



**AFRICAN UNION  
INTERAFRICAN BUREAU  
FOR ANIMAL RESOURCES**



**AUDA-NEPAD**  
AFRICAN UNION DEVELOPMENT AGENCY



## **REPORT**

# **DIALOGUE WITH REGIONAL ECONOMIC COMMUNITIES (RECS) ON IMPLEMENTATION OF FISHERIES GOVERNANCE PROJECT PHASE 2 (FISHGOV 2)**



**29<sup>th</sup> November to 1<sup>st</sup> December 2021  
Naivasha, Kenya**

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# I. INTRODUCTION

## 1.1. BACKGROUND:

Activities of the AU-IBAR in Fisheries and Aquaculture Development is guided by the Policy Framework and Reform Strategy for fisheries and aquaculture in Africa (PFRS) and the Africa Blue Economy Strategy (ABES). The two blueprint policy documents are targeted towards facilitating the transformation of Africa's fisheries and aquaculture for food, livelihoods and wealth within the framework of the Malabo Declaration and AU Agenda 2063 for accelerated African development. In domesticating these key policy instruments, AU-IBAR, in collaboration with African Union Development Agency (AUDA-NEPAD), are implementing a Fisheries Governance project phase 2 (FishGov 2). The overall objective is to improve food security, livelihoods and wealth creation in sustainable fisheries and aquaculture, aligned with AU Agenda 2063. The specific objectives are (i) African Union decisions on sustainable fisheries and aquaculture policies are evidence-based (ii) Fisheries and aquaculture policies in Africa are coherent with the PFRS and other AU priorities and coordinated at continental, regional and national levels (iii) Africa is adequately represented and effectively participates in international fisheries and aquaculture fora and ably domesticates and effectively implements relevant global instruments

One of the main activities in the FishGov 2 project is to support dialogue and sensitisation at the Regional Economic Communities (RECs) level, particularly on emerging issues of the Action. This Action is in line with the objectives of the African Fisheries Reform Mechanism (AFRM), a continental partnership platform aimed at facilitating coordination and coherence in the governance of the fisheries and aquaculture sector. Specifically, the AFRM supports information sharing on lessons and best practices, enhances communication, fosters institutional collaboration, promotes partnerships, strengthens evidence-based policy formulation, and promotes integration or mainstreaming of the sector into AU policy processes, increasing common African positions in regional and global fora.

RECs are the building blocks of the African Union with a mandate to facilitate regional economic integration between members of the individual regions and through the wider African Economic Community (AEC), which was established under the Abuja Treaty (1991). Under the auspices of AFRM, AU-IBAR and AUDA-NEPAD are prioritise and enhance coordination and institutional collaboration in the expeditious development of the sector. Moreover, the RECs are strategic implementing partners for the implementation of FishGov 2.

## **1.2. OBJECTIVES OF THE FIRST REGULAR DIALOGUE MEETING AND SENSITIZATION WITH REGIONAL ECONOMIC COMMUNITIES**

It is in accordance with background given above that a dialogue meeting with all the RECs to develop and establish a mechanism for regular dialogue on emerging issues of the Fisheries Governance Project Phase Two (FishGov 2) as well as to sensitize them on their potential role on the project implementation was jointly organized by the African Union- Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR), the African Union Development Agency-NEPAD (AUDA-NEPAD) and with support from the European Union (EU) from the 28 November to 01 December 2021 in Naivasha, Kenya.

The overall objective of the workshop focused on exploring mechanisms for establishing regular dialogue on emerging issues of the FishGov 2 and sensitization of Regional Economic Communities (RECs) on their potential role for the project. Other specific objectives of the dialogue meeting were to:

- i. Develop and agree on a mechanism for regular dialogue on issues of the project;
- ii. Present the FishGov 2 project activities and work plan;
- iii. Share activities and identify areas for collaboration;
- iv. Develop modalities for implementing some activities in the Action;

## **1.3. PARTICIPANTS:**

The workshop was attended by over 22 participants including two representatives from 6 Regional Economic Communities, (RECs) namely:- COMESA (Common Market for Eastern and Southern African), UMA (Arab Maghreb Union French: Union du Maghreb Arabe), ECOWAS (Economic Community of West African States), ECCAS (Economic Community of Central African States), SADC (Southern African Development Community) and EAC (East African Community); One Resource Person as well as AU-IBAR and AUDA-NEPAD staff members

## **2. OPENING SESSION**

Dr. Mohamed Seisay, AU-IBAR, officiated and moderated the official opening of the meeting.

The opening session featured welcome and opening remarks rendered by Mrs Patricia Lumba representing the Ag. Director of AU-IBAR, Dr. Nick Nwankpa,, and Dr. Clement Adjorlolo on behalf of Dr Ibrahim Mayaki, the CEO of the AUDA-NEPAD.

## *2.1. OPENING STATEMENT BY AU-IBAR*

Mrs Patricia Lumba representing the Ag. Director of AU-IBAR, Dr. Nick Nwankpa, provided a welcome remarks. She acknowledged that the RECs have a critical role to play especially as interface between continental initiatives and the AU member states. She echoed the need for regular dialogue with the RECs to ensure that all parties are on the same level of information as the activities of the project are being rolled out. It also provides opportunities for the RECs to give feedback and recommendations as well as for AU-IBAR to convey them to the donor that is the European Union. She was enthusiastic that the meeting will go a long way in enhancing cooperation and coordination between the implementing agencies and the RECs in implementing the activities of FishGov 2 Project. She expressed profound gratitude for high attendance by RECs and wished participants fruitful deliberations.

## *2.2. STATEMENT BY AUDA-NEPAD AND OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE WORKSHOP*

Mr. Clement Adjorlolo on behalf of Dr Ibrahim Mayaki, the CEO of the AUDA-NEPAD provided a welcome speech to the delegates. He highlighted the importance of the dialogue to provide a common platform to take stock of the progress and challenges related to the implementation of FishGov-2 Project. Also to sensitize RECs on expectations in advancing the fisheries and aquaculture sectors in Africa. He reminded delegates that RECs are forefront in the implementation of AU Decisions, including CAADP and PFRS agenda, as well as acting as entry point for AUDA-NEPAD and our key partners to their Member States. He reconfirmed AUDA-NEPAD's commitment to collaborate with partners, specifically the EU towards the successful implementation of the FishGov 2 Project. He expressed appreciation to delegate for being available despite busy schedules indicating the importance attached to the Project and wished them fruitful deliberations. With these few remarks he declared the Meeting Open.

## *2.3. PRESENTATION ON THE OBJECTIVES OF THE WORKSHOP*

Dr. Clement the FishGov 2 project Manager at AUDA-NEPAD gave a presentation on the background, rationale and objectives of the workshop. He highlighted the major objectives of the dialogue meeting to include but not limited to: (i) Develop and agree on mechanism for regular dialogue on issues of the FishGov2 Project; (ii) Presentation of the FishGov 2 project activities and work plan to the Regional Economic Communities of Africa; (iii). Share activities and identify areas for collaborations (iv). Develop modalities for implementing some activities in the Action

## 3. TECHNICAL SESSION

### 3.1. SETTING THE SCENE;

The following presentations were delivered to set the scene for the workshop:

#### **3.1.1. Theory of Change for FishGov 2 Project by Mr. Kennedy Oroko - Planning Expert of AU-IBAR**

In this presentation Mr. Kennedy underpinned the Key Issues in the Problem Analysis prior to the formulation of the project to include Weak Coordination and Collaboration of fisheries and aquaculture which were caused by the following identified factors;

- a. Inadequate data and information to support evidence based decision making
- b. Weak partnerships, coordination, collaboration and stakeholder engagement at national, regional and continental levels
- c. Weak and incoherent sector policies and regulations that are poorly enforced
- d. Inadequate human and institutional capacities on fisheries management and aquaculture development for sustainable conservation and utilization of fisheries and aquaculture
- e. Limited resources devoted to fisheries and aquaculture sub sector
- f. weak participation and representation of Africa in global fisheries and aquaculture fora and poor domestication and implementation of relevant global instruments

Mr Kennedy further acknowledged that the Effects and Consequences emanating from the Problem Analysis include but not limited to:

- a. Unsustainable conservation and utilization fisheries and aquaculture practices, leading to;
- b. Loss of marine biodiversity and ecosystems due to over-exploitation of fisheries and other aquatic resources and environments, leading to;
- c. Low contribution of fisheries and aquaculture to food and nutritional security; livelihoods; and wealth creation

Therefore in order to address and proffer solutions as Response to the to the Problems the Goal in formulating the FishGov2 project was targeted To enhance the contribution of fisheries and aquaculture to food and nutritional security, livelihoods and wealth creation in line with Agenda 2063 aspirations.. Hence the Specific Objectives of the Project covered the following:

- a. a) To ensure that African Union Decisions on sustainable fisheries and aquaculture are evidence based.
- b. b) To ensure that Fisheries and aquaculture policies are coherent with the PFRS and other AU priorities and coordinated at Continental, Regional and National Levels

- c. To ensure that Africa is adequately represented and effectively participates in international fisheries and aquaculture fora and ably domesticates and implements global instruments

In the final analysis the Expected Results of the Project were targeted to make significant impact on: Enhancing the contributions of fisheries and aquaculture to livelihoods, food and nutritional security and wealth creation due to its sustainable conservation and utilization with following Specific Outcomes:

- a. AU Decisions on fisheries and aquaculture are evidence based
- b. Fisheries and Aquaculture policies in Africa are coherent with the PFRS and other AU priorities and coordinated at Continental, Regional and National Levels in order to maintain health resilient marine, coastal and fresh water ecosystems in the context of climate change
- c. Africa is adequately represented and effectively participates in international fisheries and aquaculture fora and ably domesticates relevant global instruments

### **3.1.2. Overview of FishGov 2 project by Dr. Mohamed Seisay.**

#### Project Profile

- BUDGET: EUR 12,000,000 EU contribution EUR 1,200,000 AU Contribution
- DURATION: 54 Months, started 1st January 2021
- COVERAGE: 55 AU MS and 8 RECs
- IMPLEMENTATION PARTNERS: AU-IBAR (contracting authority and lead coordinating agency) and AUDA-NEPAD
- PROJECT TECHNICAL STAFF:
  - Senior Fisheries Officer at AU-IBAR (Coordinator)
  - Fisheries and aquaculture resources management expert at AU-IBAR
  - Fish Trade and Investment Officer at AU-IBAR
  - Senior Fisheries Policy Officer – DARBE
  - Programme Officer- Fisheries and Aquaculture – AUDA-NEPAD
  - Programme Assistant – Fisheries and Aquaculture - AUDA-NEPAD
- OBJECTIVE: The overall objective of the project is to improve food security, livelihoods and wealth creation in sustainable fisheries and aquaculture, aligned with AU Agenda 2063 within the framework of PFRS. The specific objectives are the following:
  - African Union decisions on sustainable fisheries and aquaculture policies are evidence based
  - Fisheries and aquaculture policies in Africa are coherent with the PFRS and other AU priorities and coordinated at continental, regional and national levels
  - Africa is adequately represented and effectively participates in international fisheries and aquaculture fora and ably domesticates and effectively implements relevant global

instruments

In this presentation Dr. Seisay pointed out the major challenges faced by the project as the delay in the Recruitment Process since November 2020.

