build synergy between local ecological knowledge and scientific knowledge to enhance the sharing of stewardship vision across the fisheries sector
- Carry out feasibility socio economic studies on different aspects of the supply chain
- And any other functions deemed appropriate
- And any other functions deemed appropriate

4.2. Criteria for membership of the working groups

The two discussion groups were again convened to deliberate on the criteria for memberships of the identified working areas and also suggest names of institutions and persons that would be potential members. A presentation was made Dr. Seisay to inform the discussions on criteria for memberships.

There was consensus on the criteria for eligibility of membership of the working groups:

Members will be drawn from:

- Representatives of the RECs
- Specialized intergovernmental fisheries and aquaculture institutions.
- Relevant intergovernmental institutions such as Water Basin Body and financial institutions
- Non-state actors such as Fishermen Professional organizations, CSOs, Women’s groups, private sector, etc.)
- Individual consultants with proven expertise and knowledge in relevant areas of the WGs

- In addition, non- African experts could appointed as members working group sessions in appropriate (WGs to have a mixture of local and external experiences)
- Regional balance should be taken into consideration when constituting the working groups
- The total numbers of members, including the chair, should not exceed 10.

In addition to permanent working groups established under the AFRM, there was general acknowledgement that, when necessary, an Ad HOC working group may be convened to address the following issues:

- Climate Change
- Youth
- Gender
- Research & Development
- HIV/AIDS
- Mainstreaming fisheries and aquaculture in CAADP

4.3. Modus Operandi of the Working Group

The WGS will realize their functions by one or a combination of the following methods as appropriate:

- Correspondences [Telephone conference, Electronic communication (email, WebEx)]
- Technical meetings
- Workshops/seminars
- Studies
- Evaluation
- Ad hoc (back to back with other meetings)

For each of these matters the experts will develop their detailed Terms of reference and activities. The WGs elect a chair person whose term of service is two years renewable once.

The WGs will have no more than 10 members; six of whom will be permanent the term will be three years renewable. The replacement of permanent members will be done on a rotational basis to ensure that at any one time at least three members will remain to retain institutional memory. The rest are associated or co-opted members invited on the basis of their expertise and the subject area

Every effort will be made to reflect a regional and gender balance in the composition of the WGs.

The WGs will also canvass for the resources to ensure the continuation of their activities.

The WGs will produce at the end of each technical meeting or activity a report as well as an annual report highlighting the main achievements and the constraints.

5. TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR ARFM ORGANS

The two discussion groups were tasked to review and refine the terms of reference of the Executive Committee and the Advisory Council of the AFRM based on the presentation by Dr. Seisay.

The following terms of reference were tentatively proposed which were to be adopted during the first meetings of the Executive Committee and the Advisory Council.

5.1. Executive Committee

The Executive Committee informed by the Think Tank process provides the engine of the AFRM. The Executive committee shall fulfill the following functions:

- Works closely with Think Tanks on prevailing and emerging issues on continental fisheries and aquaculture
- Manages, directs and supervises Think Tanks and Ad - hoc WGs and specialized WGs
- The Committee ensures research findings and debates are translated into feasible policy options that are taken forward into the political domain by the Advisory Council and CAMFA Secretariat.
- The Executive Committee, through Think tank events, will have the responsibility for consulting with all AFRM partners and stakeholders in developing the process for prioritizing themes and convening events
- The Committee provides the Advisory Council and CAMFA Secretariat with policy recommendations relevant to CAMFA and other forums (including international meetings where a single 'African Voice' may be seen as advantageous)
- Any other functions deemed appropriate

5.2. Advisory Council

The Advisory Council, comprising of a limited number of high level experts, is responsible for the examination of policy options and the transformation of these as recommendations for the consideration of CAMFA. The Advisory Council shall fulfill the following functions:

- To act as the interface between policy synthesis (by the Executive Committee and CAMFA).
- To ensure that policy recommendations are appropriately articulated in preparation for CAMFA meetings
- Identify and advice on issues and upcoming events in international fisheries, aquaculture and related disciplines where the 'African Voice' needs to be articulated, increased and strengthened
- In tandem with the CAMFA Secretariat, will also support political advocacy and lobbying to facilitate adoption of policy recommendations by CAMFA.
- Advisory Council and the CAMFA Secretariat will foster and strengthen partnerships, linkages and coherence with other non-AFRM partners
- Should develop resource mobilization mechanisms to support the AFRM
- Initiate independent performance evaluation of the various organs of the AFRM
- Any other functions deemed appropriate

5.3. CAMFA Secretariat

The refining of the terms of reference of the CAMFA Secretariat was accomplished by Discussion Group resulting in the following revised terms of reference:

