



# **CARIBBEAN REGIONAL FISHERIES MECHANISM SECRETARIAT**

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## **CARIBBEAN REGIONAL FISHERIES MECHANISM SECRETARIAT**

### **PROGRESS AND FINANCIAL REPORT**

Covering the Period  
April 1, 2006 – June 30, 2006

*September 28, 2006*



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## **TRANSMITTAL MEMORANDUM OF THE DIRECTOR**

**MEMO TO:** Ms. Ann-Marie Jobity, Chairperson of the CRFM  
Members of the Caribbean Fisheries Forum

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

**SUBJECT:** **CRFM Secretariat Technical and Financial Progress Report: April 1, 2006  
– June 30, 2006**

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Please find enclosed the Technical and Financial Progress Report of the CRFM Secretariat for the period April 1, 2006 – June 30, 2006. The Report is based on activity schedules and budgets from the approved Work Plan and Budget for Programme Year April 1, 2006 – March 31, 2007.

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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### **APPENDIX A – CRFM SECRETARIAT STAFF**

### **APPENDIX B – REPORTING USAGE OF ADVANCES RECEIVED**

## 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 Tuna
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
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	Scientific Committee in 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 2006

**Work Programme Budget Approval:** Yes

**Cost Limitation:** US \$ 1,319,283 (EC \$ 3,546,498)

This report covers the first quarter of the third year of the Medium Term Plan of the CRFM. The major activities implemented during this quarter include the continuation of the development of a Common Fisheries Policy and Regime for CARICOM through Ad Hoc Working Group Meetings (Legal and Socio Economic), the continuation of the updating of national Fisheries Management Plans, activities related to the Resource Mobilization process, strengthening of Human Resource Development in Member States through short term scholarships, further work at the country level in Conch Assessment and Management, and continuing efforts to expand fisheries assessment methodologies being utilized by the CRFM Resource Working Groups so that management advisory outputs address a broader range of issues.

With respect to Member States' contribution to the budget, Management continued to liaise with Member States to make good on arrears and current contributions. Seven (7) Member States made contributions up to the end of the programme year under review totaling EC\$527,960 (US\$196,400). The arrears fell from EC\$710,233 as at March 31, 2006 to EC\$508,272 as at June 30, 2006.

The Fourth Meeting of the Caribbean Fisheries Forum was held 11- 12 April, Trinidad and Tobago, where new members of the Executive Committee of the Forum were elected. Member States elected to the Executive Committee of the Forum for the period 2006-2007 are Trinidad and Tobago (Chair), Turks and Caicos (Vice- Chair), Belize, The Bahamas and St. Lucia. Also coming out of the Meeting were recommendations to the Ministerial Council for approval of (i) the Work Plan and Budget, 1 April 2006- 31 March, 2007; (ii) Member States Contribution to the CRFM Secretariat for the next triennium 1 April, 2006 – 31 March, 2009; (iii) Progress Report (Status) on the Common Fisheries Policy and Regime , (iv) recommendations for the renewal of the contracts for the Executive Director and the Deputy Executive Director for a further three (3) years; and (v) recommendations on Associate Membership of the Mechanism, and Observers of the Forum.

The CRFM Secretariat continued its resource mobilization efforts during this period. Project proposals in areas mentioned below were prepared and submitted for donor support:

- (i) Financial support was received for a Study Mission to the European Community 28 May – 7 June, 2006 to better understand the structure, process of development and application of the EC's Common Fisheries Policy and identify lessons that may assist with the preparation and implementation of the CARICOM Common Fisheries Policy and Regime.
- (ii) A commitment for financial support was received from CIDA, Canada, through the CARICOM Secretariat, for the meetings of the Ad Hoc Legal Working Group, and a Mission to Canada by representatives of the CRFM Secretariat, Office of the General

Counsel, CARISEC and the CSME / Agricultural Section, CARISEC. The Study Mission will take place in July, 2006.

- (iii) During the reporting period, the CTA approved financial support for the proposal for the Development of the Caribbean Network of Fisherfolk Organizations.

The CRFM Secretariat continued to provide technical leadership in the formulation of the Common Fisheries Policy and Regime including the identification and analysis of the legal and socio-economic and linkages issues, through a consultative and participatory approach. The second meeting of the Ad Hoc Legal Working Group was held, 7-8 April, 2006, St. Vincent and the Grenadines. Implementation of the follow-up activities resulting from meetings of both Ad Hoc Working Groups continued.

