



**CARIBBEAN REGIONAL FISHERIES MECHANISM
SECRETARIAT**

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**CARIBBEAN REGIONAL FISHERIES MECHANISM
SECRETARIAT**

PROGRESS AND FINANCIAL REPORT

Covering the Period
April 1 – June 30, 2007

September 17, 2007



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TRANSMITTAL MEMORANDUM OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

MEMO TO: Mr. Wesley Clerveaux, Chairman of the Caribbean Fisheries Forum
Members of the Caribbean Fisheries Forum

FROM: Hugh Saul
Executive Director, CRFM Secretariat

SUBJECT: CRFM Secretariat Technical and Financial Progress Report: April 1,
2007 – June 30, 2007

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

Work Programme Budget Approval: Yes

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

With respect to Member States' contribution to the budget, Management continued to liaise with Member States to make good on arrears and current contributions. Eight (8) Member States made contributions up to the end of the period under review (April 1 to June 30, 2007) totaling EC\$1,358,470 (US\$505,346). The arrears fell from EC\$943,333 as at March 31, 2007 to EC\$781,946 as at June 30, 2007.

The Eighth Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Caribbean Fisheries Forum was held 2 May 2007, Providenciales, Turks and Caicos Islands. The meeting considered, *inter alia*, matters arising from the Seventh Meeting of the Executive Committee, and the Fourth Meeting of the Caribbean Fisheries Forum, April 11 – 12, 2006, Trinidad and Tobago and their status of implementation.

The Fifth Meeting of the Caribbean Fisheries Forum was held 3-4 May, 2007, Providenciales, Turks and Caicos Islands where new members of the Executive Committee of the Forum were elected. The meeting considered, *inter alia*, matters arising from the Seventh Meeting of the Executive Committee, and the Fourth Meeting of the Caribbean Fisheries Forum, April 11 – 12, 2006, Trinidad and Tobago and their status of implementation. Such matters included the draft Framework Agreement on the Common Fisheries Policy and Regime; a draft Regional Declaration / Agreement on IUU Fishing and MCS for the CRFM Member States; Queen Conch and Lobster; ICCAT 2007 Commission Meetings and Compliance Issues; Overdraft facility for the CRFM Secretariat; and the CRFM Secretariat Annual Work Plan and Budget 2007 / 08.

During the reporting period, the CRFM Secretariat continued to provide technical support to countries on ICCAT matters. Work focused mainly on preparation of statistics for submission to ICCAT, and the commencement of studies by the Secretariat aimed at gaining further insight on the nature and extent of the artisanal billfish fisheries and the recreational fisheries in CARICOM States.

The Report of the Second Annual Scientific Meeting, March 13- 22, 2006 was released for publication. The Report will be circulated during the next quarter.

During the period April- May 2007, the CRFM Secretariat prepared a proposal to determine the feasibility of developing fisheries for spotted lobster in St. Lucia, and St. Vincent and the Grenadines. The proposal is now being reviewed by national fisheries staff.

In May 2007, the CRFM Secretariat completed the development of the proposal to establish a CRFM Fisheries Tagging Programme and Tagging Database. This programme is intended to facilitate coordinated implementation of important tagging studies of regional interest.

Following discussions over the period December 4 – 10, 2006 among Senior Government Officials, the Queen Conch Industry Officials in Jamaica, and the CRFM Secretariat, to develop a Plan of Action for the mobilization of resources for an assessment of the Queen Conch (Pedro Bank), and to render technical assistance to the Veterinary Service Division, Jamaica, the CRFM Secretariat recruited Dr. Roland Vanthuyne, Consultant, to provide technical assistance to the Veterinary Service Division, Jamaica to achieve compliance with EU Commission Sanitary Standards for Marine Gastropods. Dr. Vanthuyne visited Jamaica during the period 2 - 19 February 2007 to provide the necessary technical assistance. During the reporting period, the EU Mission to Jamaica to evaluate the control systems in place governing the production of fishery, aquaculture products and marine gastropods intended for export to the European Union was conducted on the 18-25 April 2007. The CRFM Secretariat's intervention provided the necessary technical assistance for addressing the issues identified by the EU Inspection Mission (5- 11 July, 2006) which resulted in Jamaica receiving a favorable report following the April 2007 inspection. Jamaica can continue to enjoy the benefits of exporting conch to the EU market.

