

Groupe des Etats d'Afrique
des Caraïbes et du Pacifique
(Groupe ACP)



African, Caribbean and
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(ACP Group)

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Draft Annotated Agenda for the Meeting of Senior Officials

5th Meeting of ACP Ministers in charge Fisheries and Aquaculture

Melia Nassau Beach Resort, Bahamas, 18-19 September 2017

TIME	Monday 18 September 2017
8:00	Registration
9:00	Opening Session
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Viwanou Gnassounou, <i>ACP Assistant Secretary-General</i> • Ms. Rena Glinton, <i>Permanent Secretary Ministry of Agriculture and Marine Resources of the Bahamas</i> • Chair of the 5th Meeting of the Senior officials meeting • Keynote address • Adoption of the agenda
10:00	Session 1: Stocktaking the implementation of the ACP strategic plan of action for fisheries and aquaculture
	<p>One of the foremost milestones of the ACP fisheries mechanism was the adoption of the five year ACP strategic plan of action for fisheries and aquaculture 2012 - 16 and its implementing roadmap adopted in 2015 extending the lifespan of the plan up to the year 2020. The plan is a framework to reinforce coherence of actions for fisheries and aquaculture development in ACP countries and is implemented in accordance to member states' needs and circumstances. This session will consider the state of play of implementation of the strategic plan, highlighting the progress of implementation and to draw lessons from key national and regional successful initiatives The session will provide updates of regional perspectives of implementation of the strategic plan of action.</p> <p>Speakers: <i>ACP Secretariat</i></p> <p>Ms. Maria Luisa Cassama Ferreira, <i>Fisheries and Aquaculture policy coherence in the UEMOA region</i></p>
11:00	Networking Break
11:15	Session 1: Stocktaking the implementation of the ACP strategic plan of action for fisheries and aquaculture
12:00	Session 2 : Advancing the implementation of SDG 14: Ending Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing in ACP countries
	<p>Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing is a persistent problem undermining the sustainable management of fisheries and must be effectively tackled to improve the fisheries management outcomes. Ending IUU fishing is one of the early targets of the Sustainable Development Goal of Agenda 2030. The ambition is to eradicate IUU fishing and unsustainable fishing practices by the year 2020. Just three years away from the target, this session will explore options for accelerating the eradication of IUU fishing, highlight successful initiatives and approaches at national, regional and international levels; further explore options for scaling up through enhanced partnerships and collaboration</p> <p>Speakers: <i>Fish –I-Africa: Perspectives from the West Indian Ocean Region</i></p> <p><i>Head of Unit IUU / EU Commission Directorate General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (DG MARE)</i></p>
13:00	Networking Lunch

14:00	Session 3 : Effectively managing our fisheries : The way ahead for ACP sustainable fisheries
	<p>At least 31% of the assessed fish stocks globally are overfished due to weak governance and ineffective management that have compromised the fish stocks' natural regenerative capacity to provide high yields over the long-term, consequently resulting to loss of net economic benefits. The session will explore ways and means to give impetus to the SDG goal 14 target 4. The aim is to reinforce the implementation of the fisheries management strategies and governance approaches to effectively maintain and rebuild ACP fisheries at sustainable levels to ensure high productivity and maintain healthy resilient stocks in order to secure the economic and environmental benefits to society into the future.</p> <p>Speakers: Mr. Milton Haughton, <i>Executive Director; Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism</i></p> <p>Mr. Mohamed B.D. Seisay, <i>African Union InterAfrican Bureau for Animal Resources (AU IBAR)</i></p>
15:30	Session 4 Blue Economy; maximizing benefits from fisheries and aquaculture
	<p>What needs to be in place to unlock the economic potential of the blue economy and increase economic benefits to ACP economies, particularly from fisheries, aquaculture and nature based coastal tourism. The session provide lesson learnt and share experiences and build partnerships to further accelerate and sustain the blue economy growth.</p> <p>Speakers: Mr. Mike Batty, <i>Director Fisheries Development, Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA)</i></p> <p><i>Mauritius National Perspectives</i></p>
17:30	End of Day One

Tuesday 19 September 2017	
9:00	<p>Session 5: ACP Aquaculture Development</p> <p>Aquaculture is one of the fastest growing food production sectors globally and projected to meet the gap in the demand for fish and fishery products as the world capture fisheries become increasingly fully exploited/overexploited. Due to the centrality of aquaculture development for the nutritional security and economic development of ACP countries, the session would focus on key challenges and opportunities to further expand aquaculture development.</p> <p>Speakers: <i>Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation (CTA)</i></p> <p>Mr. George S. Lockwood, Past President of the World Aquaculture Society</p>
10:00	<p>Session 6 Small, scale fisheries: Securing access to resources and markets</p> <p>An important feature of the ACP fisheries is that the small-scale fisheries are a very significant part of the catching sector. The small-scale fisheries sector tends to be firmly rooted in local communities, traditions and values. This represents an important sector which underpins food security, employment, livelihoods, international trade and development. As much as US\$5.3 billion worth of ACP fish exports enter the international market, the greatest portion of it from the small-scale fisheries. Yet, small scale fishers are faced with significant market access difficulties in particular compliance to food standards of export markets, access to resources and competition from large scale operators.</p> <p>This session will deal with the question of securing small scale fisheries access to markets and resources is front and centre for many ACP states and clearly prioritized as a key target of the SDG 14. What deliberate actions are required to deal specificities of developing the small scale fisheries sector?</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <p>Ms. Beatrice Gorez: CFFA</p> <p><i>Fisheries Committee for the West Central Gulf of Guinea (FCWC) :West African Regional perspectives</i></p>
11:00	Networking Break

11:15	Session 7: The way ahead for fisheries subsidies reforms
	<p>Certain forms of subsidies provided by governments to the fishing sector is a major driver for the build-up of excessive fishing capacity, thereby undermining the sustainability of marine fisheries resources and the livelihoods that depend on them. The need to develop effective disciplines to the harmful effects of fisheries subsidies as a contributor to overcapacity and overfishing has remained as an important agenda at the international arena, and more so, with the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goal 14 of the 2030 agenda.</p> <p>During this session, in acknowledgement of the urgent need to expeditiously conclude a multilateral agreement to prohibit certain forms of fisheries subsidies, the meeting will deliberate on the following; The state of play of negotiations; Key elements of an acceptable fisheries subsidies reform for ACP countries that allows for sufficient policy flexibility for sustainable fisheries development, Further contribute to refinement of a coherent ACP position on fisheries subsidies reform.</p> <p>Speaker:</p> <p>Mr Ricardo M. James, <i>Chargé d’Affaires, Permanent Delegation of the OECS in Geneva and ACP Focal Person on Fisheries Subsidies</i></p>
12:30	Networking Lunch
14:30	<p>Participation at parallel Side Events:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Fisheries Transparency Initiative (FiTI), 2. Implications of the Recent Arbitral/Tribunal Awards for fisheries governance 3. Fisheries Partnership agreements and sustainable management of fisheries in ACP Countries
17:00	Session 8: Consideration of report of senior official meeting
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The meeting shall consider the Report of the Senior official meeting • Any Other Business
End of Day Two	

****Time and Speakers are subject to change**