During the period under review, April – June, 2006, CARICAD commenced the documentation review phase of the assistance / collaborative effort for the preparation of the CRFM Secretariat's draft Operations Manual through the provision/ sourcing of expertise, and the development of the Secretariat's Registry and Documentation Systems. A Work Plan, Budget and a detailed Terms of Reference for the exercises were also submitted. These documents were sent to Member States for comments, with a deadline set for July 19, 2006.

The CRFM Secretariat continued to provide support to Member States with the development and use of the CARIFIS database. The CRFM Secretariat organized and convened the CRFM/ FAO LAPE Project Seminar to Review Progress on the CARIFIS Implementation and Determine the Fisheries Related Information Required for Decision- making and Fisheries Management, Trinidad and Tobago, 10 April. TORs for contracting a Consultant to provide technical assistance and training in the use of CARIFIS in Guyana and Belize during August 2006 were prepared.

Other Fisheries Management and Development initiatives were addressed to varying degrees during this reporting period. The preparing or updating of Fisheries Management Plans (FMPs) through the consultative and participatory approach continued. In this regard, FMPs for Grenada, Suriname, Anguilla, and Guyana were prepared or updated. National Consultations were held in St. Lucia and Montserrat, 27 April, and 24 May, respectively, to discuss and elaborate their respective Fisheries Management Plans.

The CRFM Secretariat continued to provide technical support to countries preparing documentation for the annual ICCAT meetings, especially Dominica and Grenada whose completed statistical forms were reviewed, and also to CRFM country delegations participating in these meetings. The Report of the Second Annual CRFM Scientific Meeting, 27 – 30 June, 2006, and the management recommendations pertaining to the ten (10) fisheries analysed by the three Working Groups, were approved by the Fourth Meeting of the Caribbean Fisheries Forum and endorsed by the Council for Trade and Economic Development (COTED), 9 – 12 May, 2006.

The CRFM Ad Hoc Methods Working Group held its second meeting in June 2006, and continued the work it began in 2005, as well as commenced examination of some new methodology: (i) estimation of survival rates from limited catch rate data; (ii) construction of the social and economic components and understanding their contribution to fisheries management; (iii) Ecological Risk Assessment With Effects on Fishing. Assessment methods are being investigated by the Working Group, to determine suitability and applicability in data-poor situations and to aid improved

monitoring of the achievement of the full range of management goals (social, economic, and ecological, as well as biological) defined by CRFM Member States. Nine (9) species rapporteurs from seven (7) different CRFM countries benefited from the training received in the new assessment methods during the meeting.

The CRFM Secretariat participated in the FAO/ UNEP/ CEP/ CRFM Regional Queen Conch Workshop, Jamaica, 1-5 May 2006 where assistance was provided to Caribbean countries in the development of effective management plans for queen conch fisheries. The Deputy Executive Director and the Programme Manager Fisheries Management and Development gave a joint presentation on the work the CRFM has done in connection with queen conch, which included information on activities and projects that strengthen national capacity to assess and manage queen conch such as the provision of CARIFIS, training activities, and preparation of FMPs. The workshop was also updated on the work being done by the CRFM Secretariat and Member States with regards to the drafting and holding of national consultations on their respective FMPs.

The Executive Director attended A High Level Symposium on the Caribbean Single Market and Economy, 28- 30 June, 2006 held in Barbados sponsored by CARISEC. Consultations focused on the four policy areas considered critical for economic development and transformation in the context of the evolving CARICOM Single Market and Economy.

Also, during the reporting quarter, the CRFM Secretariat initiated actions to review and update its Website. The actions included training selected staff, revision of the Website to make it more user friendly and interactive, and placement of technical publications, reports and documentation on the Website.

<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> , 2006                      End:                      March 31, 2007
<b>Activity Progress Report Summary</b>	
Total Budget:	US\$295,479                      Spent: US\$59,436
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 quarter, April to June, 2006, the CRFM Secretariat provided support for the implementation of activities approved in the Annual Work Plan and Budget, April 1, 2006 – March 31, 2007.

Management liaised with Member States to make good on arrears and current contributions to the Budget of the CRFM Secretariat. Seven (7) Member States made contributions during the period under review (April – June 30, 2006) totaling EC\$527,960 (US\$196,400). The arrears fell from EC\$710,233 as at March 31, 2006 to EC\$508,272 as at June 30, 2006

For the period April 1, 2006 – June 30, 2006, the CRFM Secretariat provided technical, administrative and rapporteurial support to the following meetings / workshops:

- (i) CRFM/FAO LAPE Project Seminar to Review Progress on the CARIFIS Implementation

and Determine the Fisheries and Related Information Required for Decision-making and Fisheries Management, 10 April, 2006, Trinidad and Tobago.

