

# The Ministerial Conference on Fisheries Cooperation among African States Bordering the Atlantic



Coordination meeting LDAC/ATLAFCO  
Vigo, 24 January 2017



# Area of competence and Status

**ATLAFCO** was established in **1989** and reinforced through an intergovernmental agreement adopted in **1991**, which entered into force in **1995**

The area of competence of **ATLAFCO** is the Central and Southeast Atlantic, from Namibia until Morocco, including waters under national jurisdiction and high seas. **ATLAFCO** covers all living marine resources within its area of competence.





# Structure

## The Conference of Ministers

- Governing and decision making body
- Determines the objectives and principles governing and the objectives to be implemented
- Holds sessions once every two years

## The Bureau

- Coordinating organ of the Conference of the Ministers
- Constitutes a follow-up committee of the Conference

## The Secretariat

- The Secretariat is the executive body of the Conference

ATLAFCO's offices are located in Rabat, Morocco according to the Headquarters' Agreement between ATLAFCO and the Government of the Kingdom of Morocco



# Objective/mission



The main objective of ATLAFCO is an effective and active co-operation between Member States for conservation and sustainable development of fisheries in the region by:

- ❑ promoting an active and organized co-operation in the area of fisheries management and development in the Region;
- ❑ taking up the challenge of food self-sufficiency through the rational utilization of fishery resources;
- ❑ stimulating the national economic sectors through the direct and secondary effects resulting from fishery resources exploitation;
- ❑ enhancing, coordinating and harmonizing the efforts and capabilities for the purpose of conserving, exploiting, upgrading and marketing fishery resources;
- ❑ reinforcing solidarity with African land-locked States and geographically disadvantaged States of the Region.





# ATLAFCO's NETWORKS



- ❑ REFMA The Coalition of African Maritime Training
- ❑ RAFISMER: The Network of Fisheries Research and Marine Sciences Institutes
- ❑ RAFEP: African Network of Women operating in Fisheries Sector
- ❑ AFFIEX: The African Association of Importers and Exporters of Fishery Products.





# Initiatives and actions of ATLAFCO

- ❑ Capacity building of human resources and institutions (RAFEP,RAFISMER,REFMA)
- ❑ Preparatory meetings for an active participation of Member States in the relevant International instances(CITES,ICCAT,IWC,.....) to strengthen ATLAFCO's Group voice

To achieve the implementation of an effective fisheries management in the region, ATLAFCO works to encourage Member States to:

- ❑ harmonize their legislation,
- ❑ exchange information on their regulations and
- ❑ consult in international jurisdictions to adopt policies and common positions in fishing negotiations.





# LDAC/ATLAFCO joint activities



- ✓ Workshop "MCS as a tool to fight against IUU fishing " 27-28 October 2015, Marrakech- Morocco
- ✓ Workshop "The sustainable fisheries partnership agreements and the Good Fisheries Governance in ATLAFCO area " 02 -03 June 2016, El Jadida - Morocco
- ✓ Workshop " Toward an International Day for the fight against illegal fishing, undeclared and unregulated: the adoption of the Port State Measures Agreement, an essential step" 6-8 December 2016, Tangier Morocco,
- ✓ ATLAFCO and LDAC participated in several side events in margin of international fisheries fora ( COFI, RSN, ICCAT.....)





# 2017 Cooperation axes



- ✓ Improvement of good fishery governance
- ✓ Regional Fisheries Observers Program
- ✓ Regional Port Inspection Program
- ✓ Maritime security and fighting IUU
- ✓ Ratification and implementation of PSMA by african countries





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