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## CRFM ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

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### CRFM Progress and Financial Report April 1, 2008 to June 30, 2008

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of the Caribbean Community*

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Towards Sustainable Development of Fisheries for the People of the Caribbean



# CARIBBEAN REGIONAL FISHERIES MECHANISM SECRETARIAT

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## TRANSMITTAL MEMORANDUM OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**MEMO TO:** Mr. Soereschandre Kalpoe, Chairman of the Caribbean Fisheries Forum  
Members of the Caribbean Fisheries Forum

**FROM:** Hugh A. Saul  
Executive Director, CRFM Secretariat

**SUBJECT:** **CRFM Secretariat Technical and Financial Progress Report: April 1, 2008 – June 30, 2008**

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Please find enclosed the Technical and Financial Progress Report of the CRFM Secretariat for the period April 1, 2008 – June 30, 2008. The Report is based on activity schedules and budgets from the approved Work Plan and Budget for Programme Year April 1, 2008 – June 30, 2008.

The Report provides an overall description of the status of each programme and activities undertaken by the CRFM Secretariat during the period, allowing for a global appreciation of the progress made.

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## List of Acronyms

ACP	African, Caribbean and Pacific States
CARDI	Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute
CARICAD	Caribbean Centre for Development Administration
CARICOM	Caribbean Community
CARIFIS	Caribbean Fisheries Information System
CARIFORUM	Caribbean Forum of ACP States
CARISEC	CARICOM Secretariat
CBCRM	Community-Based Coastal Resources Management
CCRF	Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries
CERMES	Centre for Resource Management and Environmental Studies
CFF	Caribbean Fisheries Forum
CFU	CARICOM Fisheries Unit
CFRAMP	CARICOM Fisheries Resource Assessment and Management Programme
CFP&R	Common Fisheries Policy and Regime
CFTC	Commonwealth Fund for Technical Cooperation
CFTU	Caribbean Fisheries Technical Unit
CIDA	Caribbean International Development Agency
CITES	Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora
CLWG	Conch and Lobster Fisheries Working Group
COTED	Council on Trade and Economic Development
CRFM	Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism
CRP	Caribbean Regional Queen Conch Research Programme
CSME	Caribbean Single Market and Economy
CTA	Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation ACP-EU
DFID	Department for International Development (UK)
DFMR	Department of Fisheries and Marine Resources
DRAO	Deputy Regional Authorizing Officer
DR	Dominican Republic
EC	Eastern Caribbean Currency
EC	European Commission
EEZ	Exclusive Economic Zone
EPA	Economic Partnership Agreement
ESDU	Environmental and Sustainable Development Unit
EU	European Union
FAC	Fisheries Advisory Committee
FAD	Fish Aggregating Device
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FMP	Fisheries Management Plan
GECAFS	Global Environmental Change and Food Systems
GEF	Global Environmental Fund
IAC	International Agricultural Centre
ICCAT	International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas



ICRAFD	Integrated Caribbean Regional Agriculture and Fisheries Development Programme
IDRC	International Development Research Centre
IOCARIBE	Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) Sub-Commission for the Caribbean and Adjacent Regions
IMMARBE	International Merchant Marine Registry of Belize
IOI	International Oceans Institute
IUU	Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated
IMA	Institute of Marine Affairs
JICA	Japan International Cooperation Agency
LAPE	Lesser Antilles Pelagic Ecosystems (Project)
LME	Large Marine Ecosystem
LPWG	Large Pelagic Fisheries Working Group
LRS	Licensing and Registration Software
MALMR	Ministry of Agriculture, Lands and Marine Resources
MAREMP	Marine Resource Environmental Assessment and Management Programme
MCS	Monitoring, Control and Surveillance
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NFO	National Fisherfolk Organisation
NGOs	Non-Government Organizations
OCT	Overseas Countries and Territories
OECS	Organization of Eastern Caribbean States
RPTF	Regional Preparatory Task Force
RSWG	Reef and Slope Fisheries Working Group
SANREM CRSP	Sustainable Agriculture and National Resource Management Collaboration Support Programme
SAP	Systems, Application and Products in Data Processing
SCPWG	Small Coastal Pelagic Fisheries Working Group
SVG	St. Vincent and the Grenadines
SCRS ICCAT	Standing Committee on Research and Statistics
SPS	Sanitary and Phyto-sanitary
TCDC	Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries
TIP	Trip Interview Programme (Data collection software package)
TOR	Terms of Reference
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
UK	United Kingdom
UWI	University of the West Indies
WECAFC	Western Central Atlantic Fisheries Commission of the FAO, United Nations
WSSD	World Summit on Sustainable Development

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### 1. Work Programme Milestones and Budget Approvals

**Work Programme Start:** 1<sup>st</sup> April 2008

**Work Programme Budget Approval:** Yes

**Cost Limitation:** US \$ 1,171,014 (EC \$3,147,919)

The Executive Director of the CRFM Secretariat continued to liaise with Member States to make good on arrears and to pay current contributions to the Budget of the CRFM Secretariat. Ten (10) Member States made contributions during the period (April 1, 2008 – June 30, 2008) totaling EC\$1,502,615 (US\$558,967). The arrears fell from EC\$965,588 as at April 1, 2008 to EC\$792,071 as at June 30, 2008.

The 6<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Caribbean Fisheries Forum was held 8-9 May, 2008, Paramaribo, Suriname. The meeting elected a new Executive Committee of the Forum and considered, *inter alia*, the status of the draft Framework Agreement on the Common Fisheries Policy and Regime; the draft Regional Declaration on IUU Fishing and MCS for the CRFM Member States; the status and issues affecting Queen Conch and Lobster fisheries; ICCAT 2007 Commission Meetings and Compliance Issues; Overdraft facility for the CRFM Secretariat; the CRFM Secretariat's Annual Work Plan and Budget 2008 / 09; the CRFM Operations Manual; and the CRFM Medium Term Plan.

The CRFM and CARICOM Secretariats continued to provide technical leadership and financial support for the development of the Common Fisheries Policy and Regime (CFP&R) in keeping with the mandate of the Conference of Heads of Government. The 23<sup>rd</sup> Special Meeting of the COTED, October 9 -11, 2007, reviewed the status report on the CFP&R and requested that the CARICOM Secretariat provide a legal opinions as to whether the Common Fisheries Policy and Regime, and the proposed Common Fisheries Zone are grounded in the Revised Treaty of Chaguaramas, and to clarify whether the Common Fisheries Policy and Regime applied only to CARICOM Member States which are party to the Revised Treaty of Chaguaramas or to CRFM Member States, given that not all Members of the CRFM are signatories to the Revised Treaty. During the period covered by this report the CARICOM Secretariat was researching these matters but had not yet completed the report.

As in previous years, the CRFM Secretariat continued to provide technical support to countries on the management of highly migratory Atlantic Tuna and Tuna like species which are managed by ICCAT. The Secretariat provided support to countries in respect of preparation of statistics for submission to ICCAT. The CRFM Secretariat also liaised with ICCAT concerning the format and content of a proposed training workshop to be delivered by ICCAT to CRFM States early in 2009. During the Fourth Annual Scientific meeting, the proposed format and content of the ICCAT training workshop was finalized.

During 10-20 June 2008, the Secretariat convened CRFM's Fourth Annual Scientific Meeting, which was attended by 13 Member States. During this meeting, data from 8 fisheries within the CRFM



region were examined and analysed to facilitate development of management advice. Also, the Report of the Third Meeting of the CRFM Ad Hoc Working Group on Methods was presented for review and endorsement by the Scientific Meeting. The Report of the Fourth Annual Scientific Meeting is being finalized and will be published in electronic and paper format in the near future.

In May 2007, the CRFM Secretariat prepared a proposal to establish a CRFM Fisheries Tagging Programme and Tagging Database, and this proposal received the support of Member States during the Third Annual Scientific Meeting. The Tagging Programme is intended to facilitate coordinated implementation of important tagging studies of regional interest which will provide information for management decision-making. The Secretariat is in the process of developing the associated tagging database, based on data currently available.

Following a request from the Fisheries Division of St. Vincent and the Grenadines in September 2007, the Secretariat has been assisting with studies to improve understanding of the queen conch and spiny lobster resources of St. Vincent and the Grenadines. The Secretariat has also provided specific recommendations for developing a sampling plan for a visual survey of spiny lobster, scheduled to take place in August 2008.

In terms of regional networking efforts at the scientific level, representatives from UWI, IMA, NMFS SEFSC, the University of Miami, VIMS, and FAO participated in the Fourth Annual Scientific Meeting. Scientists from NMFS SEFSC, the University of Miami and VIMS, as well as a statistician from UWI provided direct assistance with fisheries evaluations conducted in 2008.

In 2007, funds were sourced through the CARICOM Secretariat, for the preparation of the CRFM's Operations Manual. The CRFM Secretariat then engaged CARICAD to provide professional services in preparing the manual. A Draft of the Operations Manual was presented and discussed at the 6<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Forum. Comments and recommendations made by Member States were subsequently incorporated and a revised draft was circulated to Member States for further review and input.

During April to June 2008, the CRFM Secretariat continued to provide support to Member States with the development and use of the CARIFIS database. The Secretariat continued to provide technical support in areas such as the transfer of the legacy databases from TIP and LRS to CARIFIS, training in querying and reporting and debugging of the software. Also, during this period, the Secretariat provided technical assistance to Antigua and Barbuda, The Bahamas, Grenada, Guyana, Montserrat, St. Lucia and Turks and Caicos Islands to review the data collection and management systems for their respective marine fisheries. The Reports on the Review of the Data Collection and Management Systems of the Marine Fisheries for Antigua and Barbuda, The Bahamas and the Turks and Caicos Islands were sent to these countries.

The CRFM Secretariat continued to assist Member States with the development of their Fisheries Management and Development Plans. Fisheries Management Plans for Grenada and Suriname were being updated by the CRFM Secretariat, and submitted to the respective Member States for review and input. Also, the CRFM Secretariat facilitated the national consultation to review the Draft FMP for St. Kitts and Nevis, in Nevis, on March 6, 2008.



CRFM Secretariat continued to implement the CTA and CRFM Secretariat funded project *Development of Caribbean Network of Fisherfolk Organisations*. The project is to be implemented over the period 2006 - 2008. To date, the Secretariat has prepared and distributed Issues 1, 2, 3 (Special Issue) and 4 of the Fisher Folk Net Newsletter; provided technical assistance to six countries; Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines in the organization and convening of the National Consultations to launch National Fisherfolk Organisations; awarded a contract for and received the final draft of the Stakeholders Directory and organized and convened the Regional Fishers Stakeholder Workshop to promote the Launching of a Caribbean Network of National Fisher Folk Organisations, Grenada, September 26 – 28, 2007. The September 2007 Workshop Report and the Fisheries Stakeholder Directory were published.

The CRFM Secretariat has established a long-term relationship with the University of the United Nations – Fisheries Training Programme (UNU – FTP), Iceland, for the purpose of building national and regional capacity for fisheries development and management in the region. The UNU has agreed to offer up to three (3) training fellowship to Fisheries Officers from the CRFM Member States each year. In this regard, fellowships were awarded by the UNU - FTP, to Mrs. June Masters, Research Graduate, CRFM Secretariat and Ms. Dawn Maison, Principal Fisheries Officer, Guyana to undergo a six (6) months period of training in Iceland. Studies commenced in September, 2007 and both candidates successfully completed their courses of study in March 2008. A third fellowship was awarded to a Fisheries Officer from the Fisheries Department in Belize but the candidate was not able to take up the scholarship.