In March 2007, at the request of the Government of Jamaica, the CRFM Secretariat deployed a two man team to Jamaica to assess the Queen Conch allocation system, observe the process and provide an independent opinion on the adequacy and integrity of the system for the allocation of quotas in the Jamaican Queen Conch Fishery. During the reporting period, a Report was prepared and officially presented to Mr. D Stanbury, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture and Lands, and his team in Jamaica on the 23 May. The Report was presented by a team from the CRFM Secretariat comprising of Mr. Hugh Saul, Executive Director, Mr. Terrence Phillips, Programme Manager Fisheries Management and Development and Mr. Neville Bissember, Assistant General Counsel, CARICOM Secretariat. The CRFM Secretariat is awaiting comments from the Government of Jamaica on the Report.

During the period July- September 2006, a source of funds was tentatively identified by the CARICOM Secretariat to finance the preparation of the CRFM Operations Manual, however, in February, 2007 the CARICOM Secretariat advised that these sourcing of funds was not successful. The CRFM Secretariat commenced an "in house" development of the Operation's Manual and prepared a first draft which was tabled at the Fifth Meeting of the Caribbean Fisheries Forum scheduled in April 2007. During the reporting period, the CARISEC Resource Mobilisation Unit advised the CRFM Secretariat that they had been successful in sourcing USD 25,000. 00 for the preparation of the CRFM Secretariat's Operations Manual. During this quarter, a project proposal was refined and submitted to the CARICOM Secretariat. On the 22 June 2007, Mr. Anthony Mills, Corporate Services Manager, CRFM Secretariat met with Ms. Jennifer Astaphan, Executive Director, CARICAD, in Belize to review the implementation plan for the Operations Manual and to advise her that the CARICOM Secretariat had sourced financing for the preparation of the CRFM Operations Manual. Ms. Astaphan advised that CARICAD would revise the implementation plan previously submitted in 2006 to take into account the input and comments of Professor Cambridge who had suggestions to improve this activity. CARICAD is now refining the implementation proposal for the preparation of the manual and has agreed to submit same with a time line to the CRFM Secretariat by the end of July 2007.

During the period 2006 / 07, the CRFM Secretariat provided support to Member States with the development and use of the CARIFIS database and continued to provide same during the reporting period. During the months May/June 2007, Consultant, Dr. Paul Medley, and Research Graduate,

Ms. June Masters, undertook field missions to The Bahamas and the Turks and Caicos Islands to implement the Consultancy to review the Data Collection and Management Systems for the Marine Fisheries. During these missions, technical assistance on the implementation of CARIFIS was also provided.

A number of Fisheries Management and Development initiatives continued to be addressed during the reporting period which included the review of Fisheries Management Plans for Grenada and Suriname by the CRFM Secretariat.

In October 2006-March 2007, Secretariat staff collaborated with staff of the Fisheries Department in St. Kitts and Nevis to finalize a proposal for conducting an underwater visual survey of the national resource of the Queen Conch, aimed at providing information for improving management of Queen Conch in the twin-island State. During the reporting period, the CRFM Secretariat continued its resource mobilization efforts to source funds for this project.

During the period July- September, 2006, Mr. John Landos, Consultant, AGRIFOR Consult was recruited by the EU Office, Brussels to commence the project "*Study to Improve Compliance with EU Commission Sanitary Standards in the CARIFORUM Fisheries Sector*" which began with a meeting with CRFM Secretariat staff in Belize, held on 31 August 2006. Mr. Landos and his team visited eight (8) CRFM Member States to identify issues that limit the ability of the CARIFORUM Fisheries to meet EU Sanitary standards. The findings were presented at the "*Workshop to Consider the Report of the Consultants on Study to Improve Compliance with EU Commission Sanitary Standards in the CARIFORUM Fisheries Sector*" held on November 14 - 15, 2006 in Belize. The findings of the workshop were presented to the EU Commission in December 2006, by the Consultant's principals, AGRIFOR Consult. During 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.

Also, during the reporting period, the CRFM Secretariat continued actions to review and update its Website. The Secretariat continued to update its Calendar of Events Webpage to keep its Members and other stakeholders informed of activities being undertaken by the CRFM. Documents for workshops and reports were also placed on the site during the reporting period. The CRFM Secretariat continued to prepare and circulate its monthly Fish- E- Bulletin which has been well received by its readers.

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) Common Fisheries Policy and Regime

The CRFM and CARICOM Secretariats continued to provide technical leadership and financial support in the formulation of the Common Fisheries Policy and Regime.

Additionally, work commenced in-house on the preparation of a proposal agreed to seek donor support on critical areas such as; Consultancy assistance to finalize the Draft Agreement on the

Establishment of the Common Fisheries Policy and Regime, and for the convening of a Special Meeting of the Forum to make recommendations on the draft Agreement to COTED.