He further mentioned that the Overall Objective of the Project is similar to FishGovI but more focused and aligned to the objectives of the PFRS and formulated to address issues related to the following:

- a. Recommendations without evidences hence are rarely implemented for instant adoption of the Abuja Declaration on Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture in Africa as a conclusion of a four-day NEPAD-Fish for All Summit since 2005
- b. Coherent Policies for effective and efficient implementation of programmes and project activities
- c. Coordination among institutions e.g. ECOWAS for FCWC and SRFC; ECCAS for COREP; COMESA for LTA and SWIOFC; APRIFAAS Meetings with AFRM organs
- d. Need for participation in International Fora eg UNGA, CITES, COFI ABJN etc
- e. Strong representation is needed not just in fisheries but should have multidisciplinary approach eg lawyers are needed in negotiations;

On the outputs of the Project he outlined the following key issues

- a. Database for Fisheries and Aquaculture in Africa
  - RECs have important roles to play to accomplish the establishment as well as effective and efficient utilization of Database for Fisheries and Aquaculture in Africa;
  - There exist a lot of frameworks for RECs to roll out eg Nansen Data are somewhere unused
  - RECs are designed to be the conduit of this exercise
  - The project made provision to procure Computers for fragile AU MS
- b. Rationalize Platforms to support project policy related actions
- c. Specialized Technical Committee Meetings
  - Need for Regular meetings
  - Implementing system of PFRS
  - Questionnaires in the policy Areas of the PFRS
  - The Guide developed indicators and criteria for alignment
  - Reporting on CAADP (GDP, Food Consumption Index, Employment and livelihood.
- d. A lot of issues are going on which need to align with Fisheries and Aquaculture Development in Africa for instance the Project on Conserving Aquatic Biodiversity in African Blue Economy.
- e. A lot of advocacy need to be executed for political awareness for huge impact for Fisheries and Aquaculture Development in Africa, a good example is AUDA - Impact of Fisheries on GDP to convince Ministers and Heads of States that the impact of Fisheries is huge.

The Project Implementation Mechanisms was defined as follows:-

- The African Union Inter-African Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR) will be responsible for overall management and coordination of the Action.
- The implementation partners of the Action will be AU-IBAR and AUDA-NEPAD;
- A Sub-delegation agreement between AU-IBAR and AUDA-NEPAD will be signed in which details on the activities to be implemented by the AUDA-NEPAD will be provided
- The Action shall establish a project coordinating committee, to ensure coherence in the implementation of activities by the implementing partners and other institutions. This committee shall be composed of Project implementing partners and will act as the project planning, monitoring and coordination platform and shall ordinarily meet twice a year.
- A Project Steering Committee (PSC), shall be set up to oversee and validate the overall direction and policy of the project
- The COEs or specialized (knowledge-based) institutions would be the preferred consultants. However, where there may be challenges in identifying appropriate COEs or specialized institutions for some specific limited consultancies, consideration would be given to proven individual experts that are qualified for these specific consultancies.
- The RECs play an important role in facilitating regional integration in the continent. The project would leverage on their mandate to promote regional cooperation. In this regard, the project will work closely with the RECs to gain political commitments and facilitate the implementation of activities that are regional in nature
- RFMOs and RFBs are intergovernmental bodies through which States cooperate on the management of fisheries in specific region. Especially the RFBs, bodies would be strengthened as beneficiaries as well as support implementation of selected project activities within their areas of competencies
- Platforms and networks would be utilized as assets to support the implementation of certain activities of the project. The project would support the rationalization of these platforms and networks as well as utilize them in the implementation of selected activities

Conclusively Dr. Mohamed outlined the following as the sustainability mechanisms for the project;

- a. High Quality Data is available to inform Decision Making
- b. Coordination Takes on Board ABJN Nairobi and Abijan Conventions
- c. Policy Coherence is of high priority
- d. Improved Governance 9Fisheries Agenda in RECs Workplan; Fisheries as commodity is carried along; integrate fisheries into One stop boarder
- e. Inclusive Governance
- f. Institutionalizing NSA in the sector in decision making process as part of the structure

The discussion that ensued in the Setting the Scene session elicited the following key points;

- a. Specialized Institution must not necessary be government institution before recognitions
- b. Suggestions for regularization of dialogue with RECs to be quarterly or monthly meeting
- c. Consideration should be given for the Implementation mechanisms to involve RECs as drivers
- d. Emphasis was placed on importance of data as pillar in decision making hence need for adequate collection, analysis, interpretations for decision making purposes therefore the crucial need for training of observers and enumerators
- e. Need for inclusive governance to have regional and global approach and common approach for Fisheries management Plan
- f. Staff posted to RECs under the Project to back them up on implementation of activities with continental concept
- g. Inadequate funds for the project only 12 Mil. Hence the need to source for funds for visible results in the field.
- h. Facilitation of consultative session with MS before REC meetings
- i. Percentage of funding in ratio with Recurrent and Capital

### 3.2. INFORMATION ON STATUS: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FIRST YEAR WORKPLAN, OUTSTANDING AND CHALLENGES:

The following Presentations were made in this session

#### 3.2.1. UPDATE ON IMPLEMENTATION OF FISHGOV 2 PROJECT WORK PLAN by Mrs. Hellen Moepi-Guebama.

An overall dashboard of this presentation by Mrs. Hellen Moepi-Guebama is give below for clarity and accurate representation purposes;

| Activity / Sub-activity  | STATUS            |
|--|-------------------|
| <b>Project Inception workshop</b>  | <b>CONCLUDED</b>  |
| 1.1.1.1. Develop and update database on fisheries and aquaculture and develop mechanism for data management.   | To be re-launched |
| 1.1.1.2. Commission studies on identifications of sources of fisheries, aquaculture, socio-economics and environ related data (research and statistics) in two regions.  | To be re-launched |
| 1.1.2.1. Collect existing relevant information in AU MS and institutions on the state of fish stocks in three regions.   | To be re-launched |
| 1.1.2.2. Conduct economic valuation of ecosystem goods and services, impact of climate change on fisheries and aquaculture   | To be re-launched |
| 1.1.3.1. Develop methodology, template and training manuals for updating the AU-FAO study on the value of fisheries 2014.  | To be re-launched |
| 1.1.4.1 Conduct foresight studies to inform policy reforms on relevant fisheries and aquaculture issues - diverse consultancies to address issues above.   | To be re-launched |
| 1.1.5.1. Document lessons learnt and best practices on current and emerging fisheries and aquaculture related issues for informed and rational interventions; e.g. Climate change and ocean economy; Implementation and governance of MPAs; biosecurity measures in aquatic fish production systems; role of inland fisheries in food security and as a safety net | To be re-launched |

| Activity / Sub-activity  | STATUS            |
|--|-------------------|
| 1.2.1.1. Review and propose mechanisms for rationalization of existing fisheries and aquaculture platforms/ networks and propose a framework for anchorage with RECs and relevant RFOs.  | To be re-launched |
| 1.2.1.2. Conduct and update inventory of national and regional NSAs (including CSOs)   | To be launched    |
| 1.2.1.3. Facilitate establishment of continental NSA for effective high level advocacy and inclusive policy decision; an apex structure with linkages to the regional NSAs mainly for coordination, advocacy and unified voice or position.  | CONCLUDED         |
| 1.2.2.3 Conduct assessment and review for selection of additional centres of excellence in relevant disciplines in fisheries and aquaculture; in line with 2019 STC ARDWE recommendations.   | To be assessed    |
| 1.2.2.4. Purchase equipment as may be required by COEs or other specialized institutions for effective implementation of activities related to the Action.   | To be re-launched |
| 1.2.3.1 Commission a study to develop a cost effective mechanism for stakeholder's consultation and generate specific recommendations based on best practices.   | To be re-launched |
| 1.2.4.1. Organize a consultative workshop to revise TORs for the various organs of the AFRM in line with the third STC-ARDWE recommendation.   | ON-GOING          |
| 1.2.4.2. Conduct online inventory of EU funded national and regional funded projects   | To be re-launched |
| 1.2.4.3 Convene virtual workshop on establishing mechanisms for coordination and collaboration among EU funded projects.   | TO BE LAUNCHED    |
| 1.3.1.1 Develop and propose mechanisms for operationalization of a robust M&E systems based on PFRS guidelines for monitoring PFRS implementation.   | To be re-launched |
| 1.3.2.1. Prepare and compile biennial status report that would contribute to the Africa fisheries and aquaculture report.  | To be re-launched |
| 1.3.4.2 Prepare documentations for 3 STCs and high level AU policy organs - virtual meetings   | ON TRACK          |
| 1.3.4.3. Facilitate the participation of experts in STC expert session's meetings to develop recommendations for the STC-ARDWE.  | ON TRACK          |
| 1.3.4.4. Facilitate the participation of relevant officials in STC ministerial sessions to review the experts' recommendations.  | ON TRACK          |
| 1.4.1.1. Organize internal virtual meeting among AUC Departments to map initiatives that are underway or planned at the AU which are relevant to fisheries and aquaculture, for synergistic implementation of activities (e.g. blue economy, maritime security, environmental protection and ocean governance) | TO BE LAUNCHED    |
| 1.4.3.1. Organize internal virtual and physical meetings to develop and operationalize a framework for internal coordination of fisheries and aquaculture among relevant AUC Actors  | TO BE LAUNCHED    |
| 2.1.2.1. Collect best practices and lessons learnt on functional institutional anchorage between RECs and RFBs/RSC and propose a framework for effective anchorage.  | To be re-launched |
| 2.1.3.1. Develop a mechanism for establishing/strengthening linkages between specialized regional fisheries institutions and environmental agencies.   | To be re-launched |
| 2.2.1.1. Conduct studies to establish which AU MS have sectoral strategies and investment plans and develop a mechanism for twinning between those with and those without.   | To be re-launched |
| 2.2.2.1 Review and align national fisheries and aquaculture polices and laws with the PFRS, regional instruments and global best practices for 15 AU member states   | To be re-launched |
| 2.2.2.2. Facilitate national validation workshop for reviewed national policies and laws at Member States's level. This cost entails meeting and facilitation fees.  | LINKED TO 2.2.2.1 |
| 2.2.3.1. Review 15 national and 2 regional fisheries-aquaculture plans to mainstream sustainable and climate-resilient, environmentally sustainable fisheries and aquaculture, in NAIPS, RAIPs and other Investment programmes.  | To be re-launched |
| 2.2.3.2 Conduct national consultative workshops to validate the outcomes of the above review in 15 AU member states  | LINKED TO 2.2.3.1 |
| 2.2.3.3. Conduct regional consultative workshops to validate the outcomes of the above review (2 RECs).  | LINKED TO 2.2.3.1 |
| 2.2.4.1. Develop training materials and facilitate a training workshop on the design of fisheries and aquaculture strategies for implementation at national and regional levels.   | To be re-launched |
| 2.3.1.1 Hire 3 COEs to conduct studies in the 3 regions to identify strategic regional value chains for sustainable fisheries and aquaculture.   | To be re-launched |
| 2.3.2.2 Conduct evaluation of veterinary services in 5 AU member states towards strengthening their SPS capacity in aquatic animal resources.  | To be re-launched |

