

WECAFC - Latest developments and the 15th session



**Presentation at the CRFM-JICA
CARIFICO/ WECAFC-IFREMER
MAGDELESA Workshop on FAD
fishery Management
St Vincent and the Grenadines, 9-
11 December 2013**



Part 1 – WECAFC



Objectives of the Commission

To promote the effective conservation, management and development of the living marine resources of the area of competence of the Commission, in accordance with the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, and address common problems of fisheries management and development faced by members of the Commission

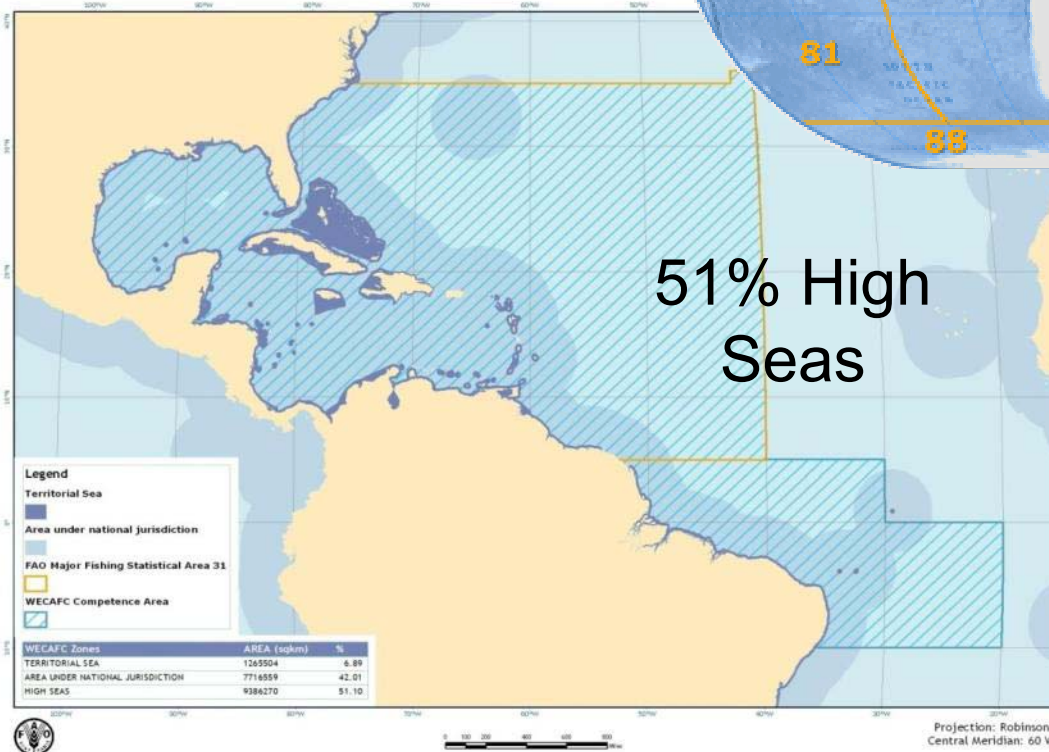
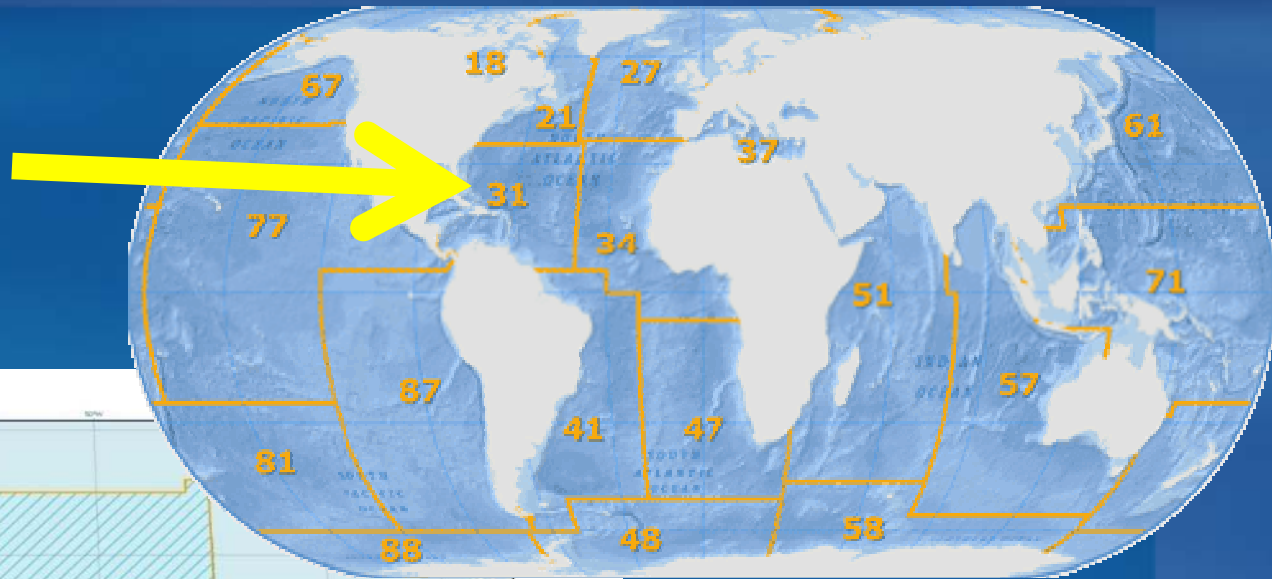