- (ii) Fourth Meeting of the Caribbean Fisheries Forum, 11 – 12 April, 2006, Trinidad and Tobago.
- (iii) National Consultation on the Draft FMP for the Marine Fisheries of St. Lucia, 27 April, 2006.
- (iv) National Consultation on the Draft FMP for Montserrat, 24 May, 2006.
- (v) The Second Meeting of the CRFM Ad Hoc Methods Working Group, 27 – 30 June, 2006, Grenada.

On 22 February, 2006 interviews were conducted for the post of Biologist (Research Graduate). Also, at the same time the Interview Panel gave consideration to the suitability of one of the candidates for the post of Data Manager / Analyst. This is consistent with the strategy which involves the recruitment of a candidate who has strong potential to develop into Programme Management material, and who will be trained at the post-graduate level in fisheries statistics and bonded to the CRFM Secretariat for three (3) years.

Ms. Maren Headley, a national of Barbados, was offered (and accepted) the post of Research Graduate / Biologist, effective 1 August, 2006. Ms. June Masters, a national of Jamaica, was offered (and accepted) the post of Research Graduate / Data Manager, effective 1 September, 2006.

Efforts with regard to resource mobilization continued as below-mentioned:

- (i) Financial support was received for a Study Mission to the European Community to better understand the structure, process of development and application of the EC's common fisheries policy and identify lessons that may assist with the preparation and implementation of the CARICOM Common Fisheries Policy and Regime. The study Mission to Spain, Brussels and the United Kingdom was undertaken during the period 28 May - 7 June, 2006.
- (ii) Financial support was received from CIDA, Canada, through the CARICOM Secretariat, for the meetings of the Ad Hoc Legal Working Group, and a Mission to Canada by representatives of the CRFM Secretariat, Office of the General Counsel, CARISEC and the CSME / Agricultural Section, CARISEC. The Study Mission will take place in July, 2006.
- (iii) The CTA has approved financial support for the proposal, "Development of the Caribbean Network of Fisherfolk Organizations", and it is expected that an MOU between the CTA and the CRFM Secretariat will be signed in the immediate future.

## **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, 2006

End: March 31, 2007

**Activity Progress Report Summary**

Total Budget: US\$36,500

Spent: US\$7,572

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**

During the quarter, April – June, 2006 the CRFM Secretariat, Eastern Caribbean Office (St. Vincent and the Grenadines) provided support for the implementation of activities approved in the Annual Work Plan and Budget, April 1, 2006 to March 31, 2007.

OUTPUT 100 MANAGEMENT AND SUPPORT	
<b>ACTIVITY 150: Meeting of the Caribbean Fisheries Forum</b>	
Output:	Recommendations to the COTED; and approved Work Programme and Budget
Activity Start:	April 1, 2006
End:	March 31, 2007
<b>Activity Progress Report Summary</b>	
Total Budget:	US\$33,600
Spent:	US\$3,445
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 schedule <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Completion of Total Activity: ahead <input type="checkbox"/> behind <input type="checkbox"/> on schedule <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Percentage of total output achieved to date	

### Meeting of the Caribbean Fisheries Forum

The Fourth Meeting of the Caribbean Fisheries Forum was held 11 – 12 April, 2006, Trinidad and Tobago. At this meeting the following major outputs were achieved:

(i) Election of the new Executive Committee of the Forum as:

- Trinidad and Tobago (Chair)
- Turks and Caicos Islands (Vice-Chair)
- Belize
- The Bahamas
- St. Lucia

Jamaica will sit on the Executive Committee as an invitee, pending the proposed amendment of the Agreement Establishing the CRFM.

(ii) Recommendation to the Ministerial Council, of approval of the Work Plan and Budget, April 1, 2006 – March 31, 2007.

(iii) Recommendation of approval to the Ministerial Council of the Member States Contribution to the CRFM Secretariat for the next triennium April 1, 2006 to March 31, 2009.

(iv) Progress Report (Status) of the Common Fisheries Policy and Regime.