| Activity / Sub-activity   | STATUS            |
|---|-------------------|
| 2.3.3.1. Conduct institutional assessment of laboratories and diagnostics networks in the various regions of Africa and recommend mechanisms for establishing regional reference laboratories and diagnostic networks for fish and fish products. The consultancy should also entail assessment of capacities for other certification processes for enhanced market access. | To be re-launched |
| 2.3.4.1. Develop an advocacy strategy and mechanism for effective participation of women and youth fish traders in fisheries and aquaculture policy dialogue and networking.  | To be re-launched |
| 2.3.4.3. Organize national workshops to facilitate establishment of national chapters for AWFISHNET in fragile states (5 AU MS) towards strengthening effective engagement in decision making at national levels on issues relating to fisheries and aquaculture.   | CONCLUDED         |
| 2.3.5.1. Develop Guidelines to strengthen diagnostic capacities of competent national authorities/networks (OIE Aquatic Animal Health Code and Manual of Diagnostic Tests for Aquatic Animals)  | To be re-launched |
| 3.1.2.1. Identify specific issues relevant to SIDs and develop draft strategic positions and make specific recommendations for establishment/strengthening a platform of SIDS.  | To be re-launched |
| 3.1.2.2. Convene a virtual consultative workshop to validate draft strategic position and the recommendations for establishment of a platform of SIDs.  | LINKED TO 3.1.2.1 |
| 3.1.3.1. Prepare a roster of fishery and aquaculture experts in the different Member States and set up a consultation mechanism to draft positions and mobilize technical expertise   | To be re-launched |
| 3.1.3.2. Conduct a virtual workshop involving AU member states on identification of issues and formulation of common positions.   | TO BE LAUNCHED    |
| 3.1.4.1. Identify global issues and agendas which impact on national, regional and continental fisheries and aquaculture development.   | To be re-launched |
| 3.2.1.1. Identify and analyses priority instruments and initiatives and outline strategies for effective participation by AU member states.   | To be re-launched |
| 3.2.2.1. Develop a mechanism for follow-up on implementation and ratification of relevant instruments by AU MS for biennial reporting progress of domestication, including instruments relating to combating IUU (eg PSMA, EU-IUU regulations).   | TO BE LAUNCHED    |
| 3.2.2.3. Convene a virtual consultative meeting with AU MS and RECs to validate.  | LINKED TO 3.2.2.1 |
| 3.2.2.4. Conduct a review of national policies in 5 AU MS and make specific recommendations for alignment and domestication of global instruments.  | To be re-launched |
| 3.2.3.1. Prepare meeting documents for STC and high level AU Policy Organs; STC meetings thrice in 4 years (AU-IBAR, AUDA-NEPAD, DREA).   | TO BE LAUNCHED    |
| 3.2.3.2. Organize internal meetings to prepare issues for presentation to STCs and other High Level Policy meetings: (AU-IBAR, DREA, OLC (AU office of Legal Counsel) and other relevant AUC departments and STC-ARDWE Bureau   | TO BE LAUNCHED    |
| 3.2.4.1. Convene regular dialogue meetings and sensitization with RECs on emerging issues of the Action.  | ON-GOING          |
| 3.3.1.1. Prepare materials on relevant EU initiatives and make appropriate recommendations to AU MS for articulation of coherent African positions during AU-EU dialogue.   | To be re-launched |
| 3.3.2.1. Organize virtual dialogue meetings with EU (once a year) to identify issues of common interest in fisheries and aquaculture.   | TO BE LAUNCHED    |

### **3.2.2. FISHGOV 2 PROJECT BUDGET EXPENDITURE –By Ms Catherine Oduor.**

#### **a) BACKGROUND**

Ms Catherine Odour gave a brief background to the Financial Management and Control to the FishGov2 Project as follows;

- FISHGOV project is funded by the European Commission
- The duration of project is 54 months (4 years, 6 months).
- Project start date. 1.1.2021
- The project total funding is an amount EUR 13,200,000.00

**b) FUNDS RECEIVED**

| INSTALLMENTS | DATES      | AMOUNT               |
|--------------|------------|----------------------|
| 1st transfer | 14.12.2020 | EUR 3,041,277        |
| <b>TOTAL</b> |            | <b>EUR 3,041,277</b> |

**c) FINANCIAL REPORT**

| Description        | EU Contribution   | AU Contribution  | Total Cost In Euro | Year I Budget    | Expenditure Year I | Budget Balance    | Budget Execution% |
|--------------------|-------------------|------------------|--------------------|------------------|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Grand Total</b> | <b>12,000,000</b> | <b>1,200,000</b> | <b>13,200,000</b>  | <b>3,379,221</b> | <b>625,785</b>     | <b>12,574,275</b> | <b>5%</b>         |

**d) FINANCIAL REPORT - NEPAD**

- Total Funds Disbursed = Euro 277,487
- Total amount spent = Euro 289,976.26
- Deficit = Euro 12,489.95

| Budget    | Amount spent | Balance   |
|-----------|--------------|-----------|
| 2,807,469 | 289,976.26   | 2,517,493 |

**e) PERCENTAGE OF EXECUTION BASED ON YEAR I BUDGET**

| TOTAL EXPENDITURE EUR | YEAR I BUDGET EUR | % OF EXECUTION |
|-----------------------|-------------------|----------------|
| 625,785               | 3,379,221         | 19%            |

**3.2.3. ENVISAGED ROLES AND BENEFITS OF RECS – IN PROJECT IMPLEMENTATIONS BY MRS. HELLEN MOEPI-GUEBAMA.**

Dr Hellen anchored the background and foundation of her presentation on this subject in accordance with the provisions of the PFRS which visibly stipulated ‘Strengthened Regional and Sub-regional Cooperation’ as one of the Policy Arenas with a clear objective: ‘To strengthen South-South cooperation, and develop coordinated mechanisms among RECs and RFBs to ensure coherence of fisheries policies and aquaculture development and their adoption and adaptation’. The strategic action to accomplish this objective include among others to Create synergies and complementarities in programmes at regional level as well as Establish and reinforce the role of RECs and RFBs in regional economic integration.

In line with the above Dr Hellen categorised the roles of the RECs as enunciated in PFRS to include:-

- Political mandate for regional integration agenda, enhancing regional cooperation and regional policy coherence
- Play an important role in facilitating regional integration through regional policy coherence, trade and cooperation (including on regional fisheries and aquaculture issues).

Consequently she outlined that the Anticipated Roles of RECs in the implementation of the FishGov2 Project would leverage on their mandate (in collaboration with RFBs, other specialized regional institutions) in the following areas;

- Monitoring the implementation of PFRS by AU member states
- Mainstreaming fisheries and aquaculture in NAIPs and RAIPs and establishing the monitoring and evaluation mechanism
- Promoting domestication of continental frameworks and programs and monitoring the implementation of policy organs' decisions
- Identification and development of regional value chains in fisheries and aquaculture
- Promoting regional harmonization on trade certification and SPS issues
- Support the functions and institutionalization of regional NSAs, platforms and other regional networks
- Communication conduit between AU and AU MS
- Promoting regional institutional coordination amongst RECs and Regional fisheries organisations (APRIFAAS)
- Advocating for enhancing the investment in the sector at both regional and national level
- Capacity building at AU MS level
- Institutional anchorage between RECs and RFBs/RSC
- Conduct regional meetings (validation, RAIPS, CAADP)
- The COEs or specialized knowledge-based institutions will be contracted to carry out policy-oriented studies and the services of the RECs would be utilized to facilitate the conduct of these studies.

#### **3.2.4. OUTCOMES OF COORDINATION MEETINGS BETWEEN IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS By Dr Clement Adjorlolo.**

The main objective of the meeting was to find best ways to implement the Fish Gov 2 Project, & take stock of the progress and remaining first-year activities based on approved revised work plan and budget and specifically to: (i) Review the progress of implementation of the first-year activities; (ii) Draw the implementation mechanism from the implementing partners of the project; (iii) Exchange on communication and visibility mechanism to be put in place (iv) Reflect on the modalities for implementing the M&E/Result Framework.

Outcome of the Meeting hinged on the Coordination between the three institutions (AU-IBAR, AUDA-NEPAD and AUC) through adopting effective and efficient coordination mechanisms including Consensus on Framework Contract; Cooperation Between AU-IBAR & AUDA-NEPAD; Implement own activities in 2021 & take forward to 2022; Lessons learned to better inform

collaboration.

Recommendations from the meeting were as follows;

- Accelerate Implementation of Activities
- Technical/ Financial Adhoc requests from partners/ member states to be handled on case-by-case basis
- Strengthen coordination between AU-IBAR & AUDI-NEPAD through utilization of communication tools
- Finalization of M&E Framework & ensure utilization of African Fisheries Report as reference document on continent
- Share Communication & Visibility Strategy for input

### **3.2.5. OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATIONS WITH EU, INTERNAL PROCUREMENT COMMITTEE AT AUC AND RECENT DEVELOPMENTS – ON PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION** **By Dr Mohamed Seisay.**

The presentation gave consideration to the Main Issues, the Challenges and preferred solutions with appropriate guidance from relevant quarters including The EU and Internal procurement Committee at AUC. Highlights and summary of the presentation is given below:

#### **a. Main Issues**

- Recruitment of project staff:
- Even though AU-IBAR initiated the process commenced in November 2020, the process is yet to be concluded by the AUC at the Headquarters in Addis Ababa
- Recruitment of COES to undertake studies in the project through framework contractual arrangements
- Advert calling for expression of interest was launched in May and June 2021
- Purchase of equipment to enhance capacity of COES
- Advert calling for expression of interest was launched in May and June 2021

#### **b. Challenges;**

The project faced some challenges in operationalizing and implementation including;

- The recruitment process is still on at AUC-HQ though short-listing has been done
- Limited number of bids submitted for the various studies of which process was not concluded at AUC
- Limited number of suppliers applied to supply purchase and supply equipment to the COEs

### **c. Options for way-forward**

Guidance from AUC:

- AU-IBAR had discussion with the Internal procurement Committee at HQs. After examining the reports submitted in respect of the bids for the studies; they made the following guidance:
- To consider selective tendering process for contracting COEs or other knowledge-based institutions
- With respect to supply of equipment, to re-launch the process

Guidance from EU:

- Due to challenges faced in procurement, AU-IBAR requested guidance from the EU to give authorization to implement sub-delegation arrangements with the COEs since they are officially endorsed by the AU Executive Council. EU provided the following guidance:
- AU-IBAR should endeavour to adopt more direct methods for studies to contract COEs and other knowledge-based institutions as provided for in the AU procurement rules to limited scale and not involving large sums of money
- AU-IBAR should adopt open competitive process for some other activities
- EU gave authorization to recruit short-term consultants whilst waiting for the recruitment of the long-term project staff at headquarters

### **3.2.6. COMMUNICATION, VISIBILITY AND KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT by Mrs. Patricia Lumba.**

Mrs Patricia Lumba in this presentation established that the aim of the Communication, Visibility and Knowledge Management for the FishGov2 Project is to develop information on Fisheries Governance Project activities, and its achievements on an ongoing basis, and disseminate these to all relevant stakeholders; in accordance with Communication and Visibility Manual for EU External Actions published by the European Commission and those applied by the AUC for AU-IBAR & AUDA-NEPAD. The objectives are therefore to:

- Enhance visibility of FishGov 2 on sustainable fisheries and aquaculture
- Strengthen advocacy on policy reform in fisheries and aquaculture
- Continue raising awareness on Fisheries and aquaculture policies in Africa - African Fisheries Reform Mechanism (AFRM), Sustainable fisheries and aquaculture in context of Africa Blue Economy Strategy
- Promote behavior change among stakeholders on illegal, unregulated and unreported fishing practices which arise from weak Monitoring, Control and Surveillance;
- Facilitate, knowledge sharing among the project partners, relevant external actors, and final beneficiaries; and their role in fisheries governance;

FishGov2 Communication, Visibility and Knowledge Management is predicated on Evidence-Based and Knowledge base embracing 4 cardinal areas namely: - Research and Scientific Literature; Practitioners; Continental and Global Instruments as well as Stakeholders. While the Targeted Audience includes Research and Academia; Practitioners; National Regional and Continental Institutions as well as Stakeholders.

