



## 10<sup>th</sup> Edition

## Activities 2012 / Retrospective 2011



### Missions of the Permanent Secretary

During the intercessional period 2011-2012, Mr. Kane Ciré Amadou, Permanent Secretary of the SRFC, took part in regional and international meetings as follows :

04 to 07 November 2012	Meetings with the Ghanaian authorities to monitor the Regional Project.
28 October to 2 November 2012	Consultations between Mauritania, World Bank and the SRFC preparation for the COPE meeting, in Nouakchott.
13 July 2012	Signature by the Islamic Republic of Mauritania to the Convention on Minimum Conditions for Access to resources (CMA), in Nouakchott.
09 to 11 July 2012	Signature by the Republic of Cape Verde of the Convention on Minimum Conditions for Access to resources (CMA), in Praia.
22 to 24 June 2012	Signature by the Republic of Guinea of the Convention on Minimum Conditions for Access to resources (CMA), in Conakry.
27 to 26 May 2012	Working meeting with the Chairman of the Conference of Ministers of SRFC about the progress of activities of regional cooperation in Banjul.
23 to 6 April 2012	Signature with His Excellency the Minister of Fisheries and Aquaculture of the Republic of Cape Verde to the Convention on the co-management of fisheries in Cape Verde, Praia.
18 to 2 April 2012	Signature with His Excellency the Minister of Fisheries and Aquaculture of the Republic of Guinea to the Convention on the co-management of fisheries in Guinea, Conakry.
17 to 21 March 2012	Meeting formulation of the Strategic Plan of the COMHAFAT, Rabat (Morocco).
23 February 2012	6 <sup>th</sup> PRCM Coastal and Marine Forum in Banjul.
19 February 2012	Meeting of the Steering Committee Co-Management & AMP, in Banjul.
22 to 25 January 2012	Planning Workshop for the Strategic Plan activities of the SRFC in 2012 with the participation of the technical team, in Saly (Senegal).
20 to 24 November 2011	Working Group "Policy against the end IX", in Berlin Presentation of the theme: "Food security and access to natural resources".

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## Missions of the Permanent Secretary (following)

08 October 2011	Meeting of the Technical Commission Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (SCS) of National Directors SCS, for operations planning, in Banjul.
11 to 15 September 2011	Debriefing meeting of "Octopus" (joint surveillance operations in the south, completed in July 2011), in Conakry.
11 March 2011	Launch Workshop of the Project SCS and meeting of the Steering Committee SCS, in Banjul.
06 Mars 2011	Validation workshop of the Plan SCS, in Banjul.
08 February 2011	29th Session of the COFI (FAO), in Rome.
26 Janvier 2011	Halieutis living/ Halieutis show in Agadir (Morocco).



## In short...

### Meeting of the Committee on Fisheries (COFI) of FAO

SRFC, represented by Dr. Hamady Diop, Head of Department of Research and Information Systems (DRSI), actively participated in the meeting of the Committee of Fisheries (COFI) of the FAO held in Rome, Italy, July 2012. This meeting provided the opportunity to the Head of DRSI to present to the General Assembly the SRFC strategy, ongoing programs, and the various partnerships and achievements of the Commission. The daily briefings organized by NEPAD and the African Union were the opportunity for the SRFC to get the issues that matter to the region in the agenda and discussions, and further get the Minister of Fisheries of Sierra Leone to mention the Convention on Minimal Access Conditions (CMA) and the SRFC in its intervention in plenary, on behalf of the African delegations. Several Heads of Fisheries (Senegal, Mauritania among others) have also mentioned the SRFC in their interventions. At the end of the side event "*Securing a future for sawfishes communicating the recommendations of the global sawfish conservation strategy*" organized by the Government of the United States and IUCN, Dr. Diop discussions with the U.S. delegations have reassured on the possibilities to obtain funding for the implementation of the Programme of the sub-Regional Plan

of Action for the conservation and sustainable management of shark populations. In this perspective, a concept note was submitted to the Government of the United States for consideration.

At the side event organized by ICSF in collaboration with WFF and WFFP IPC, interventions of Dr Diop brought the FAO to approach him to participate in a 14 minutes film, in which he devoted five minutes speaking about the importance of artisanal fishing for our sub-region and the various initiatives of the SRFC (CMA, Small scale fisheries Project, etc..) to address problems of artisanal fisheries. This film has been in continuous projection in the showroom of the FAO, and is currently online on Youtube.