<b>OUTPUT 200 Advocacy, Policy and Planning</b>	
<p><b>ACTIVITY 200: Advocacy Policy and Planning</b></p> <p>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.</p> <p>Activity Start: April 1, 2006 <span style="float: right;">End: March 31, 2007</span></p>	
<p><b>Activity Progress Report Summary</b></p> <p>Total Budget: US\$135,375 <span style="margin-left: 50px;">Spent: US\$16,004</span></p> <p>Will complete Activity within Total Budget: Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p>	
<p>Completion of Activity (Work plan): ahead <input type="checkbox"/> behind <input type="checkbox"/> on schedule <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Completion of Total Activity: ahead <input type="checkbox"/> behind <input type="checkbox"/> on schedule <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Percentage of total output achieved to date</p>	

## **WBS 200: Advocacy, Policy and Planning**

Within the context of the Annual Work Plan and Budget, 2006 / 07, the CRFM Secretariat will continue to support and enhance the institutional capabilities of Member States in the area of policy formulation, with a focus in the development of the Common Fisheries Policy and Regime as mandated by the CARICOM Heads of Government at their Fourteenth Inter-sessional Meeting. Also, with regards to advocacy, the emphasis will be on projecting a positive image for the CRFM, its Secretariat, and programme activities. The working relationships and achievements of the CRFM Secretariat and the Directors of Fisheries of Member States will be highlighted.

The focus of planning in this programme year will be directed at review of the First Medium Term Plan and preparation of the Second Medium Term Plan, preparation of Quarterly and Annual Work Plans and Implementation Reports, and enhancement of complementarity and coherence between and among the regional (CRFM Secretariat) and national (Fisheries Departments) Work Plans.

## **Fisheries Master plan for CARICOM**

## **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). The agreed components are: (1) Pelagic Resource Development and Management; (2) Aquaculture Development Policy Formulation; (3) Regional Fisheries Database Development; (4) Supporting Community-base Management (including sedentary resource management); and (5) Education and Training in the component fields in the CARICOM States.

## **Achievements During the Reporting Period**

- The CRFM Secretariat, through the CARICOM Secretariat, coordinated the provision of information requested by the Japanese experts to finalize plans for the commencement of the pilot projects leading to the development of the Fisheries Master Plan for CARICOM. There has been a lag in the commencement of the field work activity under the project arising from the delay in completing the *Note Verbale* pertaining to privileges, immunities and other benefits to be accorded to the Japanese Experts in the CARICOM Member States. The representative of Jamaica at the Fourth Meeting of the Caribbean Fisheries Forum, 11- 12 April, 2006 undertook to follow up with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Jamaica on the outstanding matter of immunities and privileges to Japanese Experts. On May 29, 2006 the CARICOM Secretariat received the agreement of Jamaica on the *Note Verbale*. It therefore is expected that project start-up would commence during the second quarter, July – September, 2006.

## **POLICY**

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

## **Background:**

The CRFM Secretariat continued to provide 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.

## **Achievements During the Reporting Period**

- The second meeting of the Ad Hoc Legal Working Group was held, 7 – 8 April, 2006, St. Vincent and the Grenadines and a detailed draft legal text was prepared for several substantive and procedural sections of the Draft Legal Framework Agreement on the CFP & R.
- Further, a resource person from UWI, CERMES was contracted to develop a Bibliography to facilitate the work of the Working Group on Social, Economic and Linkages issues.

## **Advocacy - Promoting the CRFM**

### **Background:**

The activities planned are geared to promote greater public awareness of the programmes and activities of the CRFM, highlighting its achievements.

### **Achievements During the Reporting Period**

- During the year, the CRFM Secretariat prepared and distributed CRFM News Issue #5 to stakeholders. Recommendations were made to expand membership of the Editorial Committee and to form a Publications Committee. Also, work continued on the CRFM Secretariat's Website to make it more user-friendly and generally to update this Website, thereby facilitating greater and easier access to the CRFM publications, newsletters, etc.

## **PLANNING**

### **Background:**

The provision of leadership in the preparation of Annual and Quarterly Work Plans and Reports, and the preparation of project concept papers and proposals for resource mobilization.

### **Achievements During the Reporting Period**

- During the quarter under review, Work Plans for the period July – September, 2006 were prepared by staff. A draft technical Progress and Financial Report for the programme year, 2005 / 06 was prepared. Further, the CRFM Secretariat's Annual Report for the period 2004/05 was finalized and is now at the printers for publication.

## 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, 2006

End: March 31, 2007

### Activity Progress Report Summary

#### Activity Budget

Total Budget: US\$102,543      Spent: US\$7,259

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.

## 300: FISHERIES STATISTICS AND INFORMATION PROGRAMME

This Programme continued to focus on the provision of 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.

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

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.