The Communication & Visibility covers the following areas;

- Media Awareness and Engagement - Zamzibar - increase in social media followers and articles; increase in types of messages.
- ToRs for Multimedia Productions (video, media partnerships)
- ToRs for content curation and online newsletter production
- Validation of Communication and Visibility Strategy & contribution towards implementation plan.
- Social Media - Engage; inform; message translation; advocacy
- Visibility and Promotional Materials (i.e. Project memorabilia and collectables; EU visibility)
- Brochures; folders; memory sticks; banners
- Meeting Banners: - Technical Coordination Meeting (April 2021)
- Official Launch - Regional Centre of Excellence -

Knowledge Sharing - External Collaboration & Coordination include as follows:-

- Nine AWFISHNET National Chapters have online spaces ; overarching fisheries and aquaculture, and blue economy & media; PRIFAAS - African Platform for Regional Institutions in Fisheries, Aquaculture and Aquatic Systems
- Calendaring in use - but needs to be promoted
- Project based information sharing – retention
- KM firm has been engaged to assist in collaboration, onboarding of national platforms and enhance multi-language content development (English/ French.
- Information collection spaces on repository have been established for fisheries and aquaculture related content.
- Populated mostly with FishGov I Project outputs.
- Creating linkages and disseminating knowledge outputs via linkages to articles on website, or social media mentions.

The Focus Areas for the year 2022 of the FishGov2 Communication, Visibility and Knowledge Management includes but not limited to the following areas:-

- Finalize 2022 Implementation plan for Media engagement - e.g. Data & Knowledge Translation

for effective reporting

- Strengthen content curation methods & dissemination : - media blogging; use of champions; Mail Chimp to draw from disintegrated platforms and information spaces - e.g. NSAs
- Strengthen collaboration - e.g. calendaring (Event Sharing) and engagement
- Develop actionable outputs for various target audiences from translated knowledge products
- Promote more open access to various multilingual groups and platforms - e.g. french documents and collaborative online spaces to be multi-lingual - Systran
- Strengthen linkages and internal communication between implementing partners (including the RECs)
- Dissemination Plan for knowledge products
- Staff and stakeholder capacity strengthening and awareness on data, Communication information and collaboration tools; branding & standardization
- Evaluations on usage of information tools and knowledge products

### **3.2.7. MONITORING, EVALUATION AND LOGFRAME by Mr. Admore Chakadenga**

Mr Chakadenga's presentation was predicated on the following

- Outline planned M&E processes and procedures
- Aim to promote: Accountability, Learning and Adaptation
- Used the theory of Change Approach
- Developed M&E Framework and Full Logframe
- Cognizant of FishGovI achievements

Monitoring and Evaluation Framework include reference document for Fishgov2 M&E Activities whose objectives are to:

- Provide guidance for the monitoring and evaluation of FishGov2 project;
- Outline the theory of change, results frame, indicators, targets and milestones for implementation progress measurement;
- Outline systems and methods data collection methods, and frequency of measurement and reporting;
- Provide a mechanism for fostering transparency and accountability among stakeholders during the implementation of; and
- Promote the use of M&E results as feedback for improved efficiency, effectiveness, learning and experience sharing

Mr Chakadenga categorized the Role of Stakeholders in M&E at Continental, Regional and National Levels as follows

### **a. CONTINENTAL LEVEL**

Project Steering Committee (PSC) - Oversight and Direction; Actors: AUC, AU –IBAR, AUDA/Nepad

- Design, Role out and Oversee the M&E system
- Development of tools/ templates to be used for data collection, analysis and reporting
- Ensure data quality
- Sharing Knowledge, best practices and Lessons
- Coordination and collaboration

### **b. REGIONAL LEVEL**

Actors: Centres of Excellence, RECs, RFBs, RFMBs

- Development / Adaptation of M&E tools and data collection templates
- Coordinate data collection, and analysis
- Regional Level Feedback and reporting

### **c. NATIONAL LEVEL**

Relevant Line Ministries / National Focal Points

- Development/ Adaptation of M&E tools to context
- Data collection/ collation
- Feedback and reporting
- Sharing knowledge, best practices and lessons

The logframe involves tracking a total of 25 Indicators; (4 Impact level, 8 Outcome Level and 13 Output Level). Agenda 2063 and CAADP Indicators are Considered Overarching Frameworks and the baselines and targets for each indicator determined.

The Monitoring component will be on ongoing continuous of feedback, learning and adaptation approach with the aimed to see that: (i) products/ services/ results are delivered timely in right quantities and quality as planned (ii) services/ products / results are being used by beneficiaries (iii)Improve project quality. Monitoring tools includes Indicator tracking table Online surveys Field missions Monitoring Checklist and Monitoring reports – to be produced when monitoring activities are carried out and consolidated annually.

The Evaluation is done external for independence to obtain feedback, learn, adapt and express a self-regulating opinion on project quality. Questionnaire is developed to obtain missing baselines in Q1 2022 and the Midterm Evaluation is planned for 2023 with the End of Project Evaluation

planned for 2025

The lineup of planned activities were enunciated by Mr Chakadenga as follows:

- Developed the M&E Framework
- Developed the logframe which is scheduled to be finalized in the second technical committee meeting
- Monitoring
  - Obtained feedback from Regional Non State Actors Platforms PRAPAC, SANSAFA, WANSAFA, MOSFA, LVFO, EARFISH, Plateforme Maghrébine de la Perche Artisanale, COMHAFAT
  - Obtain feedback from RECs in this meeting. A link is to be circulated by Jemima
- Baseline Studies – to be commissioned in the first quarter of 2022

### **3.3. PRESENTATIONS OF ACTIVITIES OF RECS IN FISHERIES, AQUACULTURE AND BLUE ECONOMY:**

The presentations of the delegates from the Regional Economic Communities touched on the background information of their establishment, statistics and role of fisheries and aquaculture in the regions, guiding sectoral regional policy and regulations, fisheries and aquaculture projects and activities in their regions. The following presentations from delegates of the RECs were delivered:

#### **3.3.1. ECOWAS by Dr. Ibrahim Sylla**

Context. Fisheries and Aquaculture represent an important sector for socio-economic development of the ECOWAS member states in terms of income generation as well as job creation. The contribution of the sector in the GDP is significant and estimated at 3-5% in some countries. The sector employs more than 5 million of people (direct and indirect) jobs. More than 50% of the population consumes animal protein from fish and fish products. Despite this importance, fisheries stocks have declined due to among other to the poor management system and IUU fishing,

Action taken. To address these challenges, the ECOWAS through its Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (DARD) has undertaken the elaboration of the Comprehensive Strategic Framework for Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture Development (CSF-SFAD). This strategic instrument is established through the Programme for Improved Regional Fisheries Governance in Western Africa (PESCAO) funded by EU. The mission, vision and objective of this CSF-SFAD are integrated into ECOWAP-CAADP. The CSF-SFAD is aligned with and complete the ECOWAP and is also consistent with the CAADP.

The ECOWAS CSF-SFAD has identified seven (7) priority areas (PA) among which: PA2: Sustainable aquaculture development within the context of Africa, PA4: Value chain, blue Economy as well as trade and fish marketing and PA5: Women and youth empowerment and entrepreneurship. One of the important outcome of PA4 is OC4.1 Increased growth, sustainability, and participation in the fisheries and aquaculture regional value chains through public private partnerships that improve quality, cost and access to key inputs (markets, finance, infrastructure, fingerlings, feed). One of the important outcome of PA5 is focused on the Entrepreneurship and business management in order to achieve viable fish- based Small and Medium-Size Enterprises (SMEs) strengthened. The PESCAO Programme has three components. The component 2 is related to combat IUU fishing through the two subregional fisheries bodies (FCWC and SRFC).

The ECOWAS has also requested for and benefited from the EU-FAO partnership, the FIRST Programme which aims at improving the contribution of the fisheries and aquaculture sector to food and nutritional security and poverty reduction for the populations of West Africa. This FIRST Program identified four priority areas as four dimensions of food nutrition and security (PA1: Increasing the availability of fish for all, PA2: Improving access of fish for all, PA3: Improving the use of fish for all, PA4: Improving the stability of fish supply for all).

Blue Economy development as a contribution to address challenges. ECOWAS does not have yet its own Blue Economy strategy. However, it has planned to develop its Blue Economy strategy which will be aligned with Africa Blue Economy Strategy (ABES). Within this framework, ECOWAS and the AfDB have conjointly organized during the month of November 2021 a meeting on the Blue Economy development. The Overall objective of the proposed project is to contribute to food security and nutrition, poverty reduction in coastal and riparian communities, promote competitive intra-regional fish trade and exports.

TCP/SFW/3805: Strengthening regional mechanisms of coordination to combat IUU fishing in West Africa. ECOWAS and FAO agreed on focusing their effort to decrease, to deter and eliminate IUU fishing in the waters of West Africa. Objective: strengthen the coordination among the relevant actors: ECOWAS and (FCWC + SRFC) and discuss a regional approach for an effective implementation of the PSMA to combat IUU fishing in West Africa.

Recommendations. ECOWAS recommends that AU-IBAR should support and use RECs and RFBs as technical institutions to implement its projects and programs. AU-IBAR should support the cooperation RFB-MS and should exclusively agree to deal with RECs and RFBs. RECs and RFBs should provide all relevant information and data to AU. AU should support the RECs in establishing

and implementing Blue Economy Strategy.

### **3.3.2. UMA: Dr. Faouzia Chakiri Boulouiz**

Dr. Fouzia highlighted regional coordination of aspects of fisheries as Maghreb working group in charge of maritime fishing and fisheries resources; The Maghreb artisanal fishing platform and the Maghreb Aquaculture Development.

Achievement of the working groups include

- Development of two draft Maghreb agreements
  - Framework agreement for cooperation in the field of maritime fishing and aquaculture”,
  - Maghreb agreement on cooperation in the field of training, popularization and scientific research in the maritime fishing and aquaculture sector.
- Organization of several meetings (on average one meeting per year):
  - Presentation of the state of the sector in the member countries,
  - Exchange of experiences and best practices,
  - Identification of regional priority actions.