In order to strengthen the mechanism for collaboration and cooperation between the UNU-FTP and the CRFM, the Secretariat proposed that a MOU be established between the two agencies. To this effect and at the invitation of the UNU-FTP, a team comprising the Deputy Executive Director (Ag.), Mr. Terrence Phillips, and the Corporate Services Manager, Mr. Anthony Mills, undertook a mission to the UNU-FTP in Iceland in March 2008 to discuss and refine the proposed MOU as well as explore other opportunities for training and technical assistance.

The CRFM requested Member States to submit candidates for the second round of training under the UNU-FTP Programme. However only one candidate from the region was successful, Dr. Lucille Grant, Fisheries Officer, Fisheries Division, St. Vincent and the Grenadines. She was offered a 6 month fellowship under the UNU – FTP programme for studies in Iceland from September 2008 – March 2009.

Further, Fisheries Officers from CRFM Member States continued to benefit from training opportunities and fellowships for studies in Canada made available under the CRFM – International Ocean Institute (IOI) Agreement of 2004. During the quarter, January – March, 2008, four scholars were selected to undergo training at IOI, Canada, for the year 2008. The scholars were selected from: Belize, Suriname, St. Kitts and Nevis, and St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

The CRFM Secretariat continued its resource mobilization efforts during this period. Work continued on project proposals in areas mentioned below which were submitted for donor support:

- (i) JICA Funded Master Plan for Fisheries and Aquaculture Development and Management in the Caribbean



- (ii) Strengthening Fisheries Management; ACP Fish II Project
- (iii) Sustainable Development of the Queen Conch (*Strombus gigas*) Resources in the CARICOM States; and
- (iv) Enhance the Effectiveness of MCS in the CARICOM Region

<b>ACTIVITY 100: Management and Support</b>			
Output:	CRFM (Belize) Conducting and implementing agreed Programmes / projects and activities, and liaising with Member States, Executive Committee of the Forum, CARICOM Secretariat, etc.		
Activity Start:	April 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2008	End:	March 31, 2009
<b>Activity Progress Report Summary</b>			
Total Budget:	US\$320,173	Spent:	US\$73,283
		Balance:	US\$246,890
Will complete Activity within Total Budget: Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>			
Completion of Activity (Work plan): ahead <input type="checkbox"/> behind <input type="checkbox"/> on <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> schedule			
Completion of Total Activity: ahead <input type="checkbox"/> behind <input type="checkbox"/> on <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> schedule			

### Management and Support

During the reporting period, the CRFM Secretariat provided support for the implementation of activities approved in the Annual Work Plan and Budget, April 1, 2008 – March 31, 2009.

Office furniture and equipment etc., were procured as stated at **Appendix A: Procurement List**.

Management liaised with Member States to make good on arrears and current contributions to the Budget of the CRFM Secretariat. Ten (10) Member States made contributions during the period (April 1, 2008 – June 30, 2008) totaling EC\$1,502,615 (US\$558,967). The arrears fell from EC\$965,588 as at March 31, 2008 to EC\$792,071 as at June 30, 2008.

During the period under review the CRFM Secretariat organized and convened, as well as provided technical, administrative and rapporteurial support to the following meetings / workshops:

- (i) Joint UWI – CERMES / CRFM / IISD / OECS – ESDU Meeting aimed at improving coordination for mutual benefit, especially in addressing gaps of the Mar Gov SARM / SOY / CLME projects dealing with fisheries governance, April 8, 2007, St. Lucia.

- (ii) One-Day National Consultation on Guyana becoming a Contracting Party to ICCAT, April 24, 2008, Guyana.
- (iii) Eleventh Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Forum, May 5 – 6, 2008, Suriname.
- (iv) Sixth Meeting of the Caribbean Fisheries Forum, May 8 – 9, 2008, Suriname.
- (v) Meeting with the Mrs. Cheryl Thompson-Barrow, General Counsel, H. Sam Lawrence, Adviser, Regional Transformation Programme for Agriculture, Ms. Franzia Edwards, Programme Manager (ag.), Resource Mobilisation and Technical Assistance, Mr. Desmond Alfred, Executive Director, Administration and Financial Services, Mr. Desmond John, Project Coordinator, Caribbean Integration Support Programme, Regional Mobilisation Technical Assistance, Staff of Human Resource Management, CARICOM Secretariat to discuss matters related to resource mobilization, housing of staff, etc., May 22 – 23, 2008, Guyana.

### **Resource Mobilisation**

The CRFM Secretariat continued to liaise with and lobby donor agencies with regard to resource mobilization as below-mentioned:

#### **1. CRFM Operations Manual**

Funding were secured from the Canadian Government through the Resource Mobilisation Unit of the CARICOM Secretariat for the preparation of the CRFM Operations Manual. The funds were earmarked for employing CARICAD to undertake the preparation of the Operations Manual through a consultancy agreement

#### **2. Strengthening Fisheries Management ACP Fish II project.**

The EU recruited a group of consultants to review the original Feasibility Study for a Programme on Strengthening Fisheries Management in ACP Countries. The Consultants indicated that they proposed the development of a Project Facilitation Unit Regional hub (at the CRFM Secretariat) in the Caribbean. The budget allocation for Strengthening Fisheries Management ACP Fish II was raised from 11 million Euros to 30 million Euros.

#### **3. CRFM Annual Scientific Meeting**

A proposal was submitted to CARICOM Secretariat to access donor (EU) funding for the CRFM Annual Scientific Meeting in 2008. The CRFM Secretariat obtained verbal approval from CARICOM Secretariat for partial funding for the 2008 Annual Scientific Meeting using EU resources.

## OUTPUT 100 MANAGEMENT AND SUPPORT

### ACTIVITY 121 : General Administration- Saint Vincent and the Grenadines

Output: CRFM (St. Vincent and the Grenadines) coordinating and implementing agreed activities

Activity Start: April 1, 2008

End: March 31, 2009

#### Activity Progress Report Summary

Total Budget: US\$37,171      Spent: US\$10,349

Balance: US\$26,822

Will complete Activity within Total Budget: Yes ☒ No ☐

Completion of Activity (Work plan): ahead ☐ behind ☐ on schedule ☒

Completion of Total Activity: ahead ☐ behind ☐ on schedule ☒

Percentage of total output achieved to date

### General Administration - St. Vincent and the Grenadines

The CRFM Secretariat, Eastern Caribbean Office in St. Vincent and the Grenadines continue to provide support for the implementation of technical and scientific activities approved in the Annual Work Plan and Budget, April 1, 2008 to March 31, 2009.



## OUTPUT 100 MANAGEMENT AND SUPPORT

### ACTIVITY 150: Meeting of the Caribbean Fisheries Forum

Output: Recommendations to the COTED; and approved Work Programme and Budget

Activity Start: April 1, 2008

End: March 31, 2009

#### Activity Progress Report Summary

Total Budget: US\$48,610

Spent: US\$19,521

Balance: US\$29,088

Will complete Activity within Total Budget: Yes ☒ No ☐

Completion of Activity (Work plan): ahead ☐ behind ☐ on schedule ☒

Completion of Total Activity: ahead ☐ behind ☐ on schedule ☒

Percentage of total output achieved to date

### Meeting of the Caribbean Fisheries Forum

The Sixth Meeting of the Caribbean Fisheries Forum was held May 8 - 9, 2008, Paramaribo, Suriname. The following major outputs were achieved:

- (i) A new Executive Committee of the Forum was elected. The Committee is comprised of the Heads of the National Fisheries Administration of:
  - Suriname (Chairman)
  - St. Lucia (Vice Chairman)
  - Belize
  - Guyana
  - Turks and Caicos Islands

The meeting also agreed that the Heads of the Fisheries Divisions of Dominica and Montserrat would be invited to sit in at meetings of the Executive Committee.

- (ii) The CRFM Annual Work Plan and Budget, April 1, 2008 – March 31, 2009 was endorsed by the Forum and recommended to the Ministerial Council for approval;

- (iii) A Progress Report on the Status of the Common Fisheries Policy and Regime was received and discussed
- (iv) The Forum approved the draft MOUs between the CRFM and the Dominican Republic and the CRFM and the United Nations University – Fisheries Training Programme and authorized the Secretariat to execute these agreements.;
- (v) The Forum reviewed the Draft CRFM Operations Manual and provided comments and further guidance to the consultants engaged to assist with its preparation.
- (vi) The Forum reviewed the Draft CRFM Second Medium Term Plan and provided comments and further guidance to the consultant.

### **Meeting of the Executive Committee**

The Eleventh Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Caribbean Fisheries Forum was held in Paramaribo, Suriname, May 5 – 6, 2008. The meeting considered, *inter alia*, matters arising from the Tenth Meeting of the Executive Committee, and the Fifth Meeting of the Caribbean Fisheries Forum, and their status of implementation. Such matters included the draft of CRFM Secretariat Annual Work Plan and Budget the 2008 / 09; the CRFM Operations Manual (update); the Common Fisheries Policy and Regime for CARICOM; and the Second CRFM Medium Term Plan.

### **Activities Planned for Next Quarter**

- Preparation – administrative arrangements, agenda and documentation – for the Twelfth Meeting of the Executive Committee, September 4 – 5, 2008 in St. Lucia; and the Special Meeting of the Forum, September 17 – 18, 2008, St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

## OUTPUT 200 Advocacy, Policy and Planning

### ACTIVITY 200: Advocacy Policy and Planning

Output: Promotion of the CRFM Secretariat and its achievements, the continuation of the formulation of the Common Fisheries Policy and Regime, and the coordination of work plans and activities for implementation.

Activity Start: April 1, 2008

End: March 31, 2009

#### Activity Progress Report Summary

Total Budget: US\$156,104

Spent: US\$4,457

Balance: US\$151,647

Will complete Activity within Total Budget: Yes ☒ No ☐

Completion of Activity (Work plan): ahead ☐ behind ☐ on schedule ☒

Completion of Total Activity: ahead ☐ behind ☐ on schedule ☒

Percentage of total output achieved to date

### WBS 200: Advocacy, Policy and Planning

Within the context of the Annual Work Plan and Budget, 2008 / 09, the CRFM Secretariat continued to support and enhance the institutional capabilities of Member States in the area of policy formulation, with a focus on the development of the Common Fisheries Policy and Regime as mandated by the CARICOM Heads of Government at their Fourteenth Inter-sessional Meeting. With regards to advocacy, the emphasis was on projecting a positive image for the CRFM, its Secretariat, and programme activities as well as the Fisheries Departments and the Fisheries Sector of Member States. The focus of planning in this programme year is directed at monitoring the implementation of the Fisheries Department's Annual Work Plans to enhance synergies in their delivery and coherence with the regional Work Plan; finalization of the Second CRFM Medium Term Plan; and assistance to Member States, on request, in national project development, preparation and resource mobilization for the implementation of same.