## **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.

### **Achievements During the Reporting Period**

- Organised and convened the CRFM/FAO LAPE Project Seminar to Review Progress on the CARIFIS Implementation and Determine the Fisheries and Related Information Required for Decision-making and Fisheries Management, in Trinidad and Tobago, on 10 April, 2006. The Meeting concluded that CARIFIS is an important and useful software that is needed by the countries to facilitate planning and decision making in fisheries. The current usage of the software is less than desired or expected at this stage, and urgent steps are needed at this time to build capacity in the countries, transfer the legacy databases to CARIFIS, remove bugs from the program and address the other needs articulated by specific Member States. It was recognized that a key step in the process of the implementation of the CARIFIS is to acquire the services of a dedicated staff to work on CARIFIS and other data management issues.
- Seminar Report prepared.
- Prepared TORs for the contracting of a consultant to provide technical assistance and training in the use of CARIFIS to Guyana and Belize in August 2006.

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

- Finalise Seminar Report.
- Implement the consultancies to provide technical assistance and training in the use of CARIFIS to Guyana and Belize in August 2006.

## 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, 2006

End: March 31, 2007

### Activity Progress Report Summary

#### Activity Budget

Total Budget: US\$342,611

Spent: US\$26,278

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

Planned research and resource assessment tasks are conducted largely through the activities of the various CRFM Resource Working Groups. The CRFM Resource Working Groups, under the guidance of selected chairpersons and species rapporteurs, are responsible for coordinating research and assessments in response to priority needs identified during the CRFM Annual Scientific Meetings, and formally approved during the annual meetings of the Caribbean Fisheries Forum. The CRFM Resource Working Groups therefore cover data analysis, research, assessment, and provision of management advice, on fisheries targeting the following range of fishery resources: large pelagic fish resources; small coastal pelagic fish resources; reef and slope fish resources; shrimp and groundfish, and conch and lobster.

Besides the focused tasks of the Resource Working Groups, other aspects of fisheries management require research inputs to inform their planning and implementation. Fisheries management activities that contain research components include:

- (i) development and implementation of mechanisms for the management of shared resources; and

- (ii) assessment of potential for developing or expanding large pelagic fisheries.

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

### **Background:**

Several species of large and small pelagic fish, shrimp, lobster, conch, ground fish and some species of reef fish are distributed in waters spanning national borders. In some instances, the area is narrow and only two territories are primarily involved. In other instances, the area is extremely wide, encompassing several territories in the Atlantic Ocean and Caribbean Sea. In most instances, these shared resources are being exploited without the necessary mechanisms for sustainability and equity.

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 management planning and implementation.

### **Achievements During the Reporting Period**

- During the Fourth Meeting of the Caribbean Fisheries Forum held in April 2006, the Secretariat made a presentation on the results of ten fisheries analyses completed during the Second Annual Scientific Meeting held in March 2006. The reports of the fisheries analyses also provided recommendations concerning specific areas of collaboration at the regional level for those resources that are shared and those resources for which it was considered important to have harmonized management strategies, e.g. shrimp, queen conch, spiny lobster, king mackerel, and dolphinfish.
- A summary of the results and recommendations of fishery analyses were also presented to the meeting of the CRFM Ministerial Council in May 2006.

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

- Provide information briefs to those involved in management, as needed.
- The CRFM Secretariat will follow up the Member States affected to assist with the implementation of the recommendations.

## **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 2005-06, the present activity included the provision of CRFM technical (research and assessment) support to countries on relevant issues of shared concern.

### **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.

### **Achievements During the Reporting Period**

- Reviewed statistical forms completed by two (2) countries (Dominica and Grenada) for reporting of fisheries data to ICCAT.
- Issued reminders to countries regarding the need to submit information required by ICCAT by deadline dates.
- Commenced preparations for participation in the ICCAT Chairman's Regional Workshop for Caribbean and Latin America.

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

- Completion of the 2006 CRFM report to ICCAT.
- Collaboration, in respect of meeting preparations, with officers in those countries expecting to participate in the 2006 Annual ICCAT SCRS meeting.
- CRFM Secretariat participation in the 2006 Annual ICCAT SCRS Meeting.
- Collaboration, in respect of meeting preparations, with officers in those member countries expecting to participate in the FAO Lobster workshop.
- Participation in the FAO lobster workshop.

## **PELAGIC AND REEF FISHES RESOURCE ASSESSMENT:**

### **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.

#### **Achievements During the Reporting Period**

- This activity was suspended, pending finalization of project proposal by JICA.

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

- Pilot studies will commence, pending availability of funds during the next quarter.