WECAFC is a so called “Regional Advisory Body” and does not have management authority.

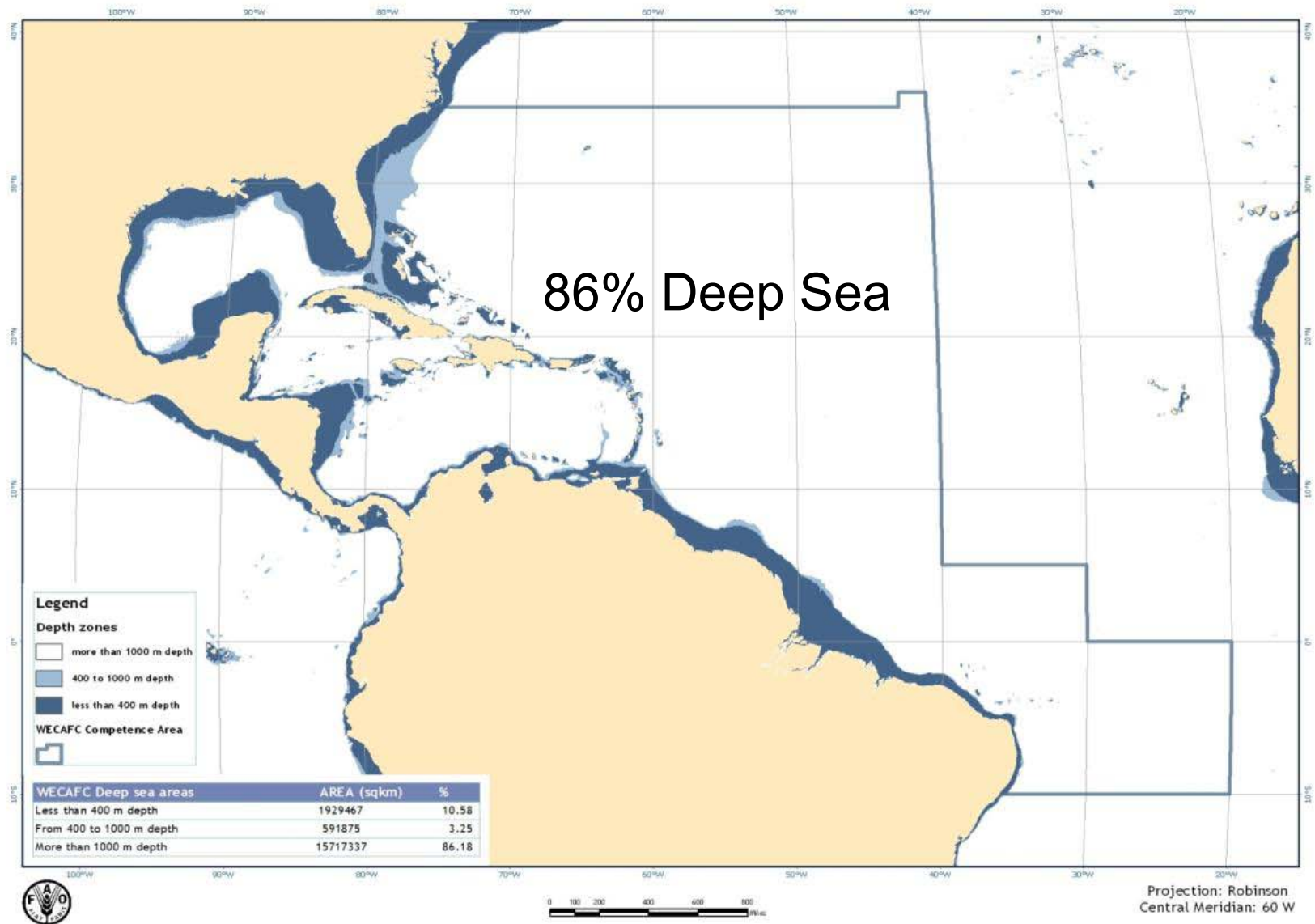


Area of competence

WECAFC's
mandate
area



Area of Competence (2) depths



Institutions

- **Commission**
- **Secretariat**
- **Working Groups**
- **Scientific Advisory Committee (SAG)**

**14th Session, Panama City
6-9 February 2012**

**Most successful session
since 1985**



14th Session

- Adopted a **“Resolution on strengthening the implementation of international fisheries instruments”**, including:
 - a. 1993 FAO Compliance Agreement;
 - b. 1995 UN Fish Stocks Agreement;
 - c. 2009 FAO Port State Measures Agreement;
 - d. 2003 FAO Technical Guidelines on the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries;
 - e. 2008 FAO International Guidelines for the Management of Deep-sea Fisheries in the High Seas;
 - f. 2010 FAO International Guidelines on Bycatch Management and Reduction of Discards.



14th Session decisions on joint Working Groups

- 1. OSPESCA/WECAFC/CRFM/CFMC Working Group on Spiny Lobster;**