## **Fisheries Master Plan for CARICOM**

### **Background:**

This project, to be funded by Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), aims at developing a Master Plan for fishery resource development and management in the Region. The agreed components are: (1) Pelagic Resource Development and Management; (2) Aquaculture Development Policy Formulation; (3) Regional Fisheries Database Development; (4) Supporting Community-based Management (including sedentary resource management); and (5) Education and Training in the component fields in the CARICOM States.

### **Highlights of Achievements during the Reporting Period:**

- The CRFM Secretariat continued to follow up with the Assistant General Counsel, CARICOM Secretariat, and Dr. Tadomi Nakai, (Japanese representative at the CARICOM Secretariat) on the progress in respect of the preparation and signing of the Scope of Work for the programme by the Japanese, the CARICOM and CRFM Secretariats. On June 23 – 24, 2008 a representative of JICA met with senior staff of the CRFM Secretariat to advise that the Scope of Work will be signed possibly in July / August 2008, and to seek information on CARIFIS (Regional Database). The JICA representative also advised that he would visit the Secretary-General, CARICOM, in Guyana to personally advise him of the reasons for the delay in signing of the Scope of Work, and to assure him that this will be signed in the near future.

## **POLICY**

### **Formulation of a Common Fisheries Policy and Regime (CFP & R)**

#### **Background:**

The CRFM Secretariat continued to provide administrative support and technical leadership in the formulation of the CFP&R including identification and analysis of the legal, socio-economic and linkages issues, through a consultative and participatory approach.

#### **Highlights of Achievements during the Reporting Period:**

- The 27<sup>th</sup> Special Meeting of the COTED held in Jamaica in October 2007 requested the CARICOM Secretariat to provide legal opinions as to whether the Common Fisheries Policy and Regime, and the proposed Common Fisheries Zone are grounded in the Revised Treaty of Chaguaramas, and to clarify whether the Common Fisheries Policy and Regime applied only to CARICOM Member States which are party to the Revised Treaty of Chaguaramas or to CRFM Member States, given that not all Members of the CRFM are signatories to the Revised Treaty. The CARICOM Secretariat is researching these matters. See WBS 501.1 for further information on the CFP&R



## **Advocacy - Promoting the CRFM Secretariat**

### **Background:**

The activities planned are aimed at promoting greater public awareness of the programmes and activities of the CRFM Secretariat and highlighting its achievements.

### **Highlights of Achievements during the Reporting Period:**

#### **PLANNING**

##### **Background:**

During the reporting period, CRFM Secretariat's technical staff prepared individual Quarterly Workplans to guide the implementation of activities as set out in the CRFM Secretariat Annual Workplan and Budget 2008 / 09. Additionally, Consultant, Dr. Claremont Kirton, UWI, Jamaica, continued to assist in the preparation of the Second Medium Term Plan for the CRFM. The draft Second Medium Term Plan was presented to the Executive Committee and the Forum at their meetings, May 5 – 9, 2008 in Suriname. The Forum provided comments on the draft Medium Term Plan, and agreed that Member States would provide further inputs to the Consultant to facilitate completion of the plan, by mid-June 2008. The draft Second Medium Term Plan is now being revised by the Consultant with these inputs, and will be further reviewed by CRFM Secretariat at a Senior Management Meeting on August 21 – 22, 2008, Belize.

### **Highlights of Achievements during the Reporting Period:**

- The CRFM Secretariat refined the draft CRFM Secretariat Annual Work Plan 2008 / 09 in consultation with the Executive Committee at its Eleventh Meeting, May 5 – 6, 2008 and the Forum Meeting, May 8 – 9, 2008 in Suriname. This draft CRFM Secretariat Annual Work Plan was developed against the background of a new Second Medium Term Plan; critical activities from the First Medium Term Plan that are to be completed during 2008 / 09 and the expected start-up, in 2008 / 09, of the Japanese funded Master Plan for Fisheries and Aquaculture Development and the EU funded Programme for Strengthening Fisheries Management in ACP Countries (ACP Fish II).
- Individual staff Work Plans for the period June 1, 2008 to August 31, 2008 were prepared.
  - Implementation (Quarterly) reports for staff for the period April 1 to June 30, 2008 were also prepared.

### **Activities Planned for the next Quarter**

- Preparation of CRFM Secretariat's Quarterly Technical Progress and Financial Report for April 1, 2008 to June 30, 2008.
- Consideration of the revised draft of the Second Medium Term Plan by Senior Managers, August 21 – 22, 2008.

## OUTPUT 300 FISHERIES STATISTICS AND INFORMATION

### ACTIVITY 300: Fisheries Statistics and Information

Output: Information available for the management of Pelagic and Reef Species, Shrimp and Groundfish Species and Lobster and Conch Fisheries

Activity Start: April 1, 2008

End: March 31, 2009

### Activity Progress Report Summary

#### Activity Budget

Total Budget: US\$98,257      Spent: US\$16,863

Balance: US\$81,394

Will complete Activity within Total Budget: Yes ☒ No ☐

Completion of Activity (Work plan): ahead ☐ behind ☐ on schedule ☒

Completion of Total Activity: ahead ☐ behind ☐ on schedule ☒

Percentage of total output achieved to date.

### WBS 300: FISHERIES STATISTICS AND INFORMATION PROGRAMME

This Programme continued to provide technical support in the implementation of CARIFIS at the country level, in areas such as the transfer of the legacy databases from TIP and LRS to CARIFIS, training in querying and reporting and debugging of the software.

During the April to June 2008 period, the Secretariat provided technical assistance to Grenada, Guyana, Montserrat and St. Lucia to review the data collection and management systems (including CARIFIS) for their respective marine fisheries.



## **Fisheries Master Plan for CARICOM - Regional Data Base:**

### **Background:**

This Project, to be funded by Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and implemented by the CRFM Secretariat aims at developing a master plan for fishery resource development and management in the Region (especially for the small-scale sub-sectors within the EEZ). During its implementation, a baseline study to review and assess the current national and regional fisheries information systems will be done, with the findings of the study being used to make recommendations for improving national fisheries information systems and drafting a policy framework for establishing a regional fisheries database. The inter-linked components are as follows: Pelagic Fisheries Development and Management; Community Based Fisheries Resource Management; Regional Fisheries Database Development and Aquaculture Development.

### **Highlights of Achievements during the Reporting Period:**

- A Team comprising of Dr. Tadomi Nakai, (Japanese representative at the CARICOM Secretariat), Mr. Yukio Yokoi, Deputy Director General/Group Director for Group II, Rural Development Department, and Mr. Takafumi Toshirara, JICA representative visited the CRFM Secretariat offices in St. Vincent and the Grenadines on June 26, 2008, where they discussed the use of the data management and reporting software CARIFIS. The CRFM Secretariat provided the Japanese with a demonstration of the CARIFIS Programme.

## **Review the Data Collection and Management Systems of the Marine Fisheries of Grenada, Guyana, Montserrat and St. Lucia**

### **Background:**

In an effort to provide information for management and decision-making on a continuous basis, the CRFM Secretariat provided assistance to the Fisheries Divisions of Grenada, Guyana, Montserrat and St. Lucia to review and refine their data collection systems to collect catch, effort, biological, economic, social and environmental data in order to permit qualitative and quantitative evaluation of the impact of their marine capture fisheries on the population structure, including estimates of fishing mortality, current abundance and status of exploitation, trends in recruitment and projected future abundance, and allowable catch under given management regimes.

The aims of this activity were to:

- review the data (catch, effort, biological, economic, social and environmental) collection, and management systems of Grenada, Guyana, Montserrat and St. Lucia and make recommendations for refinement.
- review the type of economic data being collected and advise on the additional data to be collected in order to monitor the performance of the fleets in the respective fisheries as well as provide information for management.
- clearly identify and characterize the strengths and weaknesses of the current data

management system at the different levels (field sampling, data management, analysis and reporting).

**Highlights of Achievements during the Reporting Period:**

- In late March and April 2008, the Consultant, Dr. Paul Medley, undertook field missions to Grenada, Guyana, Montserrat and St. Lucia to implement the Consultancy to review the Data Collection and Management Systems for the Marine Fisheries in these countries.
- Technical assistance on the implementation of CARIFIS was also provided to these countries. The Draft Reports for Grenada and Guyana were submitted by the Consultant and are being reviewed by the Secretariat.

**Monitoring and Provision of Technical Assistance (Trainers and Support):**

This activity is designed to strengthen the data collection and management capabilities of the CRFM countries through the development of training material for improving the collection of fisheries data, and the continued implementation of CARIFIS in the Member States.

**Highlights of Achievements during the Reporting Period:**

The CRFM Secretariat provided technical assistance to, Grenada, Guyana, Montserrat and St. Lucia on the implementation of CARIFIS. Please see above-mentioned activities to Review the Data Collection and Management Systems for the Marine Fisheries in Grenada, Guyana, Montserrat and St. Lucia.



## OUTPUT 400 FISHERIES RESEARCH AND RESOURCE ASSESSMENT

### ACTIVITY 400: Fisheries Research and Resource Assessment

Output: Information available for the management of Pelagic and Reef Species, Shrimp and Groundfish Species and Lobster and Conch Fisheries

Activity Start: April 1, 2008

End: March 31, 2009

### Activity Progress Report Summary

#### Activity Budget

Total Budget: US\$285,426

Spent: US\$61,894

Balance: US\$223,532

Will complete Activity within Total Budget: Yes ☒ No ☐

Completion of Activity (Work plan): ahead ☐ behind ☐ on schedule ☒

Completion of Total Activity: ahead ☐ behind ☐ on schedule ☒

Percentage of total output achieved to date.

## WBS 400: FISHERIES RESEARCH AND RESOURCE ASSESSMENT PROGRAMME

Formal assessment tasks are usually conducted largely through the activities of CRFM regional resource working groups. The CRFM resource working groups, under the guidance of selected Chairpersons, have been responsible for agreed inter-sessional activities, and for preparations for the Fourth Annual Scientific Meeting. The CRFM resource working groups have covered variable tasks in respect of data analysis, research, assessment, and provision of management advice on fisheries targeting the following range of fisheries resources: large pelagic fish; small coastal pelagic fish; reef and slope fish; shrimp and groundfish, conch and lobster.

The Research and Resource Assessment Programme has continued to include a component for provision of technical support at ICCAT and other international fora, as required.

## **Development and Implementation of Mechanisms for the Management of Shared Resources:**

### **Background:**

Under the UN Convention on Fish Stocks (1995) all countries are obliged either to participate in activities of an existing competent organization that has been established to manage particular shared marine resources, or where one does not exist, to establish one. This is needed to ensure that the region's concerns are incorporated into the global decision-making process and that member countries' rights are protected. Within the Caribbean region, shared resources are being exploited by CRFM and non-CRFM countries alike, and the sustainable exploitation of these resources are threatened unless mechanisms for collaboration or joint management are put into place.

### **Objective:**

The aim of the research component of this activity is to provide technical information on resource distribution and status, to assist regional coordination in management planning and implementation especially in the case of shared resources.

### **Highlights of Achievements during the Reporting Period:**

- The Report of the Fourth Annual Scientific Meeting (2007) was commenced.

