

**SUMMARY REPORT**  
**Annual Informal Coordination Meeting LDAC – FAO**  
**Rome, Thursday 19 September 2019**  
**Author: Alexandre Rodriguez (LDAC)**

**List of participants**

**FAO**

Audun Lem (FIAX) AL  
Marcio Castro de Souza (FIAM) MCS  
Mariana Toussaint (FIAM) MT  
Jose Estors JE  
Piero Mannini PM

**LDAC**

Iván López (Chair) IL  
Béatrice Gorez (First Vice Chair) BG  
Alexandre Rodriguez (Secretary) AR  
Apologies from Jane Sandell (Chair WG2)

**SUMMARY LIST OF ACTIONS**

International Ocean and Fisheries Governance

- LDAC to share relevant advice of interest for FAO (CFP External Dimension components incl. SFPAs and RFMOs, UN processes such as UNGA or BBNJ; CBD, CITES; fight against IUU fishing...) amongst interested colleagues on this subject.
- LDAC to ask the EU to put forward at next FAO COFI in June 2020 to develop specific work on developing regional structures and mechanisms to improve accountability, transparency of fishing activities and ensure enforcement in unregulated areas of the high seas, with particular focus on small pelagics in West Africa (both CECAF and EEZ waters of third countries), Atlantic Southwest (FAO 41) and Arctic Ocean.

FAO Consultation on Social Responsibility in Fisheries Value Chains

- LDAC to read the last “7 pager” version of the FAO guidance document and provide comments and feedback to MCS/MT for the development of Appendixes for the following VCs: a) small scale fishing and b) Industrial fishing.
- LDAC delegation (IL-BG-AR) to attend FAO Sub-Committee on Fish Trade in Vigo in November 2019 and promote the adoption of guidance document as LDAC and via different organisations (e.g. ICFA, CFFA, EU)
- IL-BG to share views with MCS on debate on requirements for social certification of fisheries and harmonisation of rules on fish trade related to imports to the EU market (i.e. debate on rules of origin, sustainable chapter of GSP+, labour conditions and requirements including collective bargaining, etc.)

### FAO International Symposium on Fisheries Sustainability: Strengthening the Science-Policy Nexus (Rome, 18-21 November 2019)

- IL-BG-AR LDAC to identify and send to AL/MT the names and contact details of suggested DG MARE-DG ENV representatives and those new MEPs from the European Parliament's Fisheries Committee (EP-PECH) which might be interested in the work of FAO.
- BG/LDAC to provide any specific data or information on small-scale fisheries to FIAM team to assist debates at the dedicated panel.
- LDAC delegates to register and participate at this meeting, during the sectorial panels in particular on the Status of Global and Regional Fisheries Sustainability, Fisheries and Food Security, the Economics of fisheries, Policy opportunities for fisheries in the 21st century.

### Blue Economy / Blue Growth Initiative

- LDAC to work with FAO on raising the profile of fishing in the Blue Economy and Blue Growth Strategy given its importance as animal protein and source of human nutrition for the world population.
- LDAC to assist and provide ideas to JE on structure, content and gender balance equity and equality issues for future ToR for a Seminar to establish Blue Forums with stakeholders in different fisheries in the world.
- LDAC to suggest industry representatives from EU long distance fleets, fishing investments and companies in EU, Asia and Africa and artisanal fishermen from Africa to participate at these forums.
- LDAC to share their experience with 2015 Las Palmas Conference on International Fisheries Cooperation between EU and Africa and further attempts to organise regional dialogues with third countries on issues such as transparency of SFPAs and third country CSO and non state platforms.
- Link Blue Growth to Gender component where possible.

### ABNJ Deep-sea Project

- LDAC to request its members to authorise engagement and participation at this Project (modality to be agreed) and inform William Emerson.
- LDAC to ask formally to be engaged in this Project as partner or external advisor.

### RFMOs – Coordination on Horizontal Issues

- AR to provide background information and contact on a regular basis with PR for LDAC on-going advice to several RFMOs (NAFO, NEAFC, ICCAT, IOTC...)
- FAO to inform the LDAC regularly on work progress of RFB (Regional Fishery Body Secretariat's Network) and in particular follow work on horizontal issues such as fishing capacity, fight against IUU fishing, performance reviews, use and management of FADs for tuna purse seine fisheries, etc. Try also to include social considerations.
- LDAC to promote role and importance of RFMOs in BBNJ and CBD for sharing methodologies on impact assessments for human activities in the high seas.