The meeting of the Secretariats of Regional Fisheries Organisations (RFOs) allowed Dr Diop to enter in the final report the programmatic achievements of the SRFC, and the coordination problems between the RFOs and the regional economic communities. Finally this mission to Rome was the occasion for Dr Diop to bring a large set of documents on various important topics for the SRFC. ■

### Meeting of the « International Institut for Fisheries Economics and Trade (IIFET) »

Dr. Hamady Diop, Head of Department of Research and Information Systems (DRSI), participated in the scientific meeting of the International Association of Fisheries Economists, held in Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania from 16 to 20 July 2012. Member of a panel of three researchers (one American and one European) who evaluated the best communications for a prize, Dr Diop has helped to highlight the scientific quality of the SRFC. ■



## **COP 10 : recognition of the first plan role of the Regional Organisations of Fisheries in the sustainable management of the marine and coastal environment**

12-16 November 2012, Pointe Noire, Republic of Congo. SRFC, represented by Ms. Beye Dienaba Traoré, Head of Department of Policy and Legislation Harmonization (DHPL), attended the 10th Conference of Parties (COP 10) to the Abidjan Convention. The workshop on "Financing projects management marine and coastal environment in Africa" was the opportunity for the SRFC to present its strategy and programs, and in his willingness to share his experiences and results with the Secretariat of the Abidjan Convention, to submit on behalf of Regional Fisheries Organisations (RFOs) in the zone of the Abidjan Convention, a draft of decision that was adopted by the COP 10 as "**Resolution 15**".

This resolution recognizes the role of RFOs in the development and implementation of policies, programs and projects for sustainable management of fisheries resources, and the role of RFOs in the sustainable management of the marine environment and coastal areas. The program for the Abidjan Convention will now include environmental concerns related to fishing, and grant an observer status to the SRFC.■

### **ACP Fish II workshop : capacity building in developing policy instruments**

05-09 November 2012, Dakar - As part of the implementation of the ACP FISH II program in West Africa, the SRFC, represented by Ms. Beye Dienaba Traoré, Head of Department Policy and Legislation Harmonization (DHPL) participated in a regional training workshop for local expertise for the development of policy instruments. This program aims to contribute to the sustainable and equitable management of fisheries, to lead to poverty reduction and improved food security in ACP countries. This workshop on building capacities in developing policy instruments for beneficiary countries, has focused, among other things, on topics such as the development of a Fisheries Policy and Strategy or Fisheries development, the development or revision of Fisheries laws, the development of Management Plans for Fisheries, negotiation strategies with technical partners. Following the workshop, the participants wished to hold a roundtable with representatives of RFOs to reflect on policy at regional level. Representatives of the SRFC and the Committee on Fisheries of the West Central Gulf of Guinea (CCPO) were mandated to make proposals in this sense.■

### **« Operation Sardinella »**

4-5 October 2012, Banjul, The Gambia. A debriefing meeting on "Operation Sardinella" was held during the third meeting of the Technical Commission for Monitoring, Control and Surveillance. As a reminder, this joint surveillance operation (Gambia, Guinea-Bissau and Senegal) was conducted from July 30<sup>th</sup> to August 4<sup>th</sup>, 2012 without major incident. The joint operation between The Gambia and Senegal observed 34 vessels, controlled 21 and none was involved in IUU fishing.■

### **Training session for the managerial staff for Monitoring, Control and Surveillance**

1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2012, Banjul, The Gambia. Within the framework of institutional support, the Department of Monitoring, Control and Surveillance participated in the training session for the managerial staff for Monitoring, Control and Surveillance, held at the Laico Hotel Beach in Banjul. A previous session was held in Dakar from 14 to 25 May 2012 at the National School of Maritime Training (ENFM) the Inspectors.■

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Technical Commission for Monitoring, Control and Surveillance**

October, 4 to 5, 2012, The Gambia. The third meeting of the Technical Commission on Monitoring, Control and Surveillance was honored with the presence of the First Secretary of the Embassy of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg. The aim was to explore the possibilities of a new partnership between this Embassy and the SRFC, notably in the field of communications, detection and tracking of vessels. As a follow up to the meeting, a concept note at the request of the Embassy of Luxembourg was produced by the Department of Monitoring, Control and Surveillance and it is a technical assistance to assess the needs of Member States in terms of means of communication, detection and tracking of vessels. A request for funding was also developed.■



## West African Regional Program for fisheries (WARPF)

### Good Governance and Sustainable Management of Fisheries

Liberia is in the process of strengthening its fisheries policies and regulatory framework for the exploitation of the fish resources. The New Fisheries regulations have been developed and are under implementation. Maps of maritime boundaries of the Liberian waters have been developed, and coordinates and positions have been digitized. An Executive order for the declaration of the maritime zones has been signed by the President since 12<sup>th</sup> January 2012 but has still not been submitted to DOALOS for gazetting.

Database for vessel registry has been developed and the registration of small scale fishing vessels have been conducted and the registration of new boats in ongoing.

Co-management association (CMA) has been established in Robertsport fishing community to sustainably manage the fish resources. The constitution for the CMA has been drafted and under consultations

An International University from Iceland that was recruited to develop a national fisheries policy through stakeholder consultations and to also work with the University of Liberia to develop a curriculum for fisheries management has just

concluded its inception mission and report has been submitted for validation.