### **Activities Planned for the Next Quarter:**

- Finalize and publish the Report of the Fourth Annual Scientific Meeting

## **PARTICIPATION IN ICCAT**

### **Provision of Technical Support at Regional and International Management Fora:**

#### **Background:**

Acknowledging the establishment, role, and objectives of ICCAT, other relevant regional and international fisheries bodies and international management fora, CRFM countries have begun to participate more actively in the activities of these organizations and to be directly involved in the management process. In 2008 - 09, the activity continues to include the provision of CRFM technical (research and assessment) support to countries on relevant issues of shared concern. This activity permits the CRFM Secretariat to coordinate planning and development of both national and regional positions on issues ranging from statistics to management, which require knowledge and understanding of the interpretation of resource biology and status, as well as development of legal arguments.

**Objectives:**

- (i) To coordinate planning and development of both national and regional positions on issues ranging from statistics to management, but which require knowledge and understanding of the interpretation of resource biology and status.
- (ii) To participate in those activities of international fora, in observer capacity, in cases where it is warranted.

**Highlights of Achievements during the Reporting Period:**

- Finalized format and content of proposed ICCAT training workshop., scheduled to be held early in 2009, in Guyana.

**Activities planned for next quarter:**

- Complete and submit CRFM 2008 report to ICCAT
- Continue implementation of recreational data collection trials
- Prepare for and participate in 2008 Annual ICCAT SCRS Meeting.

**RESEARCH:****1) Assess the Potential for Developing or Expanding Large Pelagic Fisheries:****Background:**

The sustainable development and management of large pelagic fisheries have been identified as priority areas by CARICOM Member States through the COTED as well as by the National Governments through their fisheries development and management plans and policy papers.

As prescribed by the various international agreements, Caribbean countries need to develop their knowledge of these offshore pelagic and other under-utilized resources, to ensure responsible and successful sustainable development and management of the relevant fisheries. Given that many of these resources are shared, countries have committed to regional coordination of statistics, research and management.

**Objectives:**

- (i) To develop knowledge base of countries on offshore pelagic and underutilized resources.
- (ii) To promote responsible and sustainable resource utilization.



- (iii) To increase development within the sector, and contribute to socio economic well being of industry stakeholders.

#### **Highlights of Achievements during the Reporting Period:**

- This activity was put on hold, pending finalization of CRFM-JICA project Scope of Work document.

#### **Activities Planned for the Next Quarter:**

- If the Japanese funded project is finalized, the CRFM Secretariat will develop project design details and commence project implementation.

### **2) CRFM Regional Queen Conch Research Programme (CRP):**

#### **Background:**

This project is designed to rehabilitate and strengthen the management of the Queen Conch, *Strombus gigas*, resources in the region by strengthening regional management capability and empowering fisheries divisions to carry out their tasks through training, systems improvements, and provision of financial and technical assistance. The overall long-term goal of this project is ensure sustainable utilization of Queen Conch resources in the CARIFORUM Region through greater networking, research, capacity building and improved management to rehabilitate and protect the stocks and ensure sustainability of the fisheries.

#### **Objectives:**

The objectives of the project are as follows:

- (i) To strengthen the region's data collection and management systems and maintain a regional database on the conch fisheries.
- (ii) To identify the patterns of distribution, abundance and densities of the queen conch.
- (iii) To develop advice for strengthened management of queen conch.
- (iv) To create models and plans for the effective management of the stocks.
- (v) To broaden stakeholder and general public awareness of the status of queen conch stocks and engender support for their sustainable management.

(See WBS 520.4 for further information on the project proposal).

### **Highlights of Achievements during the Reporting Period:**

- Activity remains on hold, pending acquisition of donor funding.

### **Activities Planned for the Next Quarter:**

- Develop project design details and commence project implementation should project funding becomes available.

## **3) Rehabilitation and Management of the Queen Conch - ad hoc study**

### **Background:**

This activity is designed to rehabilitate and strengthen the management of the queen conch (*Strombus gigas*) resources in the region by strengthening management capability through training in research, assessment and management methods, conduct of visual surveys to evaluate the present status of the queen conch resources, and provision of financial and technical assistance. The overall long-term goal of this project is to ensure sustainable utilization of queen conch resources in the CARIFORUM Region through greater networking, research, capacity building and improved management to rehabilitate and protect the stocks.

In 2005-06, the Office of Protected Resources (USA) supported the CRFM's work in the Dominican Republic, which, of the countries currently prohibited by CITES from exporting queen conch, was most likely to benefit from early work, such as stock assessment surveys. This support enabled CRFM to assist this country to follow up on the recommendations made by CITES.

To date, the field work has been completed and data have been computerized.

### **Objectives**

The objectives of this project are as follows:

- (i) To gather fisheries-independent data on the queen conch resources in the Dominican Republic through the conduct of underwater surveys on the main fishing grounds to determine the status of the stocks.
- (ii) To determine size frequency distribution and maturity profile of the exploited populations, and the location of any juvenile beds.
- (iii) To organize consultations with stakeholders including government officials, fishermen and processors and exporters to discuss the stock status and build support for improved conservation and management.
- (iv) To prepare queen conch management plans for the Dominican Republic.

### **Highlights of Achievements during the Reporting Period:**

- Ms. Mateo of the Dominican Republic has submitted some data and information for review by the Secretariat

### **Activities planned for the Next Quarter:**

- Prepare relevant CRFM publication of project findings.

### **RESOURCE ASSESSMENT:**

#### **Fishery Assessment and Method Meetings:**

##### **Background:**

Many fisheries resources of major importance in the Caribbean region have distributions that extend beyond national boundaries, and hence require coordinated action in respect of their assessment and management.

To facilitate informed coordinated management planning and implementation, the CRFM has established a number of Fisheries Resource Working Groups: the CRFM Shrimp and Groundfish Fisheries Resource Working Group (SGWG); the CRFM Conch and Lobster Resource Working Group (CLWG); the CRFM Large Pelagic Fisheries Resource Working Group (LPWG); the CRFM Reef and Slope Fisheries Resource Working Group (RSWG); the CRFM Small Coastal Pelagic Fisheries Resource Working Group (SCPWG). These Fisheries Resource Working Groups handle a range of research and assessment activities, and are responsible for developing management recommendations based on the results of fisheries assessment analyses. A CRFM Ad Hoc Working Group on Methods has also been established to investigate the suitability of various available assessment methods for application to CRFM fisheries management situations. The Ad Hoc Working Group on Methods reports to the Resource Working Groups during the CRFM Annual Scientific Meetings.

The CRFM Annual Scientific Meetings are joint meetings of the CRFM Fisheries Resource Working Groups, and ensure sharing of knowledge and expertise among the Working Groups. The Annual Scientific Meetings also facilitate wider regional review and consultation concerning the interpretation of assessment results. By this means, fisheries assessments and management recommendations are coordinated and updated at the regional level, for presentation to the Forum and the Ministerial Council on an annual basis.

##### **Objectives:**

- (i) To use the most recent and available data to assess, by whatever technical approach or approaches are most appropriate, the status of fishery resources exploited by CRFM countries.



- (ii) To discuss, and interpret the results of the assessments and other relevant quantitative analyses of the data, incorporating local intimate knowledge and understanding of the fisheries concerned.
- (iii) To make recommendations for management of the fisheries investigated, considering any significant social and economic implications of the management strategies that would emerge from such recommendations.
- (iv) To make recommendations for improvements in statistics, and to identify future research and fisheries assessment needs.
- (v) To develop the skills of national staff in fisheries assessment analyses and report preparation.

#### **Highlights of Achievements during the Reporting Period:**

- Convened CRFM's Fourth Annual Scientific Meeting
- Obtained endorsement of the Report of the Third Meeting of the CRFM Ad Hoc Working Group on Methods.
- Obtained approval for establishment of Working Group on Data, Methods and Training
- Continued inter-sessional assistance to St. Vincent and the Grenadines to improve understanding of that country's spiny lobster and queen conch fisheries.
- Continued ERAEF study of lobster fishery of St. Vincent and the Grenadines.
- Continued development of social and economic performance indicators for the lobster fishery of St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

#### **Activities planned for the Next Quarter:**

- Finalize and publish report of Fourth Annual Scientific Meeting.
- Complete ERAEF trial report for lobster fishery of St. Vincent and the Grenadines.
- Complete report of study to develop social and economic performance indicators
- Assist St. Vincent and the Grenadines with visual survey of spiny lobster resource.

## OUTPUT 500 FISHERIES RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

### ACTIVITY 500: Fisheries Resource Management and Development

Output: Improved national fishery management policies and plans with inputs from principal stakeholders

Activity Start: April 1, 2008

End: March 31, 2009

### Activity Progress Report Summary

Total Budget: US\$192,660

Spent: US\$24,585

Balance: US\$168,075

Will complete Activity within Total Budget: Yes ☒ No ☐

Completion of Activity (Work plan): ahead ☐ behind ☐ on schedule ☒

Completion of Total Activity: ahead ☐ behind ☐ on schedule ☒

Percentage of total output achieved to date

## WBS 500: FISHERIES RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME:

This Programme provides technical assistance to Member States in the areas of: fisheries management planning, using a participatory and multidisciplinary approach; monitoring control and surveillance (MCS); quality assurance and safety; organizational development of fisher folk organizations for improved participation in the fisheries management process; and human resource development in fisheries and related fields. It is also involved in the development of the Common Fisheries Policy and Regime for CARICOM.

### 501.1 Provision of Technical Support at Regional and International Fora (CITES)

#### Background

The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) works by subjecting international trade in specimens of selected species to certain controls, with species covered being listed in one of three Appendices, according to the degree of protection they



need. These Appendices are as follows:

Appendix I includes species threatened with extinction. Trade in specimens of these species is permitted only in exceptional circumstances.

Appendix II includes species not necessarily threatened with extinction, but in which trade must be controlled in order to avoid utilization incompatible with their survival.

Appendix III contains species that are protected in at least one country, which has asked other CITES Parties for assistance in controlling the trade (<http://www.cites.org/eng/disc/how.shtml>).

Recognising the impact of the listing of the queen conch (*Strombus gigas*) on Appendix II of CITES on the management and development of the queen conch fisheries in the Caribbean and the ever increasing influence of this Convention on the trade in fish and fish products from the region and the likely effects on sustainable fisheries development, the Caribbean Fisheries Forum has decided that the CRFM Secretariat must seek observer status with the CITES Secretariat and participate in meetings of the Conference of the Parties, etc. in order to provide technical advice on fisheries matters to Member States as well as play a coordinating role in the determination of positions on fisheries related issues.

The objective of this project is to provide technical advice on fisheries matters to Member States as well as play a coordinating role in the determination of positions on fisheries related issues.

(note: Nothing on what happened)

### **Formulation of a Common Fisheries Policy and Regime**

Following on the Fifth Meeting of the Forum in May 2007, significant progress has been made in developing the CFP&R, but the document should still be considered to be a work in progress requiring further policy guidance in some areas and legal input in others.

The CARICOM and CRFM Secretariats retained the service of a legal expert, Dr. B. Scotland, to review and make refinements to the Draft Agreement Establishing the Common Fisheries Policy and Regime in order to expedite its completion. He submitted the Revised Draft Agreement to a meeting of the Expanded Legal Working Group during the period 9-10 August 2007 in Barbados. The output of the Expanded Legal Working Group Meeting was submitted to a Special Meeting of the CRFM Forum on 3-4 October 2007, Guyana, for review and comments.