Some Key recommendations include;

- Promote the working group to the rank of the permanent Maghreb committee for fisheries and aquaculture
- The extension of its mandate to also take into account maritime and continental aquaculture,
- Integrating aquatic animal health into the CVMP terms of reference
- Development of regional cooperation,
- Capacity building of member countries
- Improving intra-regional trade

### **3.3.3. EAC: Dr. David Balikowa**

The East African Community (EAC) is located in the Great Lakes region and hosts some of the most important fresh water bodies in Africa. The region is a major producer of fisheries and aquaculture resources. The culture of fish consumption is well developed and fish trading a major economic activity. The fisheries and aquaculture sector employs a large proportion of the population, and contributes significantly to improved household nutrition and food security. The region is a major exporter of fisheries, making the sector a major source of foreign exchange and contributor to the gross domestic product (GDP) and overall economic development of the region.

The interventions in the fisheries and aquaculture sector are guided by the existing regional policy, legal and institutional framework. The overarching legal framework is the Treaty for Establishment of the EAC which defines the areas of cooperation of Partner States in regard to marine and inland water resources. The Treaty also established Lake Victoria Fisheries Organisation as an Institution of EAC that is mandated to implement fisheries and aquaculture related functions. Other policy and legal instruments include the Protocol for Establishment of the EAC Common Market, and the Convention for the Establishment of the Lake Victoria Fisheries Organisation (LVFO), 1994 which was amended in 1998 and 2016 to widen the scope and mandate of LVFO. The 2016 amendment defined four programme areas under which the interventions in fisheries and aquaculture are implemented, namely: i) fisheries management and development; ii) aquaculture management and development; iii) fisheries resource monitoring and research; and iv) fish quality assurance, trade and marketing of fish and fishery products.

Interventions in the fisheries and aquaculture sector are further guided by the EAC Fisheries and Aquaculture Policy, 2018 as well as the continental Policy Framework and Reform Strategy (PFRS) and the CAADP process. The major activities implemented by EAC/LVFO are categorized into the following output areas:

- Evaluating and reviewing existing management plans and developing and supporting implementation of new management plans for species/ fisheries of regional interest;
- Promoting coherent regional registration and licensing frameworks in the small-scale inland and marine fisheries;
- Supporting the adoption and implementation of management measures aimed at protecting marine biodiversity with regional impacts;
- Improving data collection and data management in support of fisheries and aquaculture resource monitoring and research;
- Establishing and implementing a regional monitoring, control and surveillance (MCS);
- Building capacity to implement regional, cost-effective inland monitoring and surveillance programmes;
- Supporting capacity building in enforcement, compliance and prosecution procedures in the fisheries sector at national level.
- Building the capacity for value addition, targeting women and youth at base of the pyramid;
- Strengthening quality assurance for fish exports and fish marketing;
- Strengthening fisheries co-management in the region.

### 3.3.4. COMESA: Dr. Yoseph Mamo

#### STRATEGIC FOCUS OF COMESA:

- a. Market integration
  - Removing barriers to trade to consolidate the internal market/FTA
  - Building productive capacity to enhance global competitiveness and build regional capacity
- b. Productive Integration
  - Agriculture and Animal Resources
  - Sanitary and Phyto-sanitary
  - Blue Economy Development
    - a. Fisheries
- c. Industrialization
  - Industrial Development which include agro-processing capacity and Agri-food systems
  - Developing SPS capacity

The COMESA Blue economy is one of the focuses under productive integration COMESA's Blue Economy spans a vast domain. The region recognizes the Blue/Ocean Economy as covering: Aquatic and Marine areas, including oceans, seas, coastlines, lakes, rivers and groundwater. It also includes many productive sectors such as Fisheries and Aquaculture, Tourism, Transport, Shipbuilding, Energy, Bio-prospecting and Underwater Mining to accelerate structural transformation.

Fisheries Resources: COMESA is home to some of Africa's most important fisheries resources. These include, among others:

- Marine resources in the Western Indian Ocean,
- Southeast Atlantic and Mediterranean, Red Sea, as well as
- The vast freshwater systems of the Rift Valley, Nile, Congo and Zambezi Basins and the Great Lakes found within them

Fisheries are one of the most significant renewable resources that COMESA countries have for food security (high-quality nutrition), livelihood and economic growth (income and employment, and public revenue). Livelihoods of vulnerable groups especially women and unemployed youth is mainly dependent on fisheries sector,

#### Contribution of Fisheries to Agricultural GDP

- Fisheries and aquaculture accounts for about 6% of the agricultural GDP and in Island COMESA MS on average 15%
- Fish and fish products account for approximately 18% of animal protein intake
- Almost 60% of the fish processing and marketing activities are performed by women.

- Among Island COMESA MS, the sector contributes around 22.5% annually to total exports within the region (largely attributed to tuna and shrimp).

#### Key priority area and intervention:

- Fisheries management and governance
- SSF and their regulation to address open access fishery
- Empowerment of local administrations and social organisations
- Improve capacities of the regional and national agencies
- Improve fisheries statistics and economic data
- Support to value addition and trade
- Reduce post-harvest losses – Enhance value chain, value addition, packaging
- Diversification into domestic semi-industrial fisheries
- Support investments and industrialization-improve access to finance
- Combating IUU fishing/ Reduce incidence
- Improve control through improved cooperation and collaboration
- Improve monitoring capacity and traceability of fisheries products
- Support to value addition and trade
- Reduce post-harvest losses – Enhance value chain, value addition, packaging
- Diversification into domestic semi-industrial fisheries
- Improve sanitary of products
- The COMESA Cross Border Trade Initiative supported under the 11th EDF Trade Facilitation Programme (SSCBTI) is an initiative to facilitate cross border trade for small – scale traders under the COMESA Simplified Trade Regime (STR). Small Scale Cross Border Trade Initiative (SSCBT)
- One of the trade facilitation Instrument is the COMESA Green Pass, which is a certification system meant to support trade in agricultural commodities. The Green Pass is a risk-based certification system
- COMESA is implementing the Green Pass (GP) Certification System with a pilot on dried fish (salted/smoked) in Luangwa as the source of the fish and Kasumbalesa as the uptake market of the fish.Reduce post-harvest losses
- Equipment installed and commissioned in Luangwa District by COMESA for sampling, rapid testing, weighing and storage of the fish, to improve sanitary of products
- Regional Enterprise Competitiveness and Access to Markets Programme (RECAMP) EU supported program: Fisheries is one of the value chains
- Call for proposal has already been done! TAF – open for application, so far we received application from 8 countries including Rwanda, Uganda, Zambia, Mauritius, Eritrea, Egypt, Seychelles, Sudan

Partners:

USAID: Enhancing livestock trade (RDOAG)-Not any more

EU/EDF-AU-IBAR: LivellAfrica and FishGOVII through AU-IBAR

EU/EDF-IOC: ECOFISH

EU/EDF: Small Scale Cross Border Trade Initiative (SSCBT)

EU/EDF: COMESA IA Regional Enterprise Competitiveness and Access to Markets Programme (RECAMP) FED/2019/407-838

FAO: Technical support / control of PPR and small ruminant respiratory diseases

OIE: Technical support/Animal health, biosecurity, food safety

### **3.3.5. ECCAS: Dr, Baschirou Moussa Demsa on behalf of Mr Emmanuel SABUNI**

Dr. Baschirou's presentation covered activities carried out, those in progress or planned in Central Africa for fisheries and aquaculture development. He informed participant that AU-IBAR financed a consultancy mission to take stock of the collaboration and cooperation relations between the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) and the Regional Fisheries Commission of the Gulf of Guinea ( COREP). AU-IBAR also financed the work of drafting the Institutional Liaison Agreement between ECCAS and COREP which was signed in Libreville on September 17, 2015. This Agreement had enabled a better harmonization of the relations of collaboration and cooperation between the two Institutions as well as the strengthening of the new institutional dimension of COREP as a specialized technical institution of ECCAS.

AU-IBAR had also made it possible to carry out a study on the establishment of a regional MCS coordination unit within COREP, a study validated by the workshop regional meeting held in Nairobi, Kenya, on May 10 and 11, 2018.

Two draft protocols have been developed and are awaiting adoption by the Council of Ministers:

- Protocol relating to the establishment of the Regional MCS Coordination Cell (CCR-SCS);
- Protocol relating to COREP-CRESMAC collaboration and cooperation.

Other Major Achievements include but not limited to the following:-

- The PAF/NEPAD Support Program for COREP, which had been financed by the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency and entitled: «Support for the strengthening of actions in favor of good governance of fisheries in the COREP zone for better contribution of fisheries to national and regional macroeconomic objectives ».
- The ACP FISH II Program which was funded by the European Union and whose specific objective was to strengthen the development and implementation of a sectoral policy on fisheries in ACP

countries.

- The EAF-NANSEN project, which initially supported the Republic of Cameroon and the Gabonese Republic in the implementation of management plans for industrial shrimp fisheries. This project had been extended to the Republic of the Congo and the Democratic Republic of the Congo.
- The project to strengthen fisheries data collection in Central Africa (FAO-COREP project: TCP/SFC/3501) which had been implemented in Cameroon, Congo, DR Congo, Gabon and Sao Tome and Principe

The Commission has the following key regional fisheries governance instruments:

- National strategic plans for the development and implementation of the MCS system;
- Regional MCS Strategic Plan (COREP);
- Convention relating to the determination of the Minimum Conditions of Access, Exploitation and Trade of Fishery Resources within the maritime areas under the jurisdiction of COREP Member States;
- Regional Action Plan to Combat Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing;
- Regional action plan for the management of fishing capacities in the COREP zone;
- Protocol relating to the establishment and management of an information system on fisheries and aquaculture in Central Africa (COREP-SIPA);
- Regional Economic Observatory for Fisheries and Aquaculture;
- Protocol relating to the establishment and management of an information system on fisheries and aquaculture in Central Africa.

COREP seeks the support of AU-IBAR and its partners for the following actions:

- The establishment and operation of the Regional MCS Coordination Unit (CCR-SCS), as an appropriate strategy to facilitate the sharing of operational MCS information between Member States and regional institutions (COREP and CRESMAC), without forgetting the preparation and execution of joint MCS actions by the MS, in liaison with COREP and with CRESMAC/CMC.
- The operationalization of registers of industrial fishing vessels. In this regard, the organization of a regional consultation workshop is planned, not only for the validation of the registers, but above all to decide on the procedures and responsibilities for accessing and using the platform;
- The establishment of the Multinational Coordination Center (CMC)/South Zone, so that the maritime space is fully covered. This is the responsibility of the ECCAS Commission which is called upon to complete the architecture of CRESMAC;
- Training of technical staff assigned to surveillance and control missions as well as national/

- regional observers on board, publication of the manual of operational procedures for monitoring, control and surveillance of fisheries (MCS);
- The establishment of the Regional Center of Excellence in the monitoring of fisheries and aquatic ecosystems, within AGEOS;
- The establishment of the Regional Center of Excellence in training in sea trades and aquaculture, within the «Limbé Nautical Arts and Fisheries Institute», the fish farming center of Logbaba (Douala) to be used for practical work in aquaculture.