In Sierra Leone, similar effort in strengthening policies and regulatory framework for the fisheries sector is ongoing. The fisheries policy has been developed and operational. The fisheries regulations and the fisheries Act have been revised and validated by stakeholders. These documents have been submitted for enactment. Database for vessel registry for small scale vessels has been developed and the registration process for all artisanal fishing vessels was completed in August 2012 and data entering is ongoing.

In Cape Verde, Database for the vessel registry has also been developed and the registration of fishing vessel is currently in progress. The Norwegian research vessel, Fridtjof Nansen in collaboration with the FAO, has done evaluation of principal pelagic and demersal fish stocks in Cape Verde. Two MPA pilot sites for fisheries co-management in Sal and Maio Islands have been selected ■

### Implementation of Dashboard for fisheries management

The implementation of an information system (Dashboard) for the sustainable management of fisheries in the participating countries is ongoing. A diagnostic study conducted in six countries (Cape Verde, Liberia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Guinea Bissau and Ghana) between June and July 2012, with the cooperation of institutions for implementation and other relevant actors, has resulted in the production a preliminary report. It proposes an architectural and technical dashboard, and was sent to member States of the SRFC for validation. ■

### Operational guide for the Port State Measures

The operational guide that will facilitate participating countries to implement the FAO port state measures has been developed and the document was validated by all seven member states of the CSRFP plus Ghana and Liberia in March 2012. The final document which is now in both French and English language has been transmitted to the program countries. The next phase which is to sensitize relevant stakeholders is in the preparation. ■

### Implementation of the communication strategy of the network of journalists

The operational guide that will facilitate participating countries to implement the FAO port state measures has been developed and the document was validated by all seven member states of the CSRFP plus Ghana and Liberia in March 2012. The final document, which is now in both French and English language, has been transmitted to the program countries. The next phase, which is to sensitize relevant stakeholders, is in the preparation. ■

### Capacity building

Following the recommendation of the second regional steering committee meeting that was convened in Praia, Cape Verde, on the 1st – 2nd March 2012, the RCU has provided supports to Cape Verde, Liberia, Guinea Bissau and Sierra Leone in training staff of the WARFP project implementation unit in procurement, project monitoring and evaluation, Budget and financial management and project management. The training program is currently running since July 2012 and will be completed in the first quarter of 2013. The various training was conducted at CESAG in Senegal for French speaking countries while for the English speaking the training was conducted at GIMPA in Ghana and in Kenya. ■



## Project «Towards regional policies for sustainable fisheries for small pelagics in Northwest Africa»

### Establishment of consultative committees

The project has established, by Ministerial declaration or by law, consultative committees for the conservation and management of the small pelagic, in Gambia (28 June, 2011), Mauritania (12 May, 2012) and Senegal (23 November), 2012. Such a committee already exists in Morocco. Since their creation, the national committees have met to validate national study reports commissioned by the SRFC.

At the regional level, the composition of the committee has been decided upon at the Saly workshop held in May, 2011. The internal regulations of the regional committee are finalized and await decision by the Conference of Ministers.

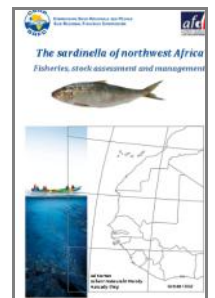
National studies on the biology, socioeconomics and governances of the small pelagics commissioned by the SRFC with regards improvement of knowledge on the small pelagics were successfully conducted and validated by the national committees. ■

### Policies and management tools for a management unit

Following national studies and workshop on gaps in knowledge, the SRFC, as a first step, is drafting a policy for small pelagics with a particular interest in sardine. The commission was led by Heads of Fisheries of Member States, and the theme of the sardine fishery was selected because of its importance and the threats it addresses. ■

### Publication

The synthesis report of knowledge and gaps in knowledge on sardinella in North Africa, stock assessment, fisheries and governance has been prepared on the basis of reports from national studies, workshops on gaps and all sources of relevant information. The report is available since November 2012 on the site of the SRFC. ■



## Recruitments

In application of the Letter of development, organization and management of Human Resources, and the Rules and Regulation of the SRFC, adopted by the 12th Session of the Conference of Ministers of the SRFC in February 2009, the SRFC welcomes two new recruits :

- Ms. Mame Fatou Toure, recruited as Head of Communications and Public Relations Service, took office on 1st November 2012.
- Mr. Boubacar BA, recruited as Head of Department of Monitoring, Control and Surveillance of Fisheries Management (DSCSA) took office on 15 November 2012. ■



## Diary



The Sub-Regional Fisheries Commission (SRFC) is organizing in Conakry, Republic of Guinea :

- 17 to 19 December 2012, the **18th Ordinary Session of the Coordinating Committee** (Meeting of Experts) ;
- 20 to 21 December 2012, the **19th Ordinary Session of the Conference of Ministers of its member States**.