- CAMFA Secretariat strengthens the CAMFA process in its role of influencing continental, regional and national fisheries and aquaculture policies
- The CAMFA Secretariat and the Advisory Council will work integrally to facilitate the development and promotion at political level of the African fisheries and aquaculture policy framework and reform strategy
- The Secretariat will support all administrative, management, logistic and governance functions of the AFRM
- The Secretariat support will include coordinating and facilitating activities by the various bodies for the effective functioning of the AFRM, facilitating the CAMFA process, advocacy etc.
- The Secretariat will also monitor progress of implementation of CAMFA Decisions and maintain linkages with RECs, RFBs/RFMOs and fisheries/aquaculture programmes/ projects/initiatives on the continent
- The CAMFA Secretariat will ensure effective collaborative working arrangements with the main AU organs, external partners and together, define their working arrangements.
- To ensure best practices in fisheries and aquaculture are consolidated, disseminated and mainstreamed into CAMFA process to influence continental, regional and national policies. This function would also include

articulation and packaging of lessons learned from projects/programmes/initiatives and transformation into policy briefs for capacity development purposes on the continent

- Coordinate the representation and participation of AU in international fisheries and aquaculture forums for adoption of 'unified voice' and 'common position' in these forums
- The CAMFA Secretariat is the custodian of all databases, reports and other relevant information/documents of all AFRM organs.
- The CAMFA secretariat shall work closely with the Advisory in resource mobilization efforts.

6. ROLE OF AFRM IN COORDINATING FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE IN AFRICA

The participants deliberated and gave their suggestions as to the role of the AFRM to ensure adequate coordination of African fisheries and aquaculture sector.

- i. The CAMFA Secretariat of the AFRM should be the main organ or entry points for ensuring interventions in fisheries and aquaculture activities. The Secretariat should monitor particularly donor interventions to ensure coordination and harmonization of activities with ongoing and existing activities and synergy with the policy framework and reform strategy for fisheries and aquaculture on the continent.
- ii. The Secretariat should create awareness to ensure more inclusive agenda and ownership of the AFRM as this is very important during implementation
- iii. Secretariat should articulate lessons learnt from various interventions in fisheries and aquaculture sector and for dissemination. The secretariat should function as a repository of information and data to provide information to partners. The Secretariat should package information on successes and failures of interventions to reform fisheries governance at the country and regional level and the packaged information to be widely disseminated.
- iv. Calendar of major activities should be drawn up and available on line for such as CAMFA, COFI and RECs. The Regional Fisheries Bodies should feed the CAMFA Secretariat with pertinent information on their activities.
- v. The CAMFA Secretariat can be linked with the existing structure of CAADP where a semblance of forum for donors has been created.
- vi. AFRM Focal points at national and regional levels should be considered which could promote advocacy
- vii. The WGs should be well coordinated and activities harmonized, linked with the CAMFA Secretariat
- viii. The possibility of creating regional WGs in future would obviate the problems of coordination in African fisheries
- ix. Performance monitoring and analysis of status and trends for a range of African fisheries and projects
- x. The participation of RECs and RFBs in working groups, Executive Committee and Advisory Council deliberations is a strategy to foster regional coordination of fisheries and aquaculture activities
- xi. The membership of development partners in the Executive Committee and Advisory Council as members/observers would ensure coordination
- xii. Inter-sectoral linkages by co-opting other sectors in the AFRM meetings that impact on fisheries and aquaculture activities -

7. CONCLUSIONS AND NEXT STEPS- EVALUATION

7.1. Evaluation of the meeting

There was overall satisfaction that the objectives of the meeting were fully met. Some general observations were made as follows by the participants:

There was need to consider gender aspects in future meetings:

- Need to bring in professionals
- Continue engaging with the RECs we seem not to have been fairly represented.
- How will the institutions be selected?
- How the mechanism should be reflected on the ground
- Need for more awareness and inclusiveness of the African reform agenda
- Need to further articulate on marine fisheries resources
- There are some aspects that we may not have been given less attention in the meeting but that couldn't mean they of less important, namely Climate and fisheries change, research & development, high sea fisheries.
- Need to consider also the youth in this process.
- Egypt offered to host any aquaculture event, this was appreciated.
- Need to work on the results framework. This will form the next steps.

7.2. The next steps

An indication of the next steps was given as follows:

- Finalize on the report of the meeting and share the same with participants
- Will engage with institutions and individuals on whether they are willing to join the WG or not and thereafter constitute to the WG. This is likely to take two months or so.
- Will identify quick wins activities for the WG. There will be formal communication in this respect.
- The list of the constituted WG will be made available by October 2014. It may not be possible to have all the 7 working groups.

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8. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

Dr. Sloans of NEPAD gave closing remarks. He thanked all participants for their active participation and contribution which made the meeting successful and productive. He also thanked DFID for the financial support to PAF which has been able to consolidate the partnership towards fisheries reform in Africa. He praised the collaboration between AU-IBAR and NPCA over the past years which have culminated in the adoption of the policy framework and reform strategy as well as mobilizing funds to kick start the implementation of the provisions of policy framework and reform strategy document.

The meeting was officially closed on the 21/06/2014.



African Union – Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources
(AU-IBAR)

Kenindia Business Park
Museum Hill, Westlands Road
PO Box 30786
00100 Nairobi

Kenya

Tel: +254 (20) 3674 000

Fax: +254 (20) 3674 341 / 3674 342

Email: ibar.office@au-ibar.org

Website: www.au-ibar.org