- 2. WECAFC/OSPESCA/CRFM/CFMC Working Group on Recreational Fisheries;**
- 3. CFMC/OSPESCA/WECAFC/CRFM Queen Conch Working Group;**
- 4. IFREMER/WECAFC Working Group on Development of Sustainable Moored FAD Fishing in the Lesser Antilles;**
- 5. CRFM/WECAFC Flying fish in the Eastern Caribbean Working Group;**
- 6. WECAFC Working Group on the management of deep-sea fisheries, and**
- 7. CFMC/WECAFC Spawning Aggregations Working Group**

Part 2 – Working Group background



WECAFC- IFREMER activities

– FADs in the Lesser Antilles

- **FIRST MEETING OF THE WECAFC AD HOC WORKING GROUP ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF SUSTAINABLE MOORED FISH AGGREGATING DEVICE FISHING IN THE LESSER ANTILLES**
Le Robert, Martinique, 8- 11 October 2001 (FAO Fisheries Report No. 683)
- **SECOND MEETING OF THE WECAFC AD HOC WORKING GROUP ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF SUSTAINABLE MOORED FISH AGGREGATING DEVICE FISHING IN THE LESSER ANTILLES, Bouillante, Guadeloupe, 5–10 July 2004 (FAO Fisheries Report No. 797)**



