



**GENERAL FISHERIES COMMISSION FOR
THE MEDITERRANEAN**

**COMMISSION GÉNÉRALE DES PÊCHES
POUR LA MÉDITERRANÉE**



Sixth Session of the Compliance Committee (CoC)

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**STATUS OF DATA AND INFORMATION SUBMISSIONS
BY MEMBERS AND MANAGEMENT OF GFCM DATABASES
BY THE SECRETARIAT***

*available only in English

INTRODUCTION

1. This document provides information on the data submitted by Members in fulfilment of their related obligations specified in various GFCM decisions, as at 11th May 2012. It also gives an overview of the work conducted by the Secretariat in the development of software and management of regional databases in support of these decisions.

I. VESSEL RECORDS

resolution GFCM/35/2011/1 on the submission of combined data on fishing vessels

2. The GFCM Vessel Records combines four of the fishing vessel-related data submissions:

- a) Regional Fleet Register
(rec. GFCM/33/2009/5 on the establishment of the GFCM regional fleet register)
- b) Authorized Vessel List
(rec. GFCM/33/2009/6 concerning the establishment of a GFCM record of vessels over 15 metres authorized to operate in the GFCM area)
- c) Fisheries Restricted Area - Gulf of Lyons
(rec. GFCM/33/2009/1 on the establishment of a fisheries restricted area in the Gulf of Lyons to protect spawning aggregations and deep sea sensitive habitats)
- d) Minimum Mesh Size
(rec. GFCM/33/2009/2 on the minimum mesh size in the codend of demersal trawl nets)

3. The database of the GFCM Vessel Records (GFCM-VR), as result of the merging process of the four existing DBs related to the fleet into a unique entity, has been updated by the Secretariat with every data submission. The information about the Authorised Vessels List (AVL) has continued to be made available to stakeholders for consultation through the web-based AVL browser. In parallel, the design of the GFCM Vessel Records Information System (GFCM-VRIS) on the basis of the AVL Data Browser is in progress.

4. The GFCM Secretariat has defined the data submission protocols (electronic data communication tool, XML and CSV schema definition) which are available on the GFCM website¹.
5. The GFCM-VR currently includes 48,756 vessels (73,302 records) from twenty countries. The quality of data and frequency of updates varies and roughly 5% of vessels have not been assigned a GFCM Unique Identifier (corresponding to seven countries). Dates of the most recent submissions are included in Appendix A.
6. To date, Greece is the only member which has submitted its vessels list as a single dataset as defined in Annex 1 of the resolution GFCM/35/2011/1.
7. The percentage of coverage for selected fields is included in Appendix B.

II. RED CORAL

recommendation GFCM/35/2011/2 on the exploitation of red coral in the GFCM competence area

8. The Secretariat did not receive any information related to list of authorizations issued, together with the date of their issuance, of Remotely Operated underwater Vehicles (ROVs) as requested by Article 3. Moreover, no information about the national management framework and the studies carried out at national level to apply the derogation described in Article 5 have been submitted as specified in Article 6. The Secretariat has also not yet received neither the authorized fishermen record nor the daily catches and fishing effort by area and depths as requested by Article 7.
9. The data-entry/reporting-tool for the submission of information as specified in Article 6 and based on the format agreed at the last SAC session (Bulgaria, February 2012) is under development by the Secretariat. Once finalized, it will be made available on the GFCM website.

III. IUU LIST

recommendation GFCM/33/2009/8 on the establishment of a list of vessels presumed to have carried out IUU fishing in the GFCM area repealing recommendation GFCM/2006/4

10. There were no reports received by the Secretariat from Members during the intersessional period on vessels presumed to have carried out Illegal, Unreported or Unregulated (IUU) fishing activities in the GFCM area.
11. A dedicated web section to IUU is kept updated on the GFCM website² which includes links to IUU lists of other Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RMFOs).
12. The European Union informed the GFCM Secretariat, on 6 May 2011, of the EU Commission Regulation 468/2010 establishing the EU list of vessels engaged in IUU. This has been included in the webpage mentioned above.

IV. PORT STATE MEASURES

recommendation GFCM/2008/1 on a regional scheme on port state measures to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing in the GFCM area

13. No additional lists of designated national ports to which foreign vessels may be granted with access have been received by the Secretariat during the intersessional period, as requested by Articles

¹ <http://www.gfcm.org/gfcm/topic/16106/en>

² <http://www.gfcm.org/gfcm/topic/166233/en>

10 and 11 of this Recommendation. Thus, the record of ports maintained by the Secretariat currently only contains the list of ports submitted by Lebanon and Malta which had been received before the 33rd Session. No information concerning inspections carried out in these ports, in line with Annex E, has been received.