(ii) Development of Caribbean Network of Fisherfolk Organisations

A CTA and the CRFM Secretariat funded project *Development of Caribbean Network of Fisherfolk Organisations* continued implementation - the project is to be implemented over the period 2006 - 2008. During the reporting period, the CRFM Secretariat finalized the Report for the CTA/ CRFM 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 Organisations, 4 – 14 December 2006, in St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Dr. McConney, was recruited as a Consultant and prepared the draft Briefing Note to guide the national consultations. Also, during the reporting period, preparations for the National Consultations in Group 2 countries and the fisherfolk newsletter commenced.

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

The *Note Verbale* on immunities and privileges to be accorded to JICA experts has been agreed by all CRFM Member States. During programme year 2006/ 07, JICA Officials visited the CRFM Secretariat Headquarters, 6-9 March 2007, as part of the Preliminary Survey for the *Fisheries Masterplan on Sustainable Use of Fisheries for Coastal Community Development in the Caribbean*. The JICA Team also visited Member States Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago, and St. Vincent and the Grenadines which included a visit to the CRFM Secretariat Eastern Caribbean Office. The draft Scope of Work was refined and will be reviewed in Japan before being sent to the CARICOM Secretariat to facilitate further discussions.

The signatories to the draft Scope of Work, as advised by the CARICOM Secretariat in discussions with the JICA Team, and as advised by the Assistant General Counsel, Mr. Neville Bissember, are the CARICOM Secretariat as Executing Agency, the CRFM Secretariat as Implementing Agency and JICA.

(iv) Strengthening Fisheries Management; ACP Fish II Project

The EU recruited a group of consultants to review the original Feasibility Study submitted by the CRFM Secretariat 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. Implementation of the project is expected to start late 2007.

ACTIVITY 100: Management and Support

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 1st, 2007

End: March 31, 2008

Activity Progress Report Summary

Total Budget: US\$346,843

Spent: US\$78,810

Spent during the last quarter: US\$78,810

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

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, 2007 – March 31, 2008.

Management liaised with Member States to make good on arrears and current contributions to the Budget of the CRFM Secretariat. Eight (8) Member States made contributions during the period (April 1 – June 30, 2007) totaling EC\$1,358,470 (US\$505,346). The arrears fell from EC\$943,333 as at March 31, 2007 to EC\$781,946 as at June 30, 2007.

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

- (i) Eighth Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Caribbean Fisheries Forum, 2 May, 2007, Providenciales, Turks and Caicos Islands;
- (ii) Fifth Meeting of the Caribbean Fisheries Forum, 3 -4 May, 2007, Providenciales, Turks and Caicos Islands;

- (iii) Meeting with the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture and Lands, Jamaica, 24 May, 2007, in Jamaica to discuss the Draft Report of the Mission to Observe the Process for the Allocation of Quotas in the Jamaica Queen Conch Fishery and provide an Independent Evaluation;
- (iv) Workshop on ACP Policy Briefs in Fisheries Livestock and Biofuels, Wageningen, The Netherlands, May 28 – June 01, 2007;
- (v) CERMES MarGov Project Inception Workshop, UWI, Cavehill, Barbados, 15 – 16 May, 2007;
- (vi) Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystem Project (CLME) Second Regional Steering Committee Meeting, 6-8 June 2007, Cartagena, Colombia.

Resource Mobilisation

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

1. Common Fisheries Policy and Regime

A project proposal was prepared for resource mobilization for the following activities under the Common Fisheries Policy and Regime:

- (i) Consultancy to review and refine the Framework Agreement of the Common Fisheries Policy and Regime and to prepare an Information Document to assist Member States in their National Consultations
- (ii) A meeting of the Expanded Ad Hoc Legal Working Group
- (iii) A Special Meeting of the Caribbean Fisheries Forum to consider the outputs of the Working Group of (ii) above.

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. Implementation of the project is expected to start late 2007.

3. Strengthening Fishery Products Health Conditions in ACP/ OCT Countries.

Mr. John Landos, Consultant, AGRIFOR Consult was recruited by the EU Office, Brussels to conduct a "*Study to Improve Compliance with EU Commission Sanitary Standards in the CARIFORUM Fisheries Sector*" which began with a meeting with CRFM Secretariat staff in Belize, on August 31, 2006. Mr. Landos and his team visited Guyana, Haiti, Dominican Republic, Belize, Trinidad and Tobago, Antigua and Barbuda, Jamaica and Barbados to identify issues that limit the ability of the CARIFORUM Fisheries to meet EU Sanitary standards. The findings of the study were presented at a regional workshop held on November 14 -15, 2006 in Belize. The findings of the workshop were presented to the EU Commission in December 2006, by the consultant's principals, AGRIFOR Consult.

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, 2007

End: March 31, 2008

Activity Progress Report Summary

Total Budget: US\$37,080

Spent: US\$8,727

Spent during the last quarter: US\$8,727

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 reporting period, 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, 2007 to March 31, 2008.