### **3.3.6. SADC: Dr Gaolethe Thobokwe**

Highlights of Dr Gaolethe are as summarized below

- a. SADC Policy structures & institutional arrangements for fisheries & aquaculture...
  - SADC Joint Sectoral Committee of Ministers of Agriculture, Food Security, Fisheries & Aquaculture (established through SADC Treaty)
  - SADC Technical Committee on Fisheries (established through Article 19 of Protocol on Fisheries)
  - SADC Working Group on Aquaculture
  - SADC Aquatic Animal Health Subcommittee
  - SADC Aquatic Animal Health & Biosecurity Expert Group
  - SADC Emergency Regional Task Force on EUS
  - SADC-EAC-FAO-WorldFish Platform for Genetics & Biodiversity Management in Aquaculture
  - SADC Task Force on IUU Fishing
  - SADC Regional Technical Team on MCSCC
- b. SADC Fisheries & Aquaculture Priorities for 2020-2030
  - Support to sustainable management of shared fisheries resources, small scale fisheries (SSF) & prioritizing of inland fisheries;
  - Support to regional aquaculture value chains in line with the SADC Industrialisation Strategy;
  - Promoting intra-regional fish trade & investments in the sector, mainly in aquaculture;
  - Strengthening measures to mitigate against effects of COVID-19 pandemic & other disasters like fish diseases outbreaks, drought & floods;
  - Improving efforts to protect aquatic environments, including addressing issues of pollution, especially plastic & micro-plastics pollution;
  - Combating IUU fishing through strengthening of regional cooperation & strengthening of fisheries MCS; &
  - Mainstreaming fisheries & aquaculture into the blue economy/growth framework of the region, & addressing key sectoral cross-cutting blue economy issues (R&D, capacity building,

environmental management), including supporting development of a regional blue economy framework/strategy.

c. The SADC Fisheries Biennium Programme(2021-23)

- Policy alignment & harmonization:
- Including Monitoring implementation of the SADC Protocol on Fisheries (all Member States); Alignment & domestication of the SADC Regional Aquaculture Strategy & Action Plan (2016-2026) (pilot in Botswana, Malawi & Namibia);Alignment & domestication of the SADC Aquatic Animal Health Strategy 2016-2026 (pilot in Botswana, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique & Namibia); and Domestication of the SADC Regional Fisheries MCS Strategy
- Aquaculture value chains:
- Combating IUU fishing & fish crimes:
- Management of shared fisheries resources:
- Small-scale fisheries & institutional strengthening:
- Fish trade facilitation towards intra-regional trade:

d. Areas requiring support from FISHGOV2 Project

- Domestication of the SADC Regional MCS Strategy 2020-2030
- Develop Policy Briefs for alignment of the regional strategy with national strategies/policies/programmes;
- Develop awareness materials (infographic, brochures etc.) to popularize the strategy; &
- Organize a training workshop to popularize strategy.
- Hosting of the 39th Meeting of the SADC Technical Committee on Fisheries 1-4 March 2022, Lilongwe, Malawi
- Support Member States' participation at the meeting (airfares & DSAs)
- Support meeting logistics (venue, interpretation equipment, interpreters)
- Meeting visibility products (banners etc.)
- Roll out domestication & implementation of the Regional Aquaculture Value Chain Priority Action Roadmap (2021)
- Edit & publish the SADC Regional Aquaculture Value Chain Study Report
- Develop awareness materials (infographics, pull up banners & brochures)
- Host species cluster workshops
- Aquaculture & Aquatic Animal Health Training Workshops
- Support LUANAR to offer SADC AquaTrans Training Programme(for youth & women)
- Support a regional EUS Capacity Building Workshop
- Support a regional TiLVCapacity Building Workshop

### 3.4. EXPERT PRESENTATIONS:

#### 3.4.1. PRINCIPLE OF SUBSIDIARITY, NEW AU REFORM AGENDA AND ROLES OF RECS by Mr. Kennedy Oroko

The presentation made by Mr. Kennedy Oroko on The AU Reform Agenda and Roles of the AU, RECs and MSs within the Principle of Complementarity and Subsidiarity is as summarised below:

##### a. The Vision and Agenda 2063 of the African Union

A strategic framework for the socio-economic transformation of the continent over the next 50 years; with a vision of: “An integrated, prosperous and peaceful Africa, driven by its own citizens and representing a dynamic force in global arena.” It builds on, and seeks to accelerate the implementation of past and existing continental initiatives for growth and sustainable development. Implementation of A2063 involves the AU; RECs and MSs through the principle of complementarity and subsidiarity.

##### b. Main Stakeholders

Building a More Relevant African Union” - Kagame Report, 2017 - Findings:

The AU is characterized by: high fragmentation with too many focus areas; complicated structure and limited managerial capacity that lead to inefficient working methods, poor decision-making and a lack of accountability; financial dependence instead on partner funding for much of its financing; Limited Coordination between the African Union and the RECs. The AU’s agenda should therefore be focused on a fewer number of priority areas, which are by nature continental in scope, such as:

- Political affairs,
- Peace and security,
- Economic integration (including the continental free trade area), and
- Africa’s global representation and voice.

The division of labour between the African Union, RECs, regional mechanisms, the Member States and continental institutions should be clarified.

Hence the AU Assembly Decision AU /Dec.690 (XXXI) - 31st Ordinary Session, 1-2 July 2018, Nouakchott, MAURITANIA States that the AU Commission’s structures should be re-evaluated to ensure that they have the right size and capabilities to deliver on the agreed priorities and therefore: (i) mandates the Chairperson of the Commission to develop a new lean departmental structure that is performance-oriented, taking into account the division of labour between the African Union, RECs and Regional Mechanisms, Member States and continental organisations. (ii) requests the Chairperson of the Commission to submit a detailed leaner departmental structure, together with its financial implications, for consideration by the 35th Ordinary Session of the

## Executive Council

### c. Alignment with the division of labour: AU Commission

AU Commission will:

- Conduct research to inform policy making
- Coordinate the development and the formulation of continental policies, frameworks, and Legal Instruments.
- Promote the adoption and implementation of continental policies frameworks and Legal instruments
- Lead strategic partnerships and resource mobilization for continental and flagship programs
- Monitor, review and evaluate progress in the implementation of continental policies and programs

### d. Alignment with the division of labour: AUDA-NEPAD

- AUDA-NEPAD coordinates continental programmatic delivery to achieve Regional Integration. As such, it will:
- Provide program management services for the implementation of continental, regional and national programs
- Manage technical cooperation and program funding
- Monitor and evaluate program implementation
- Collect learning from implementation and share best practices

### e. Alignment with the division of labour: REGIONAL ECONOMIC COMMUNITIES

RECS shall:

- Formulate regional policies in line with the continental orientations.
- Serve as focal points for regional participation in the formulation of continental policies and programs/ projects in consultation with Member States and the AU Commission.
- Support the alignment of national development plans with regional and continental development frameworks in consultation with the AU Commission and Member States.
- Facilitate and coordinate the participation of Member states in the negotiation of legal instruments aimed at building common understanding and position in consultation with the AU Commission.

### f. Alignment with the division of labour: MEMBER STATES

Members States shall:

- Participate in the formulation of regional and continental policies and programs

- Adopt/integrate continental/regional policies and programs as the basis for developing their national visions and plans
- Use the national planning systems; monitoring and evaluation structures, methodologies, systems and processes in the execution of regional/continental policies and programs
- Ensure that the Legislature enacts/ratifies continental policies and programs to accelerate Africa's economic integration and development
- Ensure implementation

g. Reviewed Structure of the AU Commission

- Commission with eight (8) members: Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson and six (6) Commissioners;
- Eight (8) directorates/structures under the Chairperson
- Three (3) directorates/structures under the Deputy Chairperson including two structures: i) Integrity and Standards Directorate including a new Ombudsman function as well as Ethics, and the Secretariat to the Administrative Tribunal; ii) Division of Quality Assurance and Control to provide oversight on Administrative and Finance functions
- Six (6) Portfolio Departments under the six (6) Commissioners
- A Director-General overseeing ten (10) directorates/offices - Service departments – incl HRM; Planning, Budget, Finance, Accounting; Strategic Planning and Delivery; Protocol; Information & Communication; Medical & Health Services

h. Key Reforms

- Reduction of AU Summits from two to one: AU Summit Jan – Feb; Mid-Year Coordination Meeting between the African Union, the Regional Economic Committees and the Regional Mechanisms - June- July
- Competitive recruitment of Commissioners
- Competency assessment of all staff

**3.4.2. MECHANISMS TO ENHANCE ROLE AND PARTICIPATION OF RECS IN AU CONTINENTAL PROJECTS by Mr. George Mba-Asseko;**

- The implementation of the Fish Gov 2 project requires greater involvement of Regional Economic Communities (RECs).
- The role that the latter must play to this end must relate primarily to the function of interface between the coordination of the project (AUC, AU-BIRA and AUDA-NEPAD) and the implementation on the ground of the activities of the project at the level of the Member States. As a result, the coordination at the continental level, which has the means for the project, must

play a facilitating role consisting in communicating and popularizing the project, when the RECs provide the necessary relays for effective implementation on the ground.

- For this, it is necessary at the supra level, to structure and formalize the hierarchical institutional links between the different levels (continental, regional, national), to specify the mandates by discriminating, among other things, between the formulation and the implementation of policies and strategies., strengthen the institutional links between the RECs and the RFOs to formalize the institutional anchoring, consult and involve the Non State Actors (NSA) via in particular the platforms put in place (APRIFAAS, PRNFAA, MOSFA, AWFISHNET, etc.), document the progress and successes and publish them regularly as part of the project communication strategy.
- In addition, at the regional level, it is necessary in particular to align the regional strategies and initiatives such as the African Fisheries Reform Mechanism (AFRM) and the Blue Economy Strategy for Africa (ABES), to integrate into work programs. annual RECs continental and regional meetings, translate continental instruments into regional strategies, ensure the domestication of regional strategic axes in the action plans of RFOs and at the national level, facilitate intra-regional dialogue and determine regional positions , set up regular communication between the actors of the coordination of Fish Gov 2 and with the beneficiaries, structure the institutional link by the designation of regional focal points within the RECs (in addition to the ORP).
- Regarding the representation of the continent in international forums, it is necessary to use the Centers of Excellence (CoE) as expertise, to list the questions and issues of the day, to prioritize for Africa, to facilitate the participation of delegates in fora and strategic meetings, document, analyze, structure and disseminate knowledge (policy briefs, situation briefs, concept notes, etc.), involve MOSFA to inform about African contributions to fora.

It is also important to:

- Adopt a model of dialogue meeting that allows issues to be placed on the agenda and the publication of regular notes on recent developments for decisions or recommendations;
- Define the annual work plan with each REC and delegate the implementation of field activities (without necessarily transferring funding);
- Provide a report on the progress of the project as well as the treatment of current issues at the regional level twice a year and 1 month before the meeting with the coordination of Fish Gov2.

## 4. WORKING GROUP ON HOW TO STRENGTHEN COLLABORATION AND ROLE OF RECS IN AU-IBAR:

Two working groups were constituted. The working Groups identified the issues and challenges in regional cooperation, collaboration with regards to AU-IBAR/AUDA-NEPAD in projects, programmes related to fisheries, aquaculture, and blue economy and made appropriate recommendations. Their recommendations were presented at a plenary session and is contained below in this report as Section 4.1 (4.1.1. & 4.1.2)

### 4.1. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE WORKING GROUPS

Participants were divided into two groups namely - Francophone Group and Anglophones Group.

