



Recommendations of the workshop "Monitoring, control and surveillance (MSC) as an effective tool for the fight against IUU fishing"

- A. Highlighting the importance of the fisheries sector in the economic growth, contribution to the job creation, food security and poverty reduction in the countries of ATLAFCO zone
- B. Recognizing the magnitude of illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing in the region, making ineffective the conservation and sustainable management of fisheries and thus endangering biodiversity and equilibrium of the marine environment;
- C. Considering the substantial losses incurred at the economic, social and environmental levels of the countries of the region.
- D. Considering the international instruments in the fight against IUU fishing including the FAO Code for Responsible Fisheries, the International Action Plan against IUU fishing (IPOA-IUU) FAO and the Port State measures;
- E. Considering that international cooperation is the appropriate framework to effectively fight against IUU fishing, due to the high mobility of some fish stocks, fishing fleets and the underlying funds, as well as the global nature of many fish products markets
- F. Considering the close relationship in fisheries between the EU and the countries of the zone, some of which have concluded fisheries agreements allowing EU vessels to fish in their EEZs;
- G. Considering the conditions of access to the EU market imposed for fishery products, requiring catch certificates, which need urgent adaptation of the countries of the region;
- H. Convinced that the monitoring, control and surveillance (MCS) of fishing, is an effective tool in the fight against IUU fishing.
- I. Considering the initiatives and instruments adopted in strengthening the SCS at sub-regional and regional levels by the cooperation organizations including the CSRP, the FCWC, the COREP and the AU.
- J. Recognizing the importance of the work made by ICCAT in the tuna fishery in the matter of MCS.

The workshop recommends:

1- The strengthening of regional and interregional cooperation for the eradication of IUU fishing;

2-The development and implementation of national and regional fisheries policy strategy, aimed at improving and strengthening management measures; development and conservation of fishery resources;

3- The adoption and implementation at ATLAFCO countries level of relevant instruments and measures taken at the international level to eradicate IUU fishing, including:

4- Strengthening institutional, human, technical and financial as well as in the States and regional organizations, in order to exercise systematic and effective monitoring, control and surveillance (MCS) of fishing;

5- The development of a " Regional Plan of MCS of Fisheries in ATLAFCO area", taking in account of progress and plans adopted at the level of the sub regional fisheries organizations of the region, which highlights the priority actions of MCS, information exchange mechanisms, cooperation between national control, inspection and observation of fishing operations authorities;

6- The establishment of a "regional scientific observer program" as an additional source of operational information collected by observers during monitoring of fishing activities of targeted vessels;

7- The implementation of a capacity building program for ATLAFCO countries to train and supervise national scientific observers. Within the framework of tuna fisheries, the program should include:

- The training of deputy regional Coordinators in each port of landing,
- The harmonization of the different observer programs and the transposition of the existing models to other fleets and gear,

8- The participation of non-state actors in the development and implementation of the provisions of MCS of fishing, in particular, the legitimate representatives of offshore fishing and coastal, local or permitted to fish under the Partnership Agreement for Responsible Fisheries, representatives of processing industries and marketing of fisheries products, a view to their membership and their effective contribution to participatory and citizen control of fishing activities