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, 2007

End: March 31, 2008

Activity Progress Report Summary

Total Budget: US\$44,875

Spent: US\$24,040

Spent during the last quarter: US\$24,040

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 Fifth Meeting of the Caribbean Fisheries Forum was held 3 – 4 May, 2007, Providenciales, Turks and Caicos Islands. At this meeting the following major outputs were achieved:

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

- Turks and Caicos Islands (Chair)
- Suriname (Vice Chair)
- Jamaica
- St. Lucia
- The Bahamas

Belize and Guyana shall be invited to sit in at meetings of the Executive Committee.

(ii) Recommendation of the Work Plan and Budget, April 1, 2007 – March 31, 2008 to the Ministerial Council for approval;

(iii) Progress Report (Status) of the Common Fisheries Policy and Regime;

- (iv) Recommendation of a draft Regional Declaration/ Agreement on IUU Fishing and MCS for the CRFM Member States;
- (v) Recommendation of the draft Resolution in respect of Overdraft Facility for the CRFM Secretariat.

Meeting of the Executive Committee

The Seventh Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Caribbean Fisheries Forum was held in Turks and Caicos Islands, 2 May, 2007. The meeting considered, *inter alia*, matters arising from the Seventh Meeting of the Executive Committee, and the Fourth Meeting of the Caribbean Fisheries Forum, April 11 – 12, 2006, Trinidad and Tobago and their status of implementation. Such matters included the draft Framework Agreement on the Common Fisheries Policy and Regime, Queen Conch and Lobster; ICCAT 2007 Commission Meetings and Compliance Issues, overdraft facility for the CRFM Secretariat and a draft of CRFM Secretariat Annual Work Plan and Budget the 2007 / 08.

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, 2007

End: March 31, 2008

Activity Progress Report Summary

Total Budget: US\$161,908

Spent: US\$12,319

Spent during the last quarter: US\$12,319

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, 2007 / 08, the CRFM Secretariat continued 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 was on projecting a positive image for the CRFM, its Secretariat, and programme activities.

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.

Highlights of Achievements During the Reporting Period:

- The CRFM Secretariat continued to follow up with the Assistant General Counsel, CARICOM Secretariat, and Mr. Tadomi Nakai, (Japanese representative at the CARICOM Secretariat) on the progress in respect of the finalization of matters related to the privileges and immunities to be accorded Japanese experts in CARICOM Member States and for the signing of the Scope of Work by the Japanese, the CARICOM Secretariat and the CRFM Secretariat for the programme.

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:

- Arising from the Regular Meeting of the Forum, Turks and Caicos Islands, 3 – 4 May, 2007, the CARICOM and CRFM Secretariats retained the service of a legal expert to review and make refinements of the Draft Agreement Establishing the Common Fisheries Policy and Regime in order to expedite its completion. The legal expert (consultant) will recommend changes to the text of the Draft Agreement to improve its precision, clarity, consistency with the Revised Treaty and coherency in achieving the stated goals and objectives. He will submit the Revised draft Agreement to a meeting of the Expanded Legal Working Group scheduled for August 9 – 10, 2007 in Barbados, and effect any further refinement recommended.
- A proposal was prepared to mobilize resources to recruit consultancy to take onboard the comments of the Forum and refine the Draft Agreement on the CFP&R.

Advocacy - Promoting the CRFM Secretariat

Background:

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

Highlights Of Achievements During The Reporting Period:

- During the quarter, the CRFM Secretariat prepared and distributed via e-mail, three Fish-E Bulletin to stakeholders.

PLANNING

Background:

During the reporting period, CRFM Secretariat technical staff continued to prepare individual Quarterly Workplans to guide the implementation of activities as set out in the CRFM Secretariat Annual Workplan and Budget 2007/ 08.

Consistent with the CRFM Secretariat's Strategic Plan, a differential approach to addressing varying country circumstances was adopted through the planning process.

Highlights Of Achievements During The Reporting Period:

- The CRFM Secretariat completed the draft CRFM Secretariat Annual Work Plan and Budget, 2007 / 08. This draft CRFM Secretariat Annual Work Plan and budget was developed against the background of a new Medium Term Plan for the period 2007 / 08 to 2009 / 10; critical activities from the old Medium Term Plan that are to be completed during 2007 / 08; and expected start-up of new donor funded projects in 2007 / 08, e.g. 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).
- The draft CRFM Secretariat Annual Workplan 2007/ 08 was presented to Members of the Forum at its Fifth Meeting, May 3 – 4, 2007, Turks and Caicos Islands.
- Individual staff Work Plans for the period April 1 to June 30, 2007 were prepared.