At the Special Meeting of the Forum in Guyana, some Member States expressed reservations on the areas to be included in the Common Fisheries Zone, with Dominica indicating that instead of the Zone starting beyond 12 miles (Territorial Sea) it should be beyond 50 miles. With regards to access to fisheries resources, The Bahamas advised that it could not cede authority to grant access to their EEZ to any other Agency at this point in time, while Montserrat mentioned that given its status as an OCT, the U.K has certain rights in respect to its waters and a separate deed of entrustment may have to be considered to address this matter. The Turks and Caicos Islands and Dominica reserved their positions on the issuance of licenses to Third States to fish in the Common Fisheries Zone by the Implementing Agency. Also, in relation to the powers of the Implementing Agency, the Turks and



Caicos Islands entered a reservation on the granting of authority to the said Agency to decide on catch and fishing limits.

At the Meeting, Suriname made a statement in which it indicated support for the basic principles and rules as mentioned in the Draft Agreement regarding the sustainable use, conservation and management of the aquatic resources. It expressed agreement with the visions and goals, noting that these were consistent with the principles as stated in the Revised Treaty of Chaguaramas and other documents signed by Suriname with respect to the CSME. With respect to the Implementing Agency, Suriname emphasised that this body should have a supportive role instead of an executive one, and raised a concern about the position of its national fisheries laws if the Implementing Agency should be an executive body. Suriname further pointed out that the current situation regarding its fisheries is different compared to the other Member States e.g. fishing agreements with third states. In addition, Suriname stated that it did not agree with the reference to delimitation of maritime boundaries in the Draft Agreement and the establishment of a Common Fisheries Zone.

Suriname indicated that the comments that were earlier stated in a letter by the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture to the CRFM were clear, and advised that it could not participate in further deliberations regarding the Draft Agreement and would be unable to participate in the regime as currently presented under the conditions as put forward by other Member States.

A Report from the Special Forum, including the reservations and concerns expressed by Member States, was presented to the Special COTED Meeting in Jamaica in October 2007. The COTED reviewed the Report and requested CARISEC to provide legal opinions as to whether the Common Fisheries Policy and Regime, and the proposed Common Fisheries Zone are grounded in the Revised Treaty of Chaguaramas, and to clarify whether the Common Fisheries Policy and Regime applied only to CARICOM Member States which are party to the Revised Treaty of Chaguaramas or to CRFM Member States, given that not all Members of the CRFM are signatories to the Revised Treaty. CARISEC is researching these matters.

Based on a recommendation of the Fifth FORUM and in keeping with his TOR, the legal expert prepared a draft information document, which was reviewed by the CRFM Secretariat and returned to CARISEC for amendment before circulation.

In response to a letter of 2 November 2007 from the Minister of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Fisheries, Suriname, to the Secretary General of CARICOM concerning the elaboration of the CFP&R, a CARISEC/CRFM Team undertook a mission to Suriname in February 2008 to discuss the issues raised. A Mission report was prepared and circulated.

The May 2008 Forum Meeting in Suriname was updated on these matters.

## **520.1 Strengthening National Fisheries Management:**

### **Development and Implementation of Fisheries Management Plans (FMPs):**

#### **Background:**

From the programme year 2003/04 to date, the CRFM Secretariat has been working with a number of countries, including Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, The Bahamas, Belize, Guyana, Haiti, Montserrat, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines and the Turks and Caicos Islands in the process of developing and implementing their fisheries management plans (FMPs). Based on a timeframe that takes about six to twelve months or more to develop a FMP, hold national consultations with stakeholders and obtain approval from the relevant political authority, the CRFM Secretariat sought to follow-up the activities with the Member States mentioned above as well as work with Grenada, St. Kitts and Nevis and Suriname in the updating of their FMPs.

#### **Highlights of Achievement during the Reporting Period:**

The Draft FMP for Dominica has been updated and is being reviewed before being sent to the Fisheries Department, Dominica.

### **Strengthening Regional Fisheries Management:**

#### **Implementation of the Medium Term Action Plan for the Institutional Strengthening for Leaders of Fisherfolk Organisations:**

##### **Background:**

Following the publication of the Report on the Organizational Needs Assessment of Fisher folk organizations and the Workshop on the Report held in October 2004, a Pro Tem Working Group was formed to transform five (5) recommendations from the report into a Medium Action Plan. The Pro Tem Working Group met in Guyana for the first time, June 22 – 23 2005, and produced a draft Strategy and Medium Term Plan of its project proposals. Following this meeting, draft reports on the Workshop on the Terms of Reference for the Pro Tem Working Group on the Institutional Strengthening of the Regional Fisher folk Organizations, and the Strategy and Medium Term Action Plan for the Fisher folk Organizations were prepared and compiled. Copies were submitted to the CTA and to the participating Member States for their review and comments. Following consultations with the CTA a draft project proposal culled from the project profiles in the Medium Term Action Plan was prepared and submitted to the CTA for consideration of funding.

With assistance from CTA, the Secretariat concluded the project documentation and signed a contract in September 2006 to implement the CRFM/CTA Project: *Strengthening of National Fisherfolk Organisations in Selected ACP Caribbean Countries*. The overall objective of the Project is to contribute to improved income earnings, higher standards of living of fisher folk and sustainable use of fishery resources in the Caribbean, with the purpose being to develop the institutional capacities of fisher folk organizations at the regional, national and community levels.



The Project is being implemented over a three year period, starting in 2006/07. So far, the training of trainers workshop for Fisheries Extension Officers to enhance their skills to provide better Information, Advisory and Training Services to Primary and National Fisher folk Organizations, the national consultations for the launch of NFOs (to be completed by February 2007) and Regional Fisheries Stakeholders Workshop to Launch CARNUFO (to be done by March 2007) have been delivered. The awareness and promotion campaign is being conducted.

### **Highlights of Achievement during the Reporting Period**

- With assistance from the fisher folk leaders, fisheries officers, cooperatives officers and other stakeholders, Issues 5 of the newsletter: Fisher Folk Net was prepared and distributed to Member States and other stakeholders. Also, a Draft Terms of Reference for Consultancy to Deliver a Training Workshop on Management, Communication and Advocacy for Fisher Folk Organisations and Draft Information Note for the said Workshop were prepared. In addition, the Terms of Reference for a Consultancy to Develop the Regional Network of National Fisher Folk Organisations Website was drafted.
- With assistance from the GCFI Small Grants Fund, a team comprising of the Regional Fisher Folk Organisation – Coordinating Unit (CU) Coordinator, Mr. Mitchell Lay, and Deputy Coordinator, Mr. Joslyn Lee Quay, and the Deputy Executive Director (Ag.), CRFM Secretariat, Mr. Terrence Phillips, visited St. Kitts and Nevis, Guyana and St. Vincent and the Grenadines during the period May 13 to 29, 2008, to promote the formation of the NFOs in these countries. Also, a UWI-CERMES/Dalhousie University Intern, Ms. Laura Tabet, joined the team in St. Kitts and Nevis and St. Vincent and the Grenadines. In addition, during June 9 to 13, a team comprised of the CU Coordinator, Mr. Mitchell Lay, Fisheries Extension Officer, St. Lucia, Ms. Petronilia Polius, and Committee Member, St. Lucia Fisherfolk Cooperative Society Limited, St. Lucia, Ms. Julieta Herman, visited Belize to become acquainted with the business and other operations of the Primary Fisherfolk Organisations (PFOs) and National Fisherfolk Organisation (NFO) there, that would enable them to develop and implement sustainable financing and training activities. The Belize officials who accompanied the team were Senior Fisheries Officer, Mr. Jaime Villanueva, Cooperatives Officer, Mr. Mitchell Luis, and Executive Secretary, Belize Fishermen's Cooperative Association (BFCA) and CU Secretary, Ms. Nadine Nembhard.

#### **520.2: Diagnostic Study to Determine the Poverty Levels in Fishing Communities in Selected CARICOM / CRFM Member States (Donor Funded)**

##### **Background**

This Project will seek to undertake a diagnosis of the socio-economic and demographic situations in fishing communities in selected CRFM Member States, especially as it relates to the determination of poverty levels in these communities, and its effects on the quality of life and community structures, in order to identify suitable models for planning and implementing alternative livelihood programmes and alleviate poverty in fishing communities.



The objectives are:

To organize a diagnostic study to determine the levels of poverty in fishing communities in selected CRFM Member States and develop models for planning and implementing alternative livelihood programmes suited to their socio-economic and natural environments.

To identify the demographic and socio-economic variables underlying the low standards of living in the fishing communities, and devise means of monitoring and evaluating them to determine the achievements of the poverty alleviation programmes.

A CARISEC/CARDI/CRFM Secretariat Team had discussions with a Government of Spain/TRAGSATEC Team on the Project to provide technical assistance for agriculture and fisheries sector analysis and design specific projects in CARICOM, in November 2007, in Guyana. During these discussions it was determined that the agriculture and fisheries sector analyses would be based on desk studies using existing agriculture and fisheries reports which would be provided by CARISEC, CARDI and the CRFM Secretariat. It was noted that the project would have both regional and national components, with the national components being based on bilateral discussions with Jamaica and Guyana respectively, while the regional aspects would be in keeping with the areas identified (greenhouse and hydroponics technology demonstration centres; food security improvement for indigenous communities; diagnostic study to determine the levels of poverty in fishing communities and the development of alternative livelihood programmes) in the TOR.

A Work Plan which included the objectives of the technical mission, methodology, deliverables, role of CARISEC in project delivery and implementation timetable was outlined. The Project which commenced in November 2007 was slated for completion in January 2008, with it being noted that this was just the project identification and design phase. CARISEC urged the Government of Spain representatives at the meeting to try to ensure that the implementation phase for the projects designed would follow shortly after. During the meeting and after, the CRFM Secretariat provided the GOS/TRAGSATEC Team with documentation relevant to the fisheries component of the Project.

#### **Highlights of Achievements during the Reporting Period:**

- The Secretariat reviewed the following documents provided by TRAGSATEC “Analysis of the Fisheries Sector in CARICOM and Identification of Main Action Lines with regard to Sustainable Development of Fishing Communities” and “Design Documents for the Execution of a Diagnostic Study to Determine the Poverty Levels in Fishing Communities in the CARICOM Region”, and provided comments to CARISEC.

#### **520.4: Rehabilitation and Management of the Queen Conch (*Strombus gigas*) Resources in the CARICOM States (Donor Funded)**

This Project is designed to strengthen the management of the Queen Conch, *Strombus gigas*, fisheries in the region by strengthening regional management capability and empowering fisheries divisions to carry out their tasks through technical assistance and training, and improvement of data and resource management systems.

The Queen conch (*Strombus gigas*) is considered one of the most important fishery (second only to the Spiny lobster) resources in the CARICOM region due to local consumption as well as sources of income, primarily from export. In the last 30 years the overall harvest of conch has increased substantially largely driven by international exports as well as growing resident populations and increasing tourism in the Caribbean region. These factors have been the main contributors leading to the drastic decline in conch population densities that are seen in most Caribbean countries. Deep waters provide refuge from fishing, as the conchs are often difficult and/or uneconomical to exploit. However, the use of SCUBA equipment and hookah, in place of traditional conch hooks and free diving techniques, has allowed expansion of the fishery into previously unexploited areas, thus placing many deep-water populations at risk (Mulliken 1996).