V. DOLPHINFISH FISHERIES

recommendation GFCM/2006/2 on the establishment of a closed season for the dolphinfish fisheries based on fishing aggregation devices (fads)

14. Annual report on the implementation of the management and monitoring measures specified in Articles 1, 2 and 3 of this Recommendation has been received from Malta and Spain (for the reference year 2011) during the intersessional period. The information received since 2006 is available for the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) to carry out analyses, as specified in Article 4, on the impact of this measure on dolphin-fish stocks and to suggest possible modifications, if any, to the closure or propose additional management measures.

VI. TASK 1

recommendation GFCM/33/2009/3 on the implementation of the GFCM task 1 statistical matrix and repealing resolution GFCM/31/2007/1

15. The table below summarizes the status of data submission by Members in relation to Task 1 data for the references 2009 (deadline May 2011) and 2010 (deadline May 2012).

Members	Format Compliance	Reference year 2009					Format Compliance	Reference year 2010				
		1.1	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.5		1.1	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.5
Albania	-	-	-	-	-	-	High	C	C	C	C	P
Algeria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bulgaria	High	C	C	P	C	-	High	C	C	P	P	-
Croatia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cyprus	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Egypt	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
France	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Greece	High	C	C	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Israel	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Italy	High	C	C	C	P	P	-	-	-	-	-	-
Japan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lebanon	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Libya	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Malta	High	C	C	C	C	P	-	-	-	-	-	-
Monaco	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Montenegro	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Morocco	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Romania	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Slovenia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Spain	High	C	C	P	P	C	High	C	C	-	C	C
Syrian Arab Republic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tunisia	NC	-	-	-	-	-	High	C	C	C	P	-
Turkey	NC	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

NC = Not Compliant, C = Complete, P = Partial

16. The Secretariat noted that the four datasets (Albania, Bulgaria, Spain and Tunisia) for the reference year 2010 have been sent through the “GFCM Task 1 - Operational Units DB application”, although such data transmission tool should be exclusively used to submit datasets dating back up to 2009. The updated Task 1 Framework (including group of target species and by-catch by group of

species based on the ISSCAAP divisions of ASFIS) currently supports the data submission protocols based on CSV and XML available on the GFCM website³.

17. Furthermore, the Task 1 regional database application has been improved and includes data processing routines and summary outputs. The Task 1 bulletin for the reference year 2009 is one of the outputs from the Task 1 regional information system. A web-based data access, analysis and reporting facilities is envisaged by the Secretariat while ensuring, at the same time, the respect of basic security standards as defined by the resolution GFCM/35/2011/1 “on data confidentiality policy and procedures”.

VII. AQUACULTURE DATA

recommendation GFCM/33/2009/4 on reporting of aquaculture data and information

18. The submission of aquaculture production data (including economic value) started in 2009 in line with Recommendation GFCM/33/2009/4. The submission of data has been performed exclusively through the SIPAM web-based information system⁴.

19. The table below summarizes the status of aquaculture production data submitted by Members.

Members	NUMBER OF RECORDS SUBMITTED (SIPAM)		
	Reference Year 2008	Reference Year 2009	Reference Year 2010
Albania	4	5	7
Algeria	15	15	17
Bulgaria	-	-	54
Croatia	18	19	27
Cyprus	16	13	11
Egypt	26	22	32
France	25	40	21
Greece	7	9	9
Israel	-	-	-
Italy	61	62	70
Japan	-	-	-
Lebanon	-	-	-
Libya	-	-	-
Malta	5	6	9
Monaco	-	-	-
Montenegro	4	4	4
Morocco	7	5	14
Romania	-	-	1
Slovenia	2	11	11
Spain	78	72	71
Syrian Arab Republic	-	-	-
Tunisia	15	12	13
Turkey	10	9	12
	318	330	409

³ <http://www.gfcm.org/gfcm/topic/16164/en>

⁴ <http://www.faosipam.org/>

VIII. VMS***recommendation GFCM/33/2009/7 concerning minimum standards for the establishment of a vessel monitoring system (VMS) in the GFCM area***

20. The Secretariat has received information related to authorities of national Fisheries Monitoring Centres (FMC) as well as national report on the progress of the establishment of VMS by one country only, namely Greece.