14th session of WECAFC

Panama City, Panama, February 6-9 2012

- **Agreed to continue the Working Group as **IFREMER/WECAFC Working Group on Development of Sustainable Moored FAD Fishing in the Lesser Antilles****
- **Mr. Lionel Reynal (IFREMER) kindly offered to act as convener.**
- **This joint workshop with JICA, CRFM, Magdelesa and member states provides a good opportunity to work together on the FADs development.**



Part 3 – WECAFC latest developments and the 15th session



Latest developments

Many meetings of joint Working Groups were held in 2012 -2013.

- - **Queen Conch**
- - **Flying fish**
- - **Recreational Fisheries**
- - **Spawning Aggregations**
- **WECAFC Performance Review and Strategic Orientation Process is ongoing**



15th session

- **Scheduled to be held on 26-28 March, Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago.**
- **Invitations have been sent through official channels to 32 member countries and observers.**
- **Agenda items include, amongst others:**
 - - review of stock status & fisheries
 - - IUU fishing
 - - Recommendations on fisheries management
 - - SPAW protocol
 - - Strategic Plan for 2014 -2020



Upcoming activities of WECAFC in 2014 (Jan –March)

1. **FAO/WECAFC/GEF Inception Workshop: Sustainable **management of bycatch** in Latin America and Caribbean trawl fisheries (REBYC-II LAC) - 21-24 January 2013, Paramaribo, Suriname**
2. **WECAFC Reorientation and **Strategic Planning** Workshop, 29-30 January 2014, Guadeloupe**
3. **Regional capacity building workshop on the FAO **Port State Measures Agreement**. 24 – 25 March 2013 (possibly extended to 5 days for), Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago**



Upcoming activities of WECAFC in 2014 (April – Nov)

4. FAO/WECAFC/INFOPESCA Regional workshop on management and trade of **lionfish and sea cucumbers**, Cuba, April 2014 (dates to be announced)
5. FAO/WECAFC Technical Workshop on **Bottom Fisheries in the High Seas** Areas of the Western Central Atlantic, Barbados, 7-9 October 2014.
6. FAO/WECAFC/CERMES Workshop on Strengthening organizations and collective action in fisheries: Towards the formulation of a **capacity development programme**, Barbados, 1st week of November 2014

Joint activities with CRFM, CLME and others are being planned for also.



Thank you

More information on WECAFC can be found at our WEBSITE:

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Regional Fishery Bodies (RFB)

- About RFBs
- RFB Fact Sheets**
About RFB Fact Sheets
- Publications and related documents
- RFB/RSN Meetings
- Regional Fishery Body Secretariats Network (RSN)

Source | Citation | XML

Regional Fishery Bodies Summary Descriptions

Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission (WECAFC)

Mission


Objective

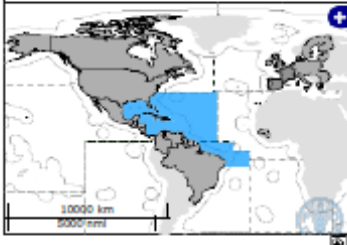
The general objective of the Commission is to promote the effective conservation, management and development of the living marine resources of the area of competence of the Commission, in accordance with the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, and address common problems of fisheries management and development faced by members of the Commission.

The work of the Commission is guided by the following three principles:

- promote the application of the provisions of the FAO Code of Conduct on Responsible Fisheries and its related instruments, including the precautionary approach and the ecosystem approach to fisheries management;
- ensure adequate attention to small-scale, artisanal and subsistence fisheries; and
- coordinate and cooperate closely with other relevant international organizations on matters of common interest.

Search regional fishery bodies





<http://www.fao.org/fishery/rfb/wecafc/en>

- Information
- 3 languages (English, Spanish, French)
- Publications – over 50 publications
- Statutes
- Meetings info
- Projects
- And more