Conch is commercially exploited in at least 22 countries throughout the region (Mulliken 1996; Tewfik 1997). Populations of Queen conch (*Strombus gigas*) can be found along the entire Caribbean chain, from the northern coast of South America and Central America, northwards through the Lesser Antilles and northwest as far as Bermuda. (Mulliken, 1996). Annual harvest of conch ranges from 4000 MT (Appeldoorn 1994) to 10,200 MT (FAO, 1999).

In the CARICOM Region, the main objectives of Queen conch fisheries management are conservation of the species, sustainable harvest, and re-building of stocks. Management regulations for Queen conch resources include various minimum size restrictions, closures, gear and vessel restrictions, bulk harvest restrictions (quotas) and limited entry (Appeldoorn 1997; Tewfik 1997), (CFU, 2001).

The rapid expansion of export markets, and subsequent overfishing and declines in the populations led to the inclusion of *Strombus gigas* on Appendix II of CITES in 1992. Since then CITES has progressively stepped up pressure on the range states to adopt resource management and trade related measures to protect and conserve the stocks and ensure sustainable utilization and trade in the species.

The 19<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the CITES Animals Committee which was held in Geneva, 18<sup>th</sup> – 21st August 2003, on the basis of the Report of the Significant Trade Review, made several short-term and long-term recommendations regarding the species which have significant ramifications for the Caribbean States. These recommendations include among others, a moratorium on commercial harvest (outside of territorial waters) and suspension of international trade in Honduras, Dominican Republic and Haiti. CITES Animals Committee recommendation made in 2000 had already resulted in suspension of trade from three other CARICOM Countries, namely, Barbados, Dominica and Trinidad and Tobago. These suspensions have been lifted. However, Grenada was subjected to trade sanctions in May 2006 for their failure to take actions recommended in 2003, and provide information requested.

With the lifting of sanctions and release of Member States from the obligations imposed in 2003, the onus is now on Member States and regional organizations to ensure proper management of the stocks and avoid the need for future CITES interventions to regulate trade and demand better management of the species.

## **Objective**

The overall objective is to improve information and systems for effective management of queen conch resources in the CARICOM/CARIFORUM region to ensure the long-term sustainable



exploitation of the conch resources and a better quality of life for the resource users.

### **Highlights of Achievements up to the Reporting Period:**

- Based on feedback from the FAO, the Project Proposal: *Sustainable Development of the Queen Conch (Strombus gigas) Resources in the CARICOM / CARIFORUM States* was revised and submitted formally to the FAO through CARISEC. A similar Project Proposal was prepared and submitted to the IDB under the CARICOM/IDB programme. It was also shared with NOAA for funding consideration.

#### **520.5: Enhance the Effectiveness of MCS in the CARICOM Region (Donor funded)**

The CARICOM region is spread over a very large area of the Caribbean Sea and includes several SIDs. The capacity for carrying out MCS activities varies from state to state as is demonstrated by the paucity of resources made available by most countries to the tasks of surveillance and enforcement; the current state of legislation; the low level of systems for monitoring and the apparent lack of political will to enforce fisheries regulations. As a result, the level of compliance varies throughout the region.

Most fishery resources are under national jurisdiction thus making the development of national strategy a key element in their management. However, in the Caribbean situation where countries are in close proximity to each other, both regional/sub-regional and national approaches to solutions are required. Furthermore, owing to the migratory nature of tuna and tuna-like species, and the sharing of other stocks, the impact of IUU fishing is being felt regionally. An approach to management and MCS must therefore be built on cooperation, coordination and exchange of information.

IUU fishing is a dynamic and multi-faceted problem and, as such, no single strategy is sufficient to eliminate or reduce it. A concerted and multi-pronged approach is required nationally and regionally, and by type of fishery. Assuming that there is a shared commitment for effective management of the living resources of the region, the strategy for conducting monitoring, control, surveillance and enforcement, as part of any fisheries management structure must be developed within the framework of National Plans of Action (NPOAs). These plans would encompass robust institutional capacity, effective planning, adequate funding and cooperative arrangements between institutions at the national level and between neighbouring states at the regional/sub-regional level. By so doing, states will become capable of undertaking MCS operations in a manner that will maximize their ability to prevent, deter and eliminate IUU fishing and related activities.

### **Objectives**

The objective is to enhance the effectiveness of MCS above its current state by creating and sustaining the necessary harmonized and contemporary legislative and regulatory regimes; building capacity in national fisheries administrations; and fostering an attitude of compliance among fishers, which is intended to facilitate and support the management of fisheries nationally and regionally.



### Highlights of Achievements up to the Reporting Period:

- A Project Proposal to enhance the effectiveness of monitoring, control and surveillance (MCS) at the national, sub-regional and regional levels to deter, prevent and eliminate illegal, unregulated and unreported (IUU) fishing was prepared and submitted to the IDB under the CARICOM/IDB programme. A similar proposal was provided to NOAA for funding consideration.
- Based on comments and recommendations from the Fifth Forum, CARISEC and the CRFM Secretariat reviewed and amended the Draft Declaration on IUU Fishing for the CRFM Member States and circulated it to the Member States for further review. To date comments have been received from The Bahamas and Trinidad and Tobago. The revised Draft Declaration was presented to the Sixth Meeting of the Forum, in May, 2008, for its review and further direction.

### Human Resource Development – Long Term Training and Scholarships:

The International Ocean Institute (IOI) and the CRFM Secretariat signed a Memorandum of Understanding to facilitate the participation of individuals from the Caribbean Region in the IOI's Training and Capacity Building activities, particularly the IOI Training Programme in Ocean Governance.

In its ongoing commitment to develop the human resource base in fisheries and fisheries related disciplines in the region, during the period April – June 2008, the CRFM Secretariat provided IOI scholarships for four (4) persons drawn from fisheries departments in the Member States and the CRFM Secretariat, to attend the International Ocean Institute Training Programme on Ocean Governance: Policy, Law and Management in Canada, from May 21 to July 18, 2008, Nova Scotia, Canada. Scholars are below-listed:

Country	Name and Title	Institution
Belize	Mr. Wilfredo Pott Fisheries Officer	IOI / Dalhousie University
St. Kitts and Nevis	Ms. Jihan Williams, Crown Counsel	IOI / Dalhousie University
St. Vincent and the Grenadines	Mr. Hyrone Johnson Senior Fisheries Assistant	IOI / Dalhousie University
Suriname	Mr. Soereschandre Kalpoe Deputy Director of Fisheries	IOI / Dalhousie University

The United Nations University - Fisheries Training Programme (UNU – FTP), Iceland, offers training in various areas of the fisheries sector for practicing professionals in the less developed countries. The programme is led by the Marine Research Institute in a formal cooperation with the Icelandic Fisheries Laboratories and the University of Akureyri. The training covers six (6) specialist areas including (1) Fisheries Policy and Planning; (2) Marine and Inland Waters Resources and Assessment; (3) Quality Management and Fish Handling Processes; (4) Management of Fisheries Companies and Marketing; (5) Fishing Technology; and (6) Aquatic Environmental Assessment and Monitoring. The Caribbean Fisheries Forum has approved an MOU (CRFM / UNU-

FTP) which will be signed by both parties during the next quarter. The CRFM Secretariat engaged in discussions with the UNU with respect to the training of fisheries personnel from the region for the academic year 2008 / 09. Nominations for training at the UNU – FTP were received from Dominica and St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

### **Highlights of Achievements during the Reporting Period:**

- During the reporting period, Mrs. Yolanda Babb-Echteld, of the Fisheries Department of Suriname, continued working on her Thesis at the UWI-CERMES. Ms. Babb-Echteld was awarded European Union funded scholarship (MSc. Fisheries Science) under the Integrated Caribbean Regional Agriculture and Fisheries Development Programme – Fisheries Component. The CRFM Secretariat is also co-supervising the preparation of the MSc. Thesis. Ms. Babb-Echteld advised that she has been making corrections to her Thesis and was attempting to send electronically to Dr. Robin Mahon, UWI- CERMES, for review.
- In October 2004, the CRFM Secretariat, approved under Work Programme April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2004 to March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2005, and granted financial support to Ms. Ann-Marie Jobity, Director of Fisheries, Trinidad and Tobago, in respect of a fisheries research project being pursued under a PhD. Programme with UWI, Trinidad and Tobago. The project is titled: *A determination of size selectivity in gill nets towards sustainability of the Carite Fishery in Trinidad*. During the period under review, the CRFM Secretariat continued to work with Ms. Jobity on this project.
- For the 2008 academic year, to date, Ms. Lucille Grant, Fisheries Officer, Fisheries Division, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, has been offered a 6 month fellowship under the UNU – FTP programme.
- With respect to short-term training and attachments the CRFM Secretariat part financed and gave technical support to the attachments of Mr. Euclid Warner, Manager, Fisheries Complex, St. Kitts, at the St. Lucia Fisheries Complex and the St. Vincent and the Grenadines Fisheries Complex, April 13 – 18, 2008 and of the attachment of Ms. Delcia Brookes, Data Manager, Department of Fisheries, St. Kitts and Nevis, to the Fisheries Department, Jamaica to receive training in data collection and management during the period May 11 – 27, 2008.

### **IMPROVED POST HARVEST, PROCESSING AND MARKETING:**

**Strengthening Fishery Products Health Conditions in CARICOM/ CARIFORUM Members States and OCT Countries (Donor supported initiative submitted to the European Community for funding):**

#### **Background:**

During the programme year 2002 / 03, the CRFM Secretariat (formerly the CARICOM Fisheries Unit) undertook a diagnostic mission which focused on the post harvest fishing sector and related



support areas of Antigua and Barbuda, The Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, St Lucia, St Kitts and Nevis, St Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago as well as the OCT UK countries, Anguilla, The British Virgin Islands, Montserrat, and Turks and Caicos and the OCT's of the Netherlands. This led to the preliminary design of a strategy and proposal for strengthening fishery products health conditions in CARICOM / CARIFORUM member states and OCT countries. The findings of the mission and the preliminary design of the proposal were complemented by, and refined through workshop discussions in which participated broad representation from agencies such as Ministries of Agriculture and Health, Standards Bureaux and National Analytical Laboratories.

**Objective:**

The objective of the "*Project for Strengthening Fishery Products Health Conditions in CARICOM / CARIFORUM Member States and OCT Countries*" is the optimal use of the CARICOM / CARIFORUM States' fishery resources in order to gain improvements in production and trading capacity in relation to fishery products, so as to contribute to the securing of optimal economic and social returns from the resource.

During mid-2005, as part of the ongoing CARIFORUM and the EU negotiations for an Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA), the second phase of these negotiations focused on regional integration. In this regard, the technical negotiations discussed SPS measures at the First CARIFORUM/EC Technical Session on Market Access, and a decision was made to explore the possibilities for a CARIFORUM pilot project on SPS measures in a priority area for the Caribbean region.