### **CRFM Resource Working Group Activities and the Annual CRFM Scientific Meetings:**

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 CFF 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.

### **Achievements During the Reporting Period**

- The Report of the Second Annual CRFM Scientific Meeting that included the reports of the annual meetings of the CRFM SGWG, LPWG and CLWG was approved by the Caribbean Fisheries Forum, and the management recommendations pertaining to the 10 fisheries analysed by the three Working Groups were forwarded to the meeting of the CRFM Ministerial Council when it met in May 2006.
- The CRFM Ad Hoc Methods Working Group held its second meeting in June 2006, and continued the work it began in 2005, as well as commenced examination of some new methodology: (i) to estimate survival rates from limited catch rate data; (ii) constructing the social and economic components and understanding their contribution to fisheries management; (iii) Ecological Risk Assessment With Effects on Fishing. The Secretariat has begun to draft the Report of the Second Meeting of the CRFM Ad Hoc Working Group on Methods.

- Most species rapporteurs selected to serve for the period 2006-07 have been re-confirmed by their respective governments.
- Nine (9) species rapporteurs from seven (7) different CRFM countries received training in the new assessment methods during the Second meeting of the CRFM Ad Hoc Working Group on Methods.

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

- Submission of final draft of Report of the Second Annual CRFM Scientific Meeting.
- Publication and distribution of the Report of the Second Annual CRFM Scientific Meeting.
- Preparation of first draft of the report of the Second meeting of the CRFM Ad Hoc Working Group on Methods.

### **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.

## **Achievements During the Reporting Period**

- Activity was suspended, pending acquisition of donor funding.

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

- Activities will focus on finalizing proposals for countries, based on requests received by the Secretariat, and commencement of proposal implementation, should funds become available during the next quarter.

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

In September 2003, the Standing Committee of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) determined that queen conch was over-exploited in many countries of the Wider Caribbean and proposed recommendations to ensure the sustainable use of this resource.

This activity is therefore 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.

## **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.

### **Achievements During the Reporting Period**

- The CRFM Secretariat gave Dominican Republic fisheries staff copies of several Microsoft Excel files illustrating the format the Dominican Republic conch survey dataset should be organized for analyses, and also spreadsheets showing steps for conducting the planned data analyses.
- Data entry by Dominican Republic fisheries staff continued during the reporting period.

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

- Analysis of conch survey data collected during study, and commencement of report preparation.

## **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, 2006

End: March 31, 2007

### **Activity Progress Report Summary**

Total Budget: US\$349,817

Spent: US\$23,459

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.

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

#### **Achievements During the Reporting Period**

- Prepared TOR and contracted resource person to complete the compilation of the draft bibliography of literature available on the subject of the Study to Review and Elaborate on the Social, Economic and Linkage Issues that could Impact on the Establishment of a Common Fisheries Policy and Regime for CARICOM.

- The Second Meeting of the Ad Hoc Legal Working Group was held in St. Vincent and the Grenadines from April 7-8, 2006. The Working Group made significant progress in developing the Common Fisheries Policy and Regime and in particular, the elaboration of the various sections of the revised Draft Framework Agreement. The output of the meeting was presented to the Caribbean Fisheries Forum in April 2006 and the COTED in May 2006 as a work- in- progress. For further details please see the Report of the of the Second Ad Hoc Legal Working Group on the Common Fisheries Policy and Regime, April 2006.
- Continued to implement the follow-up activities resulting from the March 19 Ad Hoc Social, Economic and Linkages Working Group Meeting.

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

- Continue to implement the follow-up activities resulting from the March 19 Ad Hoc Social, Economic and Linkages Working Group Meeting.

### **STRENGTHENING NATIONAL FISHERIES MANAGEMENT:**

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

##### **Background:**

During the programme years 2003/04, 2004/05 and 2005/06, the CRFM Secretariat worked with a number of countries, including The Bahamas, Turks and Caicos Islands, Dominican Republic, Haiti, Belize, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Guyana, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, Montserrat and Antigua and Barbuda in the process of developing and implementing their fisheries management plans (FMPs). Based on a timeframe that takes about six to twelve months to develop a FMP, hold national consultations with stakeholders and obtain approval from the relevant political authority, the CRFM Secretariat was sought to follow-up the activities with the countries mentioned above as well as work with the Anguilla, Barbados, Dominica, Grenada, Jamaica and Suriname in the updating and implementation of their FMPs.