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, 2007

End: March 31, 2008

Activity Progress Report Summary

Activity Budget

Total Budget: US\$90,350

Spent: US\$19,040

Spent during the last quarter: US\$19,040

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 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.

In accordance with the AWP 2006/ 07, the CRFM Secretariat recruited Ms. June Masters to strengthen this programme area.

The CRFM Secretariat sought legal advice in order to secure the intellectual property rights in the CARIFIS programme. On the basis of the advice, the most appropriate approach is to claim copyrights to the programme. This may be done by affixing the copy right symbol (©), with the date of creation or revision, and name of the CRFM as owners. This will grant the CRFM, the creator, the exclusive rights to reproduce, prepare derivative works, distribute, perform and display the programme.

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.

Review the Data Collection and Management Systems of the Marine Fisheries of The Bahamas, Turks and Caicos Islands and Antigua and Barbuda

Background:

In an effort to provide information for management and decision-making on a continuous basis, the CRFM Secretariat will assist the Fisheries Divisions of The Bahamas, Turks and Caicos Islands and Antigua and Barbuda 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. Biomass dynamic models, length based assessment techniques / models, as well as bio-economic models will be utilized in these assessments.

The aims of this Project are to:

- review the data (catch, effort, biological, economic, social and environmental) collection, and management systems of The Bahamas, the Turks and Caicos Islands and Antigua and Barbuda 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).

The CRFM Secretariat will provide technical assistance to The Bahamas, Turks and Caicos Islands and Antigua and Barbuda to undertake a review of their respective data collection and management systems for catch, effort, biological, economical, social and environmental data.

Highlights Of Achievements During The Reporting Period:

- The Consultant, Dr. Paul Medley, and Research Graduate, Ms. June Masters, undertook field missions to The Bahamas and the Turks and Caicos Islands to implement the Consultancy to review the Data Collection and Management Systems for the Marine Fisheries in these countries in May/June 2007. During these missions, technical assistance on the implementation of CARIFIS was also provided.

Activities Planned For The Next Quarter:

The Consultant, Dr. Paul Medley, and Research Graduate, Ms. June Masters, will undertake a field mission to Antigua and Barbuda in July 2007 to implement the Consultancy to review the Data Collection and Management Systems for the Marine Fishery of Antigua and Barbuda. During this mission, technical assistance on the implementation of CARIFIS will be provided

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 The Bahamas and Turks and Caicos Islands on the implementation of CARIFIS. Please see above-mentioned Consultancy to Review the Data Collection and Management Systems for the Marine Fisheries in Antigua and Barbuda, The Bahamas and the Turks and Caicos Islands.

Activities Planned For The Next Quarter:

- Provide technical assistance to Antigua and Barbuda in the implementation of CARIFIS. Please see above-mentioned Consultancy to Review the Data Collection and Management Systems for the Marine Fisheries in Antigua and Barbuda, The Bahamas and the Turks and Caicos Islands.
- The CRFM Secretariat, in collaboration with the FAO LAPE Project, is in the process of organizing training sessions on the analysis and reporting in CARIFIS during this Quarter of 2007.

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, 2007

End: March 31, 2008

Activity Progress Report Summary

Activity Budget

Total Budget: US\$265,082

Spent: US\$27,295

Spent during the last quarter: US\$27,295

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 conducted largely through the activities of CRFM regional resource working groups. The CRFM resource working groups, under the guidance of selected Chairpersons, are responsible for agreed inter-sessional activities, and preparation for the annual scientific meetings. These resource working groups cover 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.

In addition, the Research and Resource Assessment Programme for 2007-08 continues 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 management planning and implementation.

Highlights Of Achievements During The Reporting Period:

- Report of the 2006 Scientific Meeting has been finalized and will be published under the newly adopted guidelines for CRFM publications.
- The proposal for the CRFM Fisheries Tagging Programme was completed.

Activities Planned For The Next Quarter:

- Update evaluations of selected fisheries during the Third Annual Scientific Meeting and draft fishery management advisory reports

PARTICIPATION IN ICCAT

Provision of Technical Support at Regional and International Management For a:

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 2007 - 08, 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:

- Issued reminders to countries regarding submission of annual statistics to ICCAT.
- Commenced preparation of CRFM 2007 report to ICCAT
- Commenced implementation of recreational and artisanal billfish fishery questionnaire studies to facilitate preparation of information documents for ICCAT

Activities Planned For The Next Quarter:

- Complete CRFM 2007 report to ICCAT
- Prepare information documents on recreational and artisanal billfish fishery studies for ICCAT
- Prepare for and participate in annual ICCAT SCRS Meeting.

LARGE PELAGIC FISH RESEARCH:**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 agreement document.