Following on this decision, the Regional Preparatory Task Force (RPTF), which is charged with responsibilities for advising on support measures/programmes arising out of EPA negotiations, agreed that the CARIFORUM Pilot Project on SPS Measures would focus on the fisheries sector. To this effect, the Terms of Reference for a Study to Improve Compliance with EU Commission Sanitary Standards in the CARIFORUM Fisheries Sector was prepared by the CARIFORUM Secretariat, in consultation with the CRFM Secretariat, and submitted to the Secretary of the ACP Group of States.

**Objective:**

The overall objective of the Study is to advise on a programme of action to eventually increase the value added and revenue derived both from existing and potential fish exports to the EU from Caribbean operators through improved institutional collaboration and capacity in fisheries sanitary standards at the CARIFORUM level.

The specific objectives of the study are:

- (i) to identify issues (such as institutional or capacity constraints) that limit the ability of the CARIFORUM Fisheries to meet EU sanitary standards; and



- (ii) to propose a prioritised list of Terms of References for necessary actions and interventions feasible at the regional / CARIFORUM level that will provide significant benefits to the fishery sector by assisting in the implementation of EU sanitary requirements.

The EU selected a Team of Consultants to review the situation in the region and prepare a financing proposal for submission to the Commission.

**Highlights of Achievements up to the Reporting Period:**

- The Consultant's *Final Report on the Study to Improve Compliance with EU Commission Sanitary Standards in the CARIFORUM Fisheries Sector* was provided to the CRFM Secretariat by the CARIFORUM Secretariat and circulated to Member States for review and comments. The Secretariat provided the comments received from some Member States to the CARIFORUM Secretariat and made recommendations on the Way Forward.

### **ACTIVITY 600 : Communication and Documentation**

Output: Functioning and efficient Documentation Centre operations; Publications Disseminated. Computer networks functioning.

Activity Start: April 1, 2008

End: March 31, 2009

#### **Activity Progress Report Summary**

Total Budget: US\$32,613

Spent: US\$1,042

Balance: US\$31,571

Will complete Activity within Total Budget: Yes ☒ No ☐

Completion of Activity (Work plan): ahead ☐ behind ☐ on schedule ☒

Completion of Total Activity: ahead ☐ behind ☐ on schedule ☒

### **WBS 600: COMMUNICATION AND DOCUMENTATION**

#### **Operations Manual, and Information and Documentation:**

##### **Background:**

At the Third Meeting of the Forum, Members were informed that the CRFM Secretariat had done some preliminary work on a draft Operations Manual, but shortage of resources and a request by the Executive Committee, at its Fourth Meeting, to prioritize this matter, led to an appeal to the CARICOM Secretariat for financial and technical assistance. The latter directed the CRFM Secretariat to the Caribbean Centre for Administration and Development (CARICAD) which indicated that it was ready to assist.

The CARICAD is a regional inter-governmental organization specializing in transforming and modernizing the public sector of Caribbean States. Headquartered in Bridgetown, Barbados, CARICAD was established in 1980 by an agreement among CARICOM governments and has helped CARICOM member and associated member governments to improve efficiencies by introducing modern management systems and processes.

CARICAD is currently finalizing the draft Operations Manual after receiving inputs from Member States at the Executive Committee and Forum Meetings held May 5 – 9, 2008 in Suriname. Member States also agreed at the Forum Meeting to send written comments on the draft Manual to CARICAD and / or the CRFM Secretariat. It is expected that the revised draft of the Operations Manual will be further reviewed at a meeting of Senior Managers of the CRFM Secretariat, August 21 – 22, 2008 in Belize.

#### **Highlights of Achievements during the Reporting Period:**

- Review and input to the draft Operations Manual by Member States at the Executive Committee and Forum Meetings held during the period May 5 – 9, 2008 in Suriname.

#### **Activities Planned for the Next Quarter**

- Review and finalisation of draft Operations Manual through the following process:
  - Meeting of Senior Managers of CRFM Secretariat, August 21 – 22, 2008 (Belize)
  - Meeting of Executive Committee of the Forum, September 4 – 5, 2008 (St. Lucia)
  - Special Meeting of the Caribbean Fisheries Forum, September 17 – 18, 2008 (St. Vincent and the Grenadines)

#### **The CRFM Secretariat's Website**

##### **Background:**

During the programme year 2008 / 09, the CRFM Secretariat continued to utilize modern technology, more specifically, the CRFM Secretariat Website to inform its stakeholders of CRFM activities and developments in fisheries in the region. The CRFM Secretariat aims to make the Website more interactive and provided its audience with regular updates of meetings and CRFM technical reports.

#### **Highlights of Achievements during the Reporting Period:**

- The CRFM Secretariat continued to update the Calendar of Events webpage to keep CRFM Members States and other stakeholders informed of activities being implemented by the CRFM Secretariat.
- Meeting Reports, Information Notes, Agendas and other information continued to be placed on the website.



## Activities Planned for the Next Quarter

- Redesign and update of the CRFM Website to enable it to host the planned site for the Fisherfolk Organisations.
- Meet with UWI – CERMES to develop programme for joint cooperation UWI / CRFM on the development and implementation of a communication strategy for some major products of the CRFM.

## OTHER ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD:

### Development and Implementation of a Programme for Enabling and Promoting MCS:

#### **Background:**

The CARICOM region is spread over a very large area of the Caribbean Sea and includes several SIDs. The capacity for carrying out MCS activities varies from state to state as is demonstrated by: the paucity of resources made available by most countries to the tasks of surveillance and enforcement; the current state of legislation; the low level of systems for monitoring and the apparent lack of political will to enforce fisheries regulations. As a result, the level of compliance varies throughout the region.

Most fishery resources are under national jurisdiction thus making the development of national strategy a key element in their management. However, in the Caribbean situation where countries are in close proximity to each other, both regional/sub-regional and national approaches to solutions are required. Furthermore, owing to the migratory nature of tuna and tuna-like species, and the sharing of other stocks, the impact of IUU fishing is being felt regionally. An approach to management and MCS must therefore be built on cooperation, coordination and exchange of information.

IUU fishing is a dynamic and multi-faceted problem and, as such, no single strategy is sufficient to eliminate or reduce it. A concerted and multi-pronged approach is required nationally and regionally, and by type of fishery. The considerations that would influence the design of MCS systems are:

There are no universally acceptable models and each system in operation is in fact, adapted to the cultural, geographic, political and legal framework of the country or region.

The operational character of the system will depend on the fisheries management strategies being applied.

The national and regional MCS systems are complementary, with effective mechanisms being put in place for coordination.

Assuming that there is a shared commitment for effective management of the living resources of the region, the strategy for conducting monitoring, control, surveillance and enforcement, as part of any fisheries management structure must be developed within the framework of National Plans of Action (NPOAs). These plans would encompass robust institutional capacity, effective planning, adequate

funding and cooperative arrangements between institutions at the national level and between neighbouring states at the regional/sub-regional level. By so doing, states will become capable of undertaking MCS operations in a manner that will maximize their ability to prevent, deter and eliminate IUU fishing and related activities.

**Objectives:**

- (i) To develop a regional framework agreement and action plan on IUU fishing and monitoring, control and surveillance (MCS).
- (ii) To provide technical assistance to Member States in developing their respective NPOAs -IUU Fishing as an integral part of the process towards improved fisheries management and development.

**Highlights of Achievements during the Reporting Period:**

- The recently concluded Caribbean Fisheries Forum reviewed the revised Draft Declaration on IUU Fishing and MCS and made recommendations for further amendments and submission to COTED through CARISEC.

**Large Marine Ecosystems Project (LME)**

**Background:**

The project for the Sustainable management of the shared living marine resources of the Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystem (LME) and adjacent Regions will build on and complement existing projects and initiatives that focus on technical and institutional aspects of sustainable living marine resource use by focusing on governance, knowledge, and institutional issues in a transboundary context.

The project has as its overall objective: *Sustainable management of the shared living marine resources of the Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystem (LME) and adjacent areas through an integrated management approach that would meet the WSSD target for sustainable fisheries.*

**The specific objectives of the project are:**

- to identify, analyze and agree upon major issues, root causes and actions required to achieve sustainable management of the shared living marine resources of the Caribbean Sea LME;
- to improve the shared knowledge base for sustainable use and management of transboundary living marine resources;
- to implement legal, policy and institutional (SAP) reforms to achieve sustainable transboundary living marine resource management; to develop an institutional and procedural approach to LME level monitoring, evaluation and reporting.



The project which involves 25 Caribbean States, is a US\$56.1 million project, comprising US\$7.1 million GEF support and co-financing by governments and other multi-lateral donor agencies of US\$48.3 million.

### **Highlights of Achievements up to the Reporting Period:**

- During the reporting period, the CRFM Secretariat participated in the Final Meeting of CLME Steering Committee in Colombia in June 2007 and subsequently provided comments on the Draft Pilot Projects for Lobster and Reef Fisheries. It was agreed that the project would implement four (4) demonstration projects to show how fisheries management policy cycle can be strengthened. The projects will be on: (i) spiny lobster; (ii) Guiana-Brazil shrimp and groundfish; (iii) flying fish; and (iv) reef fish and biodiversity. The CRFM will be responsible for implementing the flying fish demonstration project. It was also agreed that the project implementation office will be located in Columbia. Recruitment of staff commenced during the reporting period.
- Implementation of this Project is likely to begin in 2008. To date, the CLME Project Identification Form has been approved and the full project and pilot projects are being developed.

### **ECOST Project:**

#### **Background:**

The main objective of the ECOST project is to develop a new approach for the evaluation of fishing activities and fishing policies in order to contribute to a better management of aquatic resources in the world. The project falls under the logic of the decision of Johannesburg to restore the marine ecosystems by 2015 and the philosophy of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (CCRF) for a responsible fishery.

The project involves 23 partners and is geographically spread over three (3) continents (three (3) countries for each continent) that are characterized respectively by ecosystems of coastal upwelling (West Africa with Mauritania, Senegal and Guinea Bissau), delta (South East Asia with China, Vietnam and Thailand) and coral reef (Caribbean with Cuba, Jamaica and Dominican Republic). Within each region / ecosystem (eco- region) several fisheries have been selected as representative of global fishing activities. Furthermore, a marine protected area will be chosen in order to establish comparative analysis within the said eco- region, and to serve as a reference point.

### **Highlights of Achievements during the Reporting Period:**

- The CRFM Secretariat continued to monitor the implementation of the Project.

### **Safety at Sea Project:**

The objectives of the project are to undertake an evaluation / needs assessment of the numbers and types of incidents/ injuries that divers receive in the commercial / artisanal fishery and compile the



results in a format suitable to be stored in a database for analysis and development of a management plan at a later date.

**The expected outputs are:**

- A database with information on number of divers in the conch lobster fishery, types of injuries associated with diving in the conch and lobster fishery, causes of diver injuries in the conch and lobster fishery, frequency of injuries associated with the lobster and conch fishery and the problems and risk divers face in the conch and lobster fishery.
- An assessment of the diver occupation in the CARIFORUM / CARICOM Region.
- This document will provide the stakeholders of the lobster and conch resources and the Department of Fisheries in the CARICOM / CARIFORUM region with the necessary data to initiate a plan to reduce the hazards associated with unsafe diving practices in the artisanal diving fishery.
- Production of Reports on findings.
- Production and availability of baseline data for further studies.