##### **Achievements During the Reporting Period**

- With the DOF, Guyana, amended the Draft FMP based on recommendations coming out of the National Consultation in November 2005.
- Updated the Draft FMP for Anguilla and passed it to the DFMR for review.
- Convened the National Consultation on the Draft FMP for the Marine Fisheries of St. Lucia on April 27, 2006.
- Convened the National Consultation on the Draft FMP for the Marine Fisheries of Montserrat on May 24, 2006.
- Updating of Draft FMPs for Grenada and Suriname, respectively.

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

- Review and provide comments on the Draft National Consultation Reports and amended Draft FMPs for St. Lucia and Montserrat respectively.
- Complete the updating of the FMPs for Grenada and Suriname.
- With the DFMR, complete the updating of the Draft FMP for Anguilla and plan for the National Consultation.

### **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. Further work in this area was done during this reporting period.

##### **Objective:**

To implement the Strategy and Medium Term Action Plan for the Institutional Strengthening of Regional Fisherfolk Organisations 2005 –2010.

### **Achievements During the Reporting Period**

- (i) Using the Draft Strategy and Medium Term Action Plan, the CRFM Secretariat prepared and submitted a Draft Project Profile entitled “Strengthening of National Fisherfolk Organisations in Selected ACP Caribbean Countries” to the CTA for consideration under their technical assistance programme.
- (ii) PM, FM&D, CRFM Secretariat participated in the CTA Workshop on Project Preparation and Management, in The Netherlands, from 10 - 13 April 2006, to become acquainted with the CTA project planning approach and tools, and review the submitted Project Profile.

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

- (i) With assistance from CTA, finalise the Project Profile “Strengthening of National Fisherfolk Organisations in Selected ACP Caribbean Countries”.
- (ii) Submit the Project Profile to the CTA.

## 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, the CRFM Secretariat provided IOI scholarships for four (4) persons drawn from fisheries departments in the member states to attend the International Ocean Institute Training Programme on Ocean Governance: Policy, Law and Management in Canada, from May 24 to July 21, 2006, Nova Scotia, Canada.

Selection of scholars was governed by the CRFM's philosophy in respect of human resource development, which includes long-term and short-term training, attachments and active collaboration with Fisheries Departments and universities both external and regional, to identify priority areas of collaboration.

Against the above, the following offer of awards were made and awardees commenced training:

Country	Name and Title	Institution
Antigua and Barbuda	Mr. Ian Horsford Fisheries Officer	IOI Dalhousie University
Jamaica	Mr. Ian Jones Senior Fisheries Officer	IOI Dalhousie University
Suriname	Mrs. Muriel Jagesar-Wirjodirjo Head of Legislation Office	IOI Dalhousie University
Trinidad and Tobago	Ms. Suzette Soomai Fisheries Officer	IOI Dalhousie University

All awardees are expected to returned to their home bases in July 2006.

During the quarter April – June, 2006, 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. Kennida Polanco from the Department of Fisheries in the Dominican Republic who received an EU/ ICRAFD scholarship to undertake research for her B.Sc Thesis successfully completed her studies.

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.

## **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):**

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 Study has been approved and will be implemented during the fiscal year 2006/07.*

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

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

- With CRFM Member States, the CRFM Secretariat will participate in the implementation of the Study to Improve Compliance with EU Commission Sanitary Standards in the CARIFORUM Fisheries Sector.
- Prepare for visit of EU Consultants to review the situation in the CARIFORUM region and prepare the financing proposal for the Project.
- Prepare for the CARIFORUM workshop to review the findings and recommendations of the Consultants.

<p><b>ACTIVITY 600 : Communication and Documentation</b></p> <p>Output: Functioning and efficient Documentation Centre operations; Publications Disseminated. Computer networks functioning.</p> <p>Activity Start: April 1, 2006                      End: March 31, 2007</p>
<p><b>Activity Progress Report Summary</b></p> <p>Total Budget: US\$12,000                      Spent: US12,592</p> <p>Will complete Activity within Total Budget: Yes__ No <u>✓</u></p>
<p>Completion of Activity (Work plan): ahead __ behind __ on schedule <u>✓</u></p> <p>Completion of Total Activity:                  ahead __ behind __ on schedule <u>✓</u></p>

## The CREFM Newsletter

## Operations Manual, and Information and Documentation

In August 2005 the CRFM Secretariat wrote to the Caribbean Centre for Development Administration (CARICAD), Barbados, reminding them of the CRFM Operations Manual and the Upgrade of the Registry and Documentation/Information System. CARICAD advised that a team would be sent to CRFM Secretariat Headquarters (Belize) to discuss the way forward with regard to this assistance. A Team from CARICAD visited the CRFM Secretariat, Belize, on November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2005 to discuss modalities for the assistance to the CRFM Secretariat.