Activities Planned For The Next Quarter:

- If project is finalized, develop project design details and commence project implementation.

FISH STOCK 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 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.

Highlights Of Achievements During The Reporting Period:

- Continued inter-sessional activities and preparations for Third Scientific Meeting.
- Report of the Second Annual Scientific Meeting was approved for publication in accordance with the new CRFM Publication Guidelines.

Activities Planned For The Next Quarter:

- Convene on-site meetings of the CRFM LPWG, CLWG, RSWG and SGWG, and the Third Scientific Meeting.
- Draft meeting report

QUEEN CONCH RESEARCH:

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.

Highlights Of Achievements During The Reporting Period:

- Activity put 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.

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 computerised.

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:

- Continued review of data gathered during the *Ad Hoc Study on the Rehabilitation and Management of the Queen Conch in the Dominican Republic*.

Activities Planned For The Next Quarter:

- Continue data review and commence data analysis and preparation of report.

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, 2007

End: March 31, 2008

Activity Progress Report Summary

Total Budget: US\$507,571

Spent: US\$26,396

Spent during the last quarter: US\$26,396

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

Highlights Of Achievements During The Reporting Period:

- The Revised Draft Agreement was reviewed by the Caribbean Fisheries Forum which was held (3 – 4 May, 2007) in the Turks and Caicos Islands. The Forum recommended that the Revised Draft Agreement, including the additional changes recommended by that Meeting, be forwarded to COTED for advice on the way

forward.

Activities Planned For The Next Quarter:

- Prepare a TOR and recruit a consultant to finalise the draft text establishing the CFP&R, and prepare an information document on the CFP&R to assist fisheries officials of Member States in providing information to the various stakeholders.
- Organise and convene a Meeting of the Expanded Ad Hoc Legal Working Group.

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.

Highlights of Achievements During The Reporting Period:

- Reviewing the updated FMPs for Grenada and Suriname.

Activities Planned for The Next Quarter:

- Complete the review of the updated FMPs for Grenada and Suriname and forward them to the respective their respective Fisheries Departments for approval for relevant Minister.

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 TOR/ "Strengthening of National Fisherfolk Organisations in Selected ACP Caribbean Countries"

Following on the above, the Secretariat organised and convened the *CTA/CRFM 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 Organisations*, 4 – 14 December 2006, in St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

Objective:

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

Highlights Of Achievements During The Reporting Period:

- Finalised the Report for CTA/CRFM 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 Organisations, 4 – 14 December 2006, in St. Vincent and the Grenadines.
- Prepared TORs and recruited a Consultant to prepare the Briefing Note on Caribbean Fisherfolk Organisations.
- The Consultant, Dr. P. Mc Conney, submitted the first draft of the Briefing Note and obtained comments for it's finalization.
- TOR for a resource person to serve as facilitator at the National Consultations to Launch the NFOs in Group 2 countries prepared.
- Schedule for the National Consultations to Launch NFOs worked out with the Group Two (2) countries.
- TOR for Consultant to prepare the Newsletter finalized and Consultant being recruited.

Activities Planned For The Next Quarter:

- Facilitate the organizing and convening of National Consultations to Launch the NFOs in six Group Two (2) Countries namely St. Kitts and Nevis, Dominica, St. Lucia, Grenada, Guyana, St. Vincent and the Grenadines.
- Prepare and issue the first Newsletter.
- Organise and convene the Regional Fishers Stakeholders Workshop to launch CARNUFO.

- Prepare TOR and recruit a consultant to draft the Stakeholders Directory.
- Distribute the Stakeholders Directory.

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 quarter under review (April – June 2007), the CRFM Secretariat provided IOI scholarships for three (3) 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 23 to July 20, 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, during the quarter April 1 to June 30, 2007, the following offer of awards were made and awardees commenced training:

Country	Name and Title	Institution
St. Lucia	Ms. Sarita Williams-Peters Fisheries Officer	IOI/ Dalhousie University
Barbados	Mr. Phillip Jackman Principal Fisheries Assistant	IOI/ Dalhousie University
CRFM Secretariat	Mr. Michael Salton Biologist	IOI/ Dalhousie University
Jamaica	Lisa Grant Jamaican National Heritage	IOI/ Dalhousie University

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 December 2006.