The Project proposal was submitted to the Spanish Government for consideration for funding at the Second Meeting of the CARICOM – Spain Joint Commission, October 18 – 20, 2006, Jamaica.

**Highlights of Achievements up to the Reporting Period:**

- During the reporting period, a Project Proposal: Improving the Income, Safety and Welfare of Small Scale Fishers in Dominica, Guyana and Jamaica was prepared and submitted for consideration to the Commodity Development Programme through CARISEC. The project will focus on small-scale fishers and their families in some of the poorest fishing communities in Dominica, Guyana and Guyana. The main activities will be aimed at income diversification through the development of new economic activities appropriate to the local communities, improved local capacity for business management and entrepreneurial skills, and increased self reliance. It will also seek to address the issues affecting the occupational safety and social welfare of small-scale fishers in the countries mentioned.

**APPENDIX A:**

**CRFM SECRETARIAT  
STAFF**



# CRFM SECRETARIAT STAFF

## COORDINATION and MANAGEMENT

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POST</u>	<u>Skills Area/Level</u>
Hugh Saul	Executive Director	MSc. / MBA / Cert. Exec. Management
Milton Haughton	Deputy Executive Director	MSc. / Dip. Mang.
Anthony Luis Mills	Corporate Services Manager	MSc. / MBA

## TECHNICAL

Terrence Phillips	Programme Manager, Fisheries Management and Development	MSc.
Susan Singh-Renton	Programme Manager, Research and Resource Assessment	PhD
Charlene Sooknandan	Senior Finance Officer	BSc.
June Masters	Research Graduate: Statistics and Information	MSc.
Maren Headley	Research Graduate: Research and Resource Assessment	MSc.

## ADMINISTRATIVE & FINANCE SUPPORT

Andrew Barnes	Accounting Assistant
Pamela Gibson-Murphy	Administrative Secretary
Sherlene Audinett	Secretary
Rochelle Staine	Information Clerk / Typist
John Cyrus	Office Assistant / Driver
Zelma Baizar	Office Attendant
Olin Myers	Office Assistant

**APPENDIX B:**  
**REPORTING ON USAGE OF FINANCIAL INFLOWS**



Work Programme Period: April 1, 2007 to March 31, 2008  
Reporting Period: April 1, 2008 to March 31, 2009

ACTIVITY	DETAILED PROJECT EXPENSES	Approved WP Budget	PREVIOUS EXPENDITURE TOTAL	1st Quarter (2008/2007)				Cumulative Expenditure TOTAL	Work Programme Budget	%
				April	May	June	This Quarter			
100	Management and Support	\$ 405,954	\$ -							
110	General Administration									
111	General Administration - Belize	72,681		5,845	6,302	5,420	103,153	\$ 103,153	\$ 302,801	75%
112	Procurement - CRFM Secretariat	8,000		0			17,567	17,567	55,114	76%
113	Housing Complex and Office Maintenance	6,000		116	9	241	0	0	8,000	100%
114	Management Input (emoluments)	211,088		16,569	17,410	18,585	366	366	5,634	94%
120	SVG Operations						52,564	52,564	138,504	75%
121	General Administration - Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	37,171		3,203	3,497	3,649	10,349	10,349	26,822	72%
140	Programme Co-ordination	22,425		0	797	1,989	2,786	2,786	19,639	88%
141	Coordination, Resource Mobilization and Auditing									
150	Caribbean Fisheries Forum/COTED	48,610		543	3,408	15,571	19,521	19,521	29,088	60%
150	Meeting of Caribbean Fisheries Forum/COTED									
200	Advocacy, Policy and Planning	\$ 156,104	\$ -							
201	Technical Input (Emoluments)	48,254		130	130	1,984	4,457	\$ 4,457	\$ 151,647	97%
210	Policy and Planning						2,245	2,245	46,009	95%
210.1	Formulation of a Common Fisheries Policy and Regime (CFPR)	27,889			76	72	149	149	27,741	99%
220	Advocacy	59,969			1,467	72	1,540	1,540	58,429	97%
220.1	Promoting the CRFM	19,992			524		524	524	19,468	97%
300	Fisheries Statistics and Information	\$ 98,257	\$ -							
301	Technical Input (Emoluments)	45,262		3,086	3,483	3,402	16,863	\$ 16,863	\$ 81,394	83%
301.2	Establishment of a Regional Fisheries Database (Donor funded)	6,832					9,971	9,971	35,291	78%
310/320	Catch and Collection Systems						0	0	6,832	100%
314.1	Training and Technical Assistance to develop the Sampling Systems for Catch, Effort, Biological and other Fisheries	13,400			2,342	72	2,415	2,415	10,986	82%
314.3	Caribbean Regional Information System (CARFIS)	24,713			4,405	72	4,477	4,477	20,236	82%
330.1	Monitor and Provision of Technical Assistance (Trainers and Support) Data Collection	8,050					0	0	8,050	100%
400	Fisheries Research and Resource Assessment	\$ 285,426	\$ -							
401	Technical Input (Emoluments)	111,108		8,016	8,464	9,040	61,894	\$ 61,894	\$ 223,532	73%
401.1	Development and implement of mechanisms for the management of shared resources	3,702				1,263	25,520	25,520	85,588	7%
401.4	Provision of Technical Support at Regional and International Management For a (ICCAT)	23,704			76	72	149	149	2,440	65%
410	Pelagics & Reef Fishes Resource Assessment								23,556	99%
410.3	Reef and Slope Fisheries Working Group (CRFM RSWG)						0	0	0	0%
410.2/412	Assess potential for develop or expand large pelagic fisheries						0	0	0	0%
413.2	Regional Network Partnership						0	0	0	0%
414.1	Fisheries Assessment and Methods Meetings	6,000					0	0	6,000	100%
414.2	CRFM Large Pelagics Fisheries Working Group (CRFM LPWG)	104,465		87	444	34,432	34,963	34,963	69,502	
414.3	CRFM Fisheries Tagging Program and Tagging Database						0	0	0	
414.4	of management advice						0	0	0	
414.7	Small Coastal Pelagic Fisheries Working Group (CRFM SCPWG)						0	0	0	
420	Shrimp and Groundfish Resource Assessment						0	0	0	0%
420.1	CRFM Shrimp and Groundfish Fisheries Working Group (CRFM SGWG)	6,500					0	0	6,500	
430/450	Lobster and Conch Resource Assessment						0	0	0	
430.1	Monitor and Provision of Technical Assistance	8,200			70	36	0	0	8,200	
450.1	CRFM Conch and Lobster Fisheries Working Group (CRFMCLWG)						0	0	0	
450.2	Regional Rehabilitation programme for Queen Conch in CRFM Member States						0	0	0	
450.3	Feasibility Study to determine potential for developing spotted lobster fisheries in St. Lucia and St. Vincent & the Grenadines	21,747					0	0	21,747	



Work Programme Period: April 1, 2007 to March 31, 2008  
Reporting Period: April 1, 2008 to March 31, 2009

ACTIVITY	DETAILED PROJECT EXPENSES	Approved WP Budget	PREVIOUS EXPENDITURE TOTAL	1st Quarter (2008/2007)					Cumulative Expenditure TOTAL	Work Programme Budget	
				April	May	June	This Quarter			Balance	%
500	Fisheries Resource Management and Development	\$ 192,660	\$ -				\$		24,585	\$ 168,075	- 87%
501	Technical Input (Enrolments)	59,772		104	104	904			1,112	58,660	98%
501.1	Provision of Technical Support at Regional and International Mtgms. For a (CITIES)(FAOW/CAFC)	8,050							0	8,050	0%
501.2	Fisheries Master Plan for CARICOM: (CRF/MJICA)	19,177		5,314	5,773	5,539			16,625	2,552	0%
510	Strengthening National Fisheries Management									0	
512.2	Development and Implementation of Fisheries Management Plans	7,775		70	347	36			453	7,322	94%
512.3	Strengthening Fisheries Management in ACP countries (ACP Fish 11)	6,392							0	6,392	100%
520	Strengthening Regional Fisheries Management								0	0	
520.1	Development of Caribbean Network of Fisheries Organizations	16,392							0	16,392	100%
520.8	Reduction of Fishers' Vulnerability to Disasters	6,499							0	6,499	100%
520.9	Sustainable Aquatic Resources Management (SARM)	7,712			1,508				1,508	6,205	100%
530	Fishers and Community Inv/Education									0	
530.1	Monitoring and Provision of Technical Assistance	5,000			284	36			320	4,680	94%
540	Human Resource Development								0	0	
540.1	Training and Scholarships	19,200		720	604	3,242			4,566	14,634	76%
560	Improved Postharvest, Processing and Marketing								0	0	
560.1	Support for Standards and Related Requirements for Global Trade	6,392							0	6,392	100%
600	Communication and Documentation	\$ 32,613	\$ -				\$		1,042	\$ 31,571	97%
610.630	Information and Network Administration										
610.1	Publication and Dissemination of Technical Reports	5,000			38	36			74	4,926	99%
620.1	Information and Documentation Centre Operations	7,550			222	726			948	6,602	87%
630.1	Net Work Administration	20,063				20			20	20,043	100%
	Total	\$ 1,171,014	\$ -	\$ 43,802	\$ 61,785	\$ 106,514	\$		211,994	\$ 959,020	82%

I hereby certify that all the expenditures reported here are in accordance with CARICOM/CRFM activity proposals which have been approved by Member States. I further certify that these figures are fully supported by original receipts and invoices which are on file at the CRFM Secretariat Office and available for audit scrutiny.

Signature of the Executive Director

Hugh A. Saul  
Executive Director's Name (Printed)

Date: June 30, 2008

Financing Plan PY 2007/08			
Member States Contribution Fiscal Year 2008/09	Budget	Actual	Variance
Member States Contributions from Arrears Pre 1/4/08	\$ 960,500	\$ 494,420	\$ 466,080 51%
Donor Supported Projects:	359,195	64,548	294,647 18%
520.1 - CTA Development of the Caribbean Network of Fisher Folk Organiza	106,678	0	\$ 106,678
540.1 - UN University - Fisheries Training Program (FTP) Iceland	45,000	0	45,000
540.1 - International Ocean Institute (IOI) - Canada	60,000	0	60,000
620.1 - Operations Manual	25,000	0	25,000
Subtotal	\$ 1,556,373	\$ 558,967	\$ 997,406

Member States Contribution			
Member States Contribution Fiscal Year 2008/09	Budget	Actual	Variance
Member States Contributions from Arrears Pre 1/4/08	\$ 2,582,016	\$ 1,329,100	\$ 1,252,916
Total	\$ 965,588	\$ 173,515	\$ 792,073
	\$ 3,547,604	\$ 1,502,615	\$ 2,044,989

Projected Receipts			
Member States Contribution	US\$	US\$	US\$
Member States Contribution	Projected Receipts	Actual	Variance
Projected Member States Contribution Fiscal Year 2008/2009	\$ 864,450	\$ 494,420	\$ 370,030 57%
Projected Member States Contributions from Arrears Pre 1/4/08 (90%)	\$ 320,853	\$ 64,548	\$ 256,305 20%
Total	\$ 1,185,303	\$ 558,967	\$ 626,336