The meeting was attended by:

Dr. Jennifer Astaphan	-	Executive Director, CARICAD
Mr. Richard Madavo	-	Senior Advisor, Public Sector Reform, CARICAD
Ms. Rosemund Warrington	-	Programme Specialist, CARICAD
Mr. Hugh Saul	-	Executive Director, CRFM Secretariat
Mr. Anthony Mills	-	Corporate Services Manager, CRFM Secretariat

The CARICAD advised that it was currently rationalizing the role of the CARICOM Secretariat in respect of governance arrangements for all regional organizations, and the placement / positioning of such regional organizations (e.g. CRFM) within a constellation that has like Rules and Procedures regarding governance, relations with each other, staffing, etc., so as to create synergies and minimize inefficiencies. Therefore, this assistance to the CRFM Secretariat would allow the CARICAD to, through networking arrangements, source skills in its own organization, the OECS Secretariat, CARICOM Secretariat and Member States to effect the work.

At this meeting, it was agreed:

- (i) CARICAD will assist the CRFM Secretariat with the preparation of its draft Operations Manual through the provision / sourcing of expertise. CARICAD did not have funds dedicated for this activity, however, it will be able to supply skills, and the CRFM Secretariat can contribute, say airfares – a cost sharing arrangement would be worked out.
- (ii) CARICAD will also assist the CRFM Secretariat to develop its knowledge capability – through the development of its Registry, and Documentation Systems and its interface with Member States – this will be undertaken on the basis of a cost sharing arrangement.

### **Achievements During the Reporting Period**

- During the period under review, April – June, 2006, CARICAD has commenced the documentation review phase of this assistance / collaborative effort and submitted a Work Plan, Budget and a detailed Terms of Reference for the exercise. These documents were submitted to Member States for comments, by July 19, 2006.
- Mr. Emerson Bryan, Research Assistant of CARICAD visited the CRFM Secretariat 17- 18, May to provide support to the development of the preparation of the CRFM Secretariat's Operations Manual. Following Mr. Bryan's visit, CARICAD began the process of formulating a comprehensive proposal with respect to the Operations Manual (as well as the implementation of a Records and Information Management System as outlined in the TOR).

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

#### **Achievements During the Reporting Period**

- Additionally, during January to March, 2006 the CRFM Secretariat initiated actions to review and update its Website. The actions include training selected staff, revision of Website to make it more user friendly and interactions, placement of technical publications, reports and documentation on the Website. A quotation has been received from Website

service provider to update the Website.

## **OTHER ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED DURING THIS PROGRAMME YEAR**

### **Study of the Impact of Globalization on Fisheries:**

#### **Background:**

This Consultancy began in P.Y.2004 / 2005, with the resulting draft reports being:

The Effects of Liberalization and Trade Related Policies on Fisheries and Measures Required for their Sustainable Development in the CARIFORUM / CARICOM Region (Part A).

The Effects of Liberalization and Trade Related Policies on Fisheries and Measures Required for their Sustainable Development in the CARIFORUM / CARICOM Region – Country Profiles (Part B).

#### **Achievements During the Reporting Period**

- Report distributed to CRFM Member States, to obtain feedback.

### **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.

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

- (ii) Preparation of the Information Note and draft Agenda for the regional workshop to develop a regional framework agreement and action plan on IUU fishing and MCS, and provide technical assistance to Member States in outlining and developing their respective NPOAs - IUU Fishing.

## **Large Marine Ecosystems Project (LME)**

### **Background:**

The proposed 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.

**Achievements During the Reporting Period**

- The CRFM Secretariat has been monitoring the activities leading to the approval of this project and following up with countries to ensure that they support the Project and the CRFM's participation.

**ECOST Project:**

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 for 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.

**Achievements During the Reporting Period**

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

**Activities Planned for the Next Quarter**

- (iv) CRFM Secretariat to participate in the ECOST Public Policy Seminar, July 10, 2006, Portsmouth, UK.

**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.

**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.	MSc.
	Fisheries Management and Development	
Susan Singh-Renton	Programme Manager,	
	Research and Resource Assessment	
Charlene Sooknandan	Senior Finance Officer	PhD
David Brown	Coordinator, Advocacy/Policy and Planning	BSc.
Michael Salton	Biologist	PhD.
		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**