- In October 2004, the CRFM Secretariat, approved under Work Programme April 1st, 2004 to March 31st, 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.
- Consequent to the invitation of contact by the CRFM Secretariat with the United Nations University, Iceland, Mr. Thor Asgeirsson, Deputy Programme Manager, United Nations University, Iceland, visited the CRFM Secretariat in May to engage in discussions on future cooperation between the University and the CRFM, especially regarding the fisheries training programme on offer. The United Nations University Fisheries Training Programme (UNU- FTP) is a postgraduate training programme that 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 CRFM Secretariat was in discussions with the UNU to train fisheries personnel from the region for the academic year 2007/ 08 and arrangements made for Mr. Asgeirsson to conduct interviews on potential candidates for the programme in April 2007. The following countries: Guyana and Belize identified potential candidates to receive an award for training. This is an opportunity to establish a long- term institutional relationship between the UNU and the CRFM for the purpose of building national and regional capacity for fisheries development and management in the region.
- During the reporting period, the CRFM Secretariat was advised that offers of scholarships were made to Ms. June Masters, Research Graduate, CRFM Secretariat and Ms. Ms Colletta Derrell, Senior Fisheries Officer, Guyana.

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 During The Reporting Period:

The Consultant's *Final Report on the Study to Improve Compliance with EU Commission Sanitary Standards in the CARIFOUM Fisheries Sector* was provided to the CRFM Secretariat by the CARIFORUM Secretariat and circulated to Member States for review and comments.

Activities Planned For The Next Quarter:

- Provide feedback to the CARIFORUM Secretariat on the comments received.
- Liaise with the CARIFORUM Secretariat with regards the likely implementation period for the Project.

ACTIVITY 600 : Communication and Documentation

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

Activity Start: April 1, 2007

End: March 31, 2008

Activity Progress Report Summary

Total Budget: US\$50,481

Spent: US\$3,263

Spent during the last quarter: US\$3,263

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:

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 4th, 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.

Highlights of Achievements During The Reporting Period:

- The CARISEC Resource Mobilisation unit advised the CRFM Secretariat that they had been successful in sourcing USD 25,000. 00 for the preparation of the CRFM Secretariat's Operations Manual. During this quarter, the proposal was refined and submitted to CARISEC. On the 22 June 2007, Mr. Mills, Corporate Services Manager, CRFM Secretariat met with Ms. Jennifer Astaphan, Executive Director, CARICAD, in Belize to review the implementation plan of the Operations Manual. Ms. Astaphan advised that CARICAD would revise the Implementation Plan to take into account the input and comments of Professor Cambridge who had suggestions to improve this information. CARICAD is now refining the implementation proposal for the preparation of the manual and has agreed to submit same with a time line to the CRFM Secretariat by the end of July.

The CRFM Secretariat's Website

Background:

During the programme year 2006/07, the CRFM Secretariat continued to utilize modern technology, more specifically, the CRFM Secretariat Website to inform its stakeholders of the activities that the CRFM are involved, or implementing. The CRFM Secretariat aimed 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:

- Place scanned CFRAMP documents on the Website.
- Update Member States Quick Facts Webpage.
- Continue to update CRFM Calendar of Events Webpage.

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.

Activities Planned The Next Quarter:

- Finalise the Draft Declaration on IUU Fishing and MCS and submit it to COTED through CARISEC.

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.

Highlights of Achievements During The Reporting Period:

- The CRFM Secretariat participated in the CLME Steering Committee in Colombia in June 2007.

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 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.

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.

APPENDIX A:

PROCUREMENT LIST

CARIBBEAN REGIONAL FISHERIES MECAHNISM - Secretariat

Programming Unit
Financial Information Report
List of Assets

Object Name: Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism - Secretariat
For the period starting: April 1, 2007

Ending: March 31, 2008

Purchase Date	Cheque or Ref. No.	QTY	Equipment description	Model	Cost US\$	Location
6/28/2007	01754	1	King size bed and mattress (House #2)		2,294.00	Belize
Total US\$					\$ 2,294.00	

APPENDIX B:

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

ADMINISTRATIVE & FINANCE SUPPORT

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

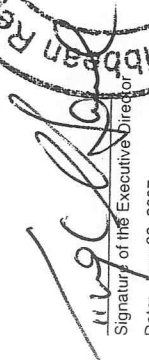
APPENDIX C:

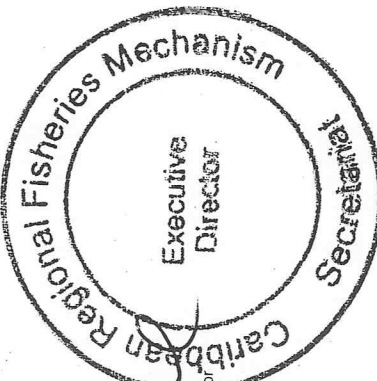
REPORTING ON USAGE OF FINANCIAL INFLOWS

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

ACTIVITY	DETAILED PROJECT EXPENSES	Approved WP Budget	PREVIOUS EXPENDITURE TOTAL	1st Quarter (2006/2007)				Cumulative Expenditure TOTAL	Work Programme Budget	
				April	May	June	This Quarter		Balance	%
500	Fisheries Resource Management and Development	\$ 507,571						26,396	\$ 481,175	95%
501	Technical Input (Emoluments)	31,038		6,125	1,210	1,170		8,505	22,534	73%
501.2	Fisheries Master Plan for CARICOM:							0	0	0%
501.4	Acquaculture development/Reg. dev & Mgmt/Reg. Fish database develop./Participatory approaches	21,631			5,631	5,920		11,551	10,080	47%
510	Provision of Technical Support at Regional and International Mgmt. For a	8,000		1,920	1,920	3,003		4,922	3,078	38%
512	Strengthening National Fisheries Management								0	
512.2	Devlpmt. & Implemtn. of Fisheries Management Plans	15,080			1,210	27		1,238	13,843	92%
512.3	Programme for Strengthening Fisheries Mgmt in ACP countries (ACP Fish 11) Donor funded	3,090						0	3,090	100%
520	Strengthening Regional Fisheries Management							0	0	
520.1	Inst. Strengthening for leaders of Fisher Folk. Org. (Donor Funded)	240,901				27		27	240,874	100%
520.2	Diagnostic Study to determine the Poverty Levels in fishing Comm. in selected CARICOM/CRFM Memb	71,400						0	71,400	100%
520.4	Rehabilitation and Management of the Queen Conch. Resources in CARICOM States (Donor Funded)							0	0	
520.5	Enhance the effectiveness of the MCS in the CARICOM Region	47,750			9			9	47,741	100%
520.6	IOCARIBE/GEF Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystem Project (CKME) (Donor Funded)	10,037						0	10,037	100%
520.8	Reduction of Fishers' Vulnerability to Disasters	4,405						0	4,405	100%
530	Fishers and Community Inv/Education									
530.1	Monitoring and Provision of Technical Assistance	5,000				117		117	4,883	98%
540	Human Resource Development									
540.1	Training and Scholarships	39,200				27		27	39,173	100%
560	Improved Postharvest, Processing and Marketing									
560.1	Support for Standards and Related Requirements for Global Trade (Donor Funded)	10,037						0	10,037	100%
600	Communication and Documentation									
610/630	Information and Network Administration	\$ 50,481						3,263	\$ 47,218	94%
610.1	Publication and Dissemination of Technical Reports	5,000		109		947		1,056	3,944	79%
620.1	Information and Documentation Centre Operations	25,575				1,351		1,351	24,224	95%
630.1	Net Work Administration	19,906			7	849		856	19,050	96%
	Total	\$ 1,504,190	\$ -	\$ 49,649	\$ 63,470	\$ 86,772	\$ 199,890	\$ 199,890	\$ 1,304,300	87%

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
Date: June 30, 2007


Executive Director

Financing Plan FY 2007/08			
Member States Contribution Fiscal Year 2007/08	Budget	Actual	Variance
Member States Contributions from Arrears Pre 1/4/07	\$ 960,500	\$ 445,310	\$ 515,190
Donor Supported Projects :	350,916	60,035	290,881
210.1 - Formulation of Common Fisheries Policy & Regime (Joint Funding)			0
210.3 - Planning - Preparation of 2nd Medium Term Plan		24,176	0
314.3 - Caribbean Fisheries Information System (CARIFIS)		30,000	0
413.2 - Regional Network Partnership		15,100	0
512.2 - Development and Implementation of Fisheries Management Plan (FMP)		8,900	0
520.1 - CTA Development of the Caribbean Network of Fisher Folk Organization		234,721	0
520.2 - Diagnostic Study to Determine the Poverty Levels in Fishing Comm in selected CARICOM/CRFM Member States		71,400	0
620.1 - Preparation of CRFM Secretariat's Operational Manual		18,625	0
Subtotal	\$ 1,768,863	\$ 505,345	\$ 806,071

Member States Contribution			
Member States Contribution Fiscal Year 2007/08	Budget	Actual	Variance
Member States Contributions from Arrears Pre 1/4/07	\$ 2,582,016	\$ 1,197,083	\$ 1,384,933
Total	943,332	161,387	781,945
Total	\$ 3,525,348	\$ 1,358,470	\$ 2,166,879

Projected Receipts			
US\$		US\$	
Projected Receipts	Actual	Projected Receipts	Actual
Member States Contribution	\$ 864,450	Member States Contribution	\$ 445,310
Projected Member States Contribution Fiscal Year 2007/08 (90%)	315,824	Projected Member States Contribution from Arrears Pre 1/4/07 (90%)	255,789
Total	\$ 1,180,274	Total	\$ 701,099