#### 4.1.1. GROUP 1: FRANCOPHONE GROUP: UMA, ECOWAS, AND ECCAS

Presentation done by Mr Sylla, Ibrahima (ECOWAS).

| No. | What are the issues      | What are the problems or challenges  | Recommendations  |
|-----|--------------------------|--|--|
| 1   | Institutional framework: | It should be at the national and regional level.<br>There are some issues with the people appointed.<br>Formalization of institutional framework           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Capacity building of people involved in the project</li> </ul>  |
| 2   | Dialogue framework       | Lack of conception and designing of project<br>Lack of ownership of project  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Need to put in place a permanent framework for dialogue</li> <li>Framework for consultation to be established between the RECs.</li> <li>Need to involve the concerned stakeholders throughout the process</li> </ul> |
| 3   | Coordination             | Lack of consultation for the establishment of coordination systems<br>Need coordination among stakeholders   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Relevant stakeholder to be involved</li> <li>Determine composition of steering committee for design of program and focal points</li> </ul>  |
| 4   | Themes of projects       | Poor relevance of topics   | All stakeholder to be involved. Their involvement could help with a better design of themes  |
| 5   | Communications           | Low level of understanding and use of communications channels and tools.<br>Need better understanding of the tool<br>Poor communication among stakeholders | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Capacity building</li> <li>Training</li> <li>Need to give the necessary equipment to communication agents</li> <li>Creation of dialogue platforms</li> </ul>  |
| 6   | Monitoring & evaluation  | Weak sensitization of indicators.<br>Lack of knowledge and understanding of the indicators   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enhance sensitization of team doing implementations</li> <li>M&amp;E should be done based on indicators;</li> </ul>   |

| No. | What are the issues   | What are the problems or challenges  | Recommendations   |
|-----|---|--|---|
| 7   | Low Capitalization on results and achievement/Very little done at country and RECs level to make sure of capitalization on results. |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Need to put in place a system of archives to indicate what is done and lesson learned to avoid recycling same projects or making same mistakes.</li> <li>• Strategy of sustainability</li> <li>• End results to be capitalized on</li> </ul> |
| 8   | Strategy of sustainability (goes hand in hand with Capitalization on end results)   | Weak identification of regional and national structure.<br>Not clear which structure oversees what.<br>Unclear role distribution | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify relevant results, achieved or not</li> <li>• Advocacy and fund mobilization</li> <li>• Draft new projects</li> </ul>  |

#### 4.1.2. GROUP 2 ANGLOPHONE GROUP: COMESA, EAC, AND SADC

Presentation done by Mr David Balikowa (EAC).

| No. | What are the issues  | What are the problems or challenges   | Recommendations  |
|-----|--|---|--|
| 1   | Engagement /Participation of RECs in identifications of Project ideas                      | The limited engagement of stakeholders at Member State level and RECs in the identification of issues   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased engagement of RECs in the identification of issues requiring project intervention</li> <li>• Engage at partners level</li> </ul>  |
| 2   | Engagement /Participation of RECs in development of Project Concepts/Proposals formulation | The limited engagement of RECs in the development of project concepts and proposal design process   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased engagement of RECs in the development of project concepts and proposals</li> </ul>  |
| 3   | Joint Resource mobilization and allocation   | RECs not involved as partners in resource mobilization process  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Joint resource mobilization (AU-IBAR / AUDA-NEPAD and RECs).</li> <li>• Allocation of resources to RECs as partners in implementation of projects</li> </ul>  |
| 4   | Subsidiarity and complementarity in implementation of projects                             | The mandate of RECS not taken into consideration in design and implementation of projects<br>Cumbersome for AUIBAR AUDA NEPAD to find the resources and capital/shared responsibilities | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Whenever necessary, AU-IBAR/AUDA should always go together with RECs to the Member States</li> <li>• The role of RECs in the implementation of projects should be clearly spelled out in the project documents</li> </ul>   |
| 5   | Coordination   | Limited timely synchronization of the calendar of activities<br>RECs have limited dedicated staff for project implementation  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Synchronization of the calendar of activities</li> <li>• Build role of RECs in projects design</li> <li>• Employment of project staff in RECs for improved project coordination</li> <li>• Improving information sharing</li> </ul>   |
| 6   | Capacity building  | Limited capacity building programs  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strengthening the capacity of RECs (Human, financial and infrastructure)</li> <li>• Limited staff of RECs, with the project design provide for staff to be employed by AUIBAR attached to each RECs</li> <li>• Communication and information sharing to continue</li> <li>• Training RECs to strengthen their capacity. It could be inbuilt in project designs</li> <li>• Equipment for REC to strengthen their capacity</li> </ul> |

## 5. OUTCOMES OF THE MEETING

The meeting among others came up with the following outcomes;

- i. Information was shared on the FishGov2 Project Activities in the following areas;
  - a. Project Activities and implementation Mechanisms.
  - b. The Roles of RECs in supporting the implementation.
  - c. Communication and visibility as well as Monitoring and Evaluation of the Project.
- ii. The RECs also shared information on their respective activities on Fisheries, Aquaculture and Blue Economy.
- iii. Expert's information and perspectives on enhancing linkages, collaboration and cooperation among institutions and organizations in Fisheries, Aquaculture and Blue Economy in Africa was also shared.
- iv. Issues in regional cooperation, collaboration with regards to AU-IBAR/AUDA-NEPAD in projects, programmes related to Fisheries Aquaculture and Blue Economy were identified, their challenges enumerated and solutions proffered as recommendations for each of the identified issue.
- v. The meeting provided an excellent forum for the RECs to interact amongst themselves, share ideas and contributed to enhancing communication between them for knowledge and awareness of each other's activities and brainstorm effective ways to move the sector forward on individual and collective basis

## 6. NEXT STEPS

The implementing agencies are to prepare a comprehensive Workplan for 2022 and share before the next dialogue meeting expected to hold in the First Quarter of 2022.

## 7. WAY FORWARD

Consider and brainstorm on mechanism for establishing a platform of RECs on Fisheries, Aquaculture and Blue Economy for a more effective and productive dialogues in the sector.

## 8. CONCLUSION

Dr Faouzia the delegate from UMA gave a vote of thanks on behalf of participants and expressed gratitude to the AUDA-NEPAD and AU-IBAR for organizing a very productive workshop. The participants reiterated their commitment to promote sustainable fisheries with enhanced efforts

towards effective institutional cooperation and collaboration. The meeting was formally closed by the representative of the Ag. Director of AU-IBAR, Mrs. Patricia Lumba. She expressed satisfaction with efforts demonstrated by delegates in the quality of their inputs and intense discussions regarding cooperation and integration in addressing burning issues in the fisheries and aquaculture. She wished participants safe journey back to their respective destinations.

## 9. ANNEXES

### ANNEX I: PROVISIONAL AGENDA



AFRICAN UNION  
INTERAFRICAN BUREAU  
FOR ANIMAL RESOURCES



AUDA-NEPAD  
AFRICAN UNION DEVELOPMENT AGENCY



#### PROVISIONAL AGENDA

#### DIALOGUE WITH REGIONAL ECONOMIC COMMUNITIES (RECS) IMPLEMENTATION OF FISHERIES GOVERNANCE PROJECT PHASE 2 (FISHGOV 2)

29 November – 01 DECEMBER 2021  
NANASHA, KENYA

| Time   | Activity  | Facilitator  |
|--|---|--|
| <b>Day 1: 29<sup>th</sup> November 2021</b>  |   |  |
| 08:30-09:00  | OPENING SESSION / WELCOME   | AU-IBAR: Jemima Makanda                                  |
|  | OFFICIAL OPENING SESSION  | Moderator: Dr. Mohamed Seisay                            |
| 09:00-10:00  | <p><u>Welcome remarks by AU-IBAR</u><br/>Madam Patricia Lumba</p> <p><u>Statement:</u><br/>Dr. Clement Adjorlolo AUDA-NEPAD</p> <p>Objectives of the workshop</p> | Linda Gouman, Programme Assistant, Fishgov 2, AUDA-NEPAD |
| <b>Technical Sessions</b>  |   |  |
| <b>SESSION 1<br/>SETTING THE SCENE PRESENTATIONS</b>   |   | Moderator/Presenters<br>Dr. Clement Adjorlolo            |
| 10:00-10:30  | Theory of Change for Fishgov 2  | Mr. Kennedy Orok   |
| 10:30-11:00  | Overview of Fishgov 2 project   | Dr. Mohamed Seisay                                       |
| 11:00-11:20  | FAMILY PHOTO AND TEA BREAK  |  |
| <b>SESSION 2<br/>INFORMATION ON STATUS: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FIRST YEAR<br/>WORKPLAN, OUTSTANDING AND CHALLENGES?</b> |   | Moderator/Presenters<br>Mr. Obinna Anozie                |
| 11:20-11:50  | AU-IBAR   | Ms. Hellen Moepi   |

|  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| 11:50-12:20  | AUDA-NEPAD   | Dr. Clement Adjorlolo                          |
| 12:20-12:40  | Budget Expenditure   | AU-IBAR and AUDA                               |
| 12:40-13:10  | Discussion   |  |
| 13:10-14:10  | LUNCH  | ALL  |
| INFORMATION ON STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION, OUTSTANDING AND CHALLENGES? |  | Moderator/Presenters<br>Mr. Obinna Anozie      |
| 14:10-14:40  | Anticipated role of RECs to support Project Implementation   | Ms. Hellen Moepi                               |
| 14:40-15:05  | Outcomes of coordination meetings between implementing partners  | Ms. Patricia Lumba                             |
| 15:05-15:20  | Outcomes of consultations with EU, Internal procurement Committee at AUC and Recent developments – on project implementation | Dr. Mohamed Seisay                             |
| 15:20-15:35  | TEA BREAK  |  |
| INFORMATION ON STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION, OUTSTANDING AND CHALLENGES? |  | Moderator/Presenters<br>Dr. Clemet Adjorlolo   |
| 15:35-16:05  | Communication, visibility and knowledge management ; what has been do far  | Mrs. Patricia Lumba                            |
| 16:05-16:35  | Monitoring, Evaluation and Logframe; what has been done so far   | Mr. Admore Chakadenga                          |
| 16:35-16:55  | DISCUSSIONS  |  |
| 16:55-17:00  | CLOSURE FOR THE DAY  |  |
| <b>Day 2: 30<sup>th</sup> November 2021</b>                          |  | <b>Moderator/Presenters<br/>Patricia Lumba</b> |
| 09:00-09:15  | RECAP  | Mr. Obinna Anozie                              |
|  | PRESENTATIONS OF ACTIVITIES OF RECS IN FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE   | Dr. Clement Adjorlolo                          |
| 09:15-09:45  | ECOWAS   | Mr. Ibrahima Sylla                             |
| 09:45-10:15  | UMA  | Dr. Faouzia Chakiri Boulouiz                   |
| 10:15-10:45  | EAC  | Dr. David Balikowa                             |
| 10:45-11:15  | IGAD   | Dr. Eshete Degen                               |
| 11:15-11:30  | TEA BREAK  |  |
| 11:30-12:00  | COMESA   | Dr. Yoseph Mamo                                |

|   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| 12:00-12:30                                 | ECCAS   | Dr Baschirou Moussa Demsa                         |
| 12:30-13:00                                 | SADC  | Dr Gaolathe Thobokwe                              |
| 13:00-14:00                                 | LUNCH   |   |
| 14:00-14:30                                 | CEN-SAD   | TBD   |
| 14:30-15:00                                 | Discussions on synergies  |   |
|   | EXPERT PRESENTATIONS  |   |
| 15:00-15:30                                 | Principle of Subsidiarity, New AU Reform Agenda and Roles of RECs   | Mr. Kennedy Oroko                                 |
| 15:30-16:00                                 | Mechanisms to enhance role and participation of RECs in AU continental projects and other initiatives   | Mrs. George Mba-Asseko                            |
| 16:00-16:30                                 | Discussions   |   |
| 16:30-17:00                                 | closure   |   |
| <b>DAY 3 – 1<sup>st</sup> December 2021</b> |   | <b>Moderator/Presenters<br/>Dr. Kennedy Oroko</b> |
| 09:00-09:15                                 | RECAP   | Ms. Hellen Moepi                                  |
| 09:15-09:20                                 | Presentations of working group objectives and tasks   | Dr. Mohamed Seisay                                |
| 09:20-11:20                                 | Working on how to strengthen collaboration and enhance role of RECs in AU-IBAR (and in general AU) projects' and initiatives:<br><br>TWO WORKING GROUPS |   |
| 10:15-10:30                                 | TEA BREAK   |   |
| 10:30-12:00                                 | Working Group Session on how to strengthen collaboration and enhance role of RECs in AU projects and other initiatives;<br><br>TWO WORKING GROUPS       |   |
| 12:00-13:00                                 | LUNCH   |   |
| 13:00-14:00                                 | Plenary   |   |
| 14:00-14:30                                 | CLOSURE   |   |

## ANNEX 2: LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

|    | Country      | Name               | Organisation | Email Address  |
|----|--------------|--------------------|--------------|--|
| 1  | Zambia       | Yoseph Mamo        | COMESA       | <a href="mailto:YMamo@comesa.int">YMamo@comesa.int</a>                                   |
| 2  | Zambia       | Joseph Mpunga      | COMESA       | <a href="mailto:JMpunga@comesa.int">JMpunga@comesa.int</a>                               |
| 3  | Botswana     | Gaolathe Thobokwe  | SADC         | <a href="mailto:gthobokwe@sadc.int">gthobokwe@sadc.int</a>                               |
| 4  | Morocco      | Faouzia Chakiri    | UMA          | <a href="mailto:sg.chakiri@gmail.com">sg.chakiri@gmail.com</a>                           |
| 5  | Morocco      | Souad Choukri      | UMA          | <a href="mailto:souad.oumaima@hotmail.com">souad.oumaima@hotmail.com</a>                 |
| 6  | Uganda       | Rhoda Tumwebaze    | EAC          | <a href="mailto:t60rhoda@gmail.com">t60rhoda@gmail.com</a>                               |
| 7  | Tanzania     | David Balikowa     | EAC          | <a href="mailto:dbalikowa@eachq.org">dbalikowa@eachq.org</a>                             |
| 8  | Nigeria      | Ibrahima Sylla     | ECOWAS       | <a href="mailto:Ibrahima.Sylla@fao.org">Ibrahima.Sylla@fao.org</a>                       |
| 9  | Djibouti     | Eshete Dejen       | IGAD         | <a href="mailto:Eshete.Dejen@igad.int">Eshete.Dejen@igad.int</a>                         |
| 10 | Gabon        | Baschirou Demsa    | ECCAS        | <a href="mailto:moussademsa.baschirou@gmail.com">moussademsa.baschirou@gmail.com</a>     |
| 11 | Gabon        | Georges Mba Asseko | Consultant   | <a href="mailto:g.h.mbasseko@gmail.com">g.h.mbasseko@gmail.com</a>                       |
| 12 | Kenya        | Mohamed Seisay     | AU-IBAR      | <a href="mailto:mohamed.seisaya@au-ibar.org">mohamed.seisaya@au-ibar.org</a>             |
| 13 | Kenya        | Hellen Moepi       | AU-IBAR      | <a href="mailto:hellen.moepia@au-ibar.org">hellen.moepia@au-ibar.org</a>                 |
| 14 | Kenya        | Patricia Lumba     | AU-IBAR      | <a href="mailto:patricia.lumbaa@au-ibar.org">patricia.lumbaa@au-ibar.org</a>             |
| 15 | Kenya        | Catherine Oduor    | AU-IBAR      | <a href="mailto:catherine.oduora@au-ibar.org">catherine.oduora@au-ibar.org</a>           |
| 16 | Kenya        | Obinna Anozie      | AU-IBAR      | <a href="mailto:obinna.anoziea@au-ibar.org">obinna.anoziea@au-ibar.org</a>               |
| 17 | South Africa | Clement Adjorlolo  | AUDA-NEPAD   | <a href="mailto:clement.adjorloloa@auda-nepad.org">clement.adjorloloa@auda-nepad.org</a> |
| 18 | South Africa | Linda Gouman       | AUDA-NEPAD   | <a href="mailto:linda.goumana@auda-nepad.org">linda.goumana@auda-nepad.org</a>           |

## ANNEX 3: SPEECHES, STATEMENTS AND REMARKS

### **OPENING REMARKS BY THE AG. DIRECTOR OF AU-IBAR DIALOGUE WITH AND SENSITIZATION OF REGIONAL ECONOMIC COMMUNITIES IMPLEMENTATION OF FISHERIES GOVERNANCE PROJECT 29TH NOVEMBER TO 1ST DECEMBER 2021**

**Representatives of Regional Economic Communities**

**Representatives of AUDA-NEPAD**

**Colleagues at AU-IBAR**

Very Good Morning. On behalf of the Ag. Director of AU-IBAR. Dr. Nick Mwankpa, I wish to extend sincere appreciation and welcome you to this first dialogue and sensitization meeting with the regional economic communities on the implementation and emerging issues of the Fisheries Governance project phase 2 (popularly known as Fishgov 2). Regrettably, the Ag. Director cannot be with us today due to some other pressing schedules for which he offers his sincere apology.

Delegates, in close collaboration with our partner, AUDA-NEPAD, we are now concluding the first year implementation of the Fishgov 2 project which officially commenced on the 1st January 2021. The project provides for dialogue with the RECs biannually aimed at sharing information, updating and sensitizing on the implementation of project along with other emerging issues during the course of implementation. We are therefore gathered here this morning and for the subsequent two days for this purpose.

In all projects and programmes by African Union, not least by AU-IBAR and AUDA-NEPAD, it is recognized that the RECs have a critical role to play especially as interface between continental initiatives and the AU member states. It is within this spirit that it was deemed necessary to have regular dialogue with the RECs to ensure we are all on the same level of information as the activities of the project are being rolled out. The dialogue also provides opportunities for the RECs to give feedback and recommendations; be assured that whatever recommendation is made during the dialogue, AU-IBAR will convey these to the donor; that is the European Union.

As delegates may be aware, the implementation of the project has faced considerable challenges, starting with the devastating effects of the corona virus pandemic that has negatively impacted on project implementation; slow pace of recruitment of key project staff; yet to be concluded as

well as commissioning of relevant studies in the project. Despite these temporary setbacks, there has been some measure of progress in the implementation of project activities. This is largely attributed to the dedicated and collaborative effort between AU-IBAR and AUDA-NEPAD; these achievements will be elaborated in the course of these three days.

Before concluding, it is my privilege to express how delightful we are to have seven RECs represented at this meeting. This demonstrates your commitment and interest to African Union development agenda. I also take this opportunity to thank the European Union for their support to continental fisheries and aquaculture development.

I thank you and wish you a successful dialogue.

**DIALOGUE WITH REGIONAL ECONOMIC COMMUNITIES (RECS)  
IMPLEMENTATION OF FISHERIES GOVERNANCE PROJECT PHASE2  
(FISHGOV 2)**

**29th November to 1st December, 2021**

**Clement Adjorlolo**

**Program Manager for Fisheries and Aquaculture**

Representative of Ag. Director of AU-IBAR,

Honourable Representatives of Regional Economic Communities

Ladies and Gentlemen

- Receive warm greetings from Dr Ibrahim Mayaki, the Chief Executive Officer of the African Union Development Agency (AUDA-NEPAD).
- Thank for making it to this dialogue with RECs on the implementation of Fisheries Governance Project Phase 2.
- It is a great honour and pleasure for the African Union and particularly for the AUDA-NEPAD Agency to collaborate with the AU-IBAR in co-hosting this dialogue.
- Over the next three days, the meeting will attempt, inter alia, provide a platform to take stock of the progress and challenges related to the implementation of FishGov-2 Project.

Distinguished delegates,

- The significance of this dialogue is to sensitize you on what is expected from you in advancing the fisheries and aquaculture sectors in Africa.
- We are appreciative that you made yourselves available despite your busy schedules, which

in itself is an indication of how important this is to you. We are grateful for your attendance and coverage. It will help sensitize the general public of our path to advance the fisheries and aquaculture sectors for Africa's social and economic transformation.

- Distinguished delegates, permit me in a very special way to convey sincere thanks to the RECs, who have continuously been in the forefront in the implementation of African Union Decisions, including CAADP and Fisheries (PFRS) agenda, and acting as entry point for AUDA-NEPAD and our key partners to their Member States. It is on this note that I wish to reconfirm AUDA-NEPAD commitment to collaborate with all our partners, specifically the European Commission, towards the successful implementation of the FishGov-2 Action.
- It is now my singular honour to wish us all a fruitful deliberations.

I thank you for your attention!!

### **CLOSING REMARKS BY ACTING DIRECTOR OF AU-IBAR, DR NICK NWANKPA, DELIVERED BY MRS PATRICIA LUMBA-1 DECEMBER 2021**

On behalf of the AU-IBAR Acting Director, Dr Nick Nwankpa I wish to convey my gratitude to distinguished representative of the six RECs present in this meeting. I would like to express my satisfaction for your individual efforts demonstrated in the quality of your inputs and intense discussions we had regarding cooperation and integration in addressing burning issues in the fisheries and aquaculture. I am happy to note that this had contributed towards realisation of the objectives of this workshop.

Without doubt RECs are the AU building blocks, and colleagues will agree with me that if the foundation is weak we risk a chance of collapsing implementation of AU initiatives including that of AU-IBAR. So we appreciate your frankness in the discussions, and your acknowledgement and understanding the pitfalls that comes with implementing a donor-funded project.

We understand it has not been a smooth ride since the formulation of the FishGov 2 project, however you have proven to us the level of maturity you possess and your professionalism depicting the values and principles of the organization you represent.

We have taken note of your recommendation particularly on strengthening and enhancing REC's role in AU-IBAR projects and initiatives. We can assure you that we will act on them. Your participation in the next FishGov 2 Project Steering Committee (PSC) is crucial so that some of your proposed recommendation could be immediately discussed and decision be made.

I would like to thank my sister organisation, AUDA-NEPAD for your strong partnership. Please Dr Clement and Madame Linda, convey my sincere gratitude to the CEO of AUDA-NEPAD, Dr Mayaki. Special thanks goes to our Experts who enriched and provoked the discussions. A round of applause to our interpretation for working tirelessly in bridging the communication gaps. Finally, I would like to appreciate my AU-IBAR colleagues for the collective effort in ensuring success of this meeting and lastly European Union for funding the FishGov 2 project.

I would like to leave you with this powerful message on hope especially in our collaborative engagements in implementing the FishGov 2 project by Frederick Douglass “If there is no struggle, there is no progress.” so the victory is certain!!!

I wish you safe travel back home!!

The meeting is officially closed!!!



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