21. The Secretariat has not started establishing a database for VMS data to receive data from Members, as specified in Article 16, since Members are still implementing their national systems. In addition some region-wide technical specifications need to be established at later stage. In order to pursue these tasks, the Secretariat would like to point out that substantial supplementary human and financial resources would be required.

IX. CAPTURE PRODUCTION DATA: GSA-COMPATIBLE STATLANT 37A

22. Fifteen Members⁵ together with three non-Member countries⁶ submitted data for the reference year 2010. Most Members reported data using the standard questionnaire specifically designed by the Secretariat for this purpose. The Sub-Committee on Statistics and Information recommended to continue with the STATLANT37A data submission system until further notice.

23. A specific database for the FAO Area 37 has been developed with the support of FAO-FIGIS during the intersessional period and is available on the GFCM website⁷. The capture production data for reference years 2009 and 2010 data are currently being processed.

SUGGESTED ACTION BY THE COMMITTEE

24. The Committee is invited to examine the contents of this document and to provide guidance for further action and follow up. The Committee may also wish to identify, in accordance with Recommendation GFCM/34/2010/3, Members that have not met their obligations.

⁵ Albania, Algeria, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, France, Greece, Italy, Malta, Romania, Slovenia, Spain, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, Turkey

⁶ Palestine, Portugal, Ukraine

⁷ <http://www.gfcm.org/gfcm/topic/17105/en>

Appendix A

Most recent submission of data on vessels
(Status as at 11/05/2012)

MEMBERS	Vessel Records (VRs)*	Regional Fleet Register (RFR)	Authorized Vessel List (AVL)	Fisheries Restricted Area (FRA)	Minimum Mesh Size (MMS)
	Res. GFCM/35/2011/1	Rec. GFCM/33/2009/5	Rec. GFCM/33/2009/6	Rec. GFCM/33/2009/1	Rec. GFCM/33/2009/2
Albania	-	2011-12-27	2011-12-27	-	-
Algeria	-	-	2008-01-28	-	-
Bulgaria	-	2011-04-14	2011-01-27	-	-
Croatia	-	-	2007-10-22	-	-
Cyprus	-	-	2008-10-22	-	-
Egypt	-	-	2008-04-08	-	-
France	-	-	2010-01-01	2010-04-12	2010-03-02
Greece	2012-04-27	2011-04-20	2011-04-13	-	-
Israel	-	-	-	-	-
Italy	-	-	2010-01-01	-	2010-02-22
Japan	-	-	2012-05-01	-	-
Lebanon	-	-	2008-05-20	-	-
Libya	-	-	2007-01-16	-	-
Malta	-	2011-04-14	2009-08-13	-	-
Monaco	-	-	2008-09-02	-	-
Montenegro	-	-	-	-	-
Morocco	-	-	2012-05-03	-	-
Romania	-	2011-04-14	-	-	-
Slovenia	-	2011-08-17	2008-10-22	-	-
Spain	-	2011-05-02	2009-04-01	2010-04-12	-
Syrian Arab Republic	-	-	2008-11-02	-	-
Tunisia	-	-	2011-05-04	-	-
Turkey	-	2011-05-01	2009-09-23	-	2009-12-01

**RFR, AVL, MMS and FRA data submitted as a single dataset*

Appendix B

GFCM Vessel Records - Coverage for selected fields
(Status as at 11/05/2012)

MEMBERS	VESSELS NUMBER			FIELDS COVERAGE													
	ALL	> 15m		VESSEL TYPE		FISHING GEAR		GFCM UNIQUE IDENTIFIER		MINIMUM MESH SIZE		FISHERIES RESTRICTED AREA		VMS INDICATOR		VALID AUTHORIZATION (not expired)	
Albania	511	164	32%	511	100%	511	100%	511	100%					163	32%		
Algeria	544	544	100%														
Bulgaria	2,340	64	3%	2,340	100%	2,340	100%	2,340	100%					57	2%		
Croatia	378	378	100%	378	100%												
Cyprus	15	15	100%	15	100%	15	100%	15	100%							15	100%
Egypt	1,579	1,579	100%	1,579	100%	1,579	100%										
France	152	151	99%	149	98%	150	99%	152	100%	70		36	24%			150	99%
Greece	16,696	626	4%	16,696	100%	16,696	100%	16,696	100%	318	2%			614	4%		
Israel																	
Italy	2648	2,198	83%	2,195	100%	2,198	100%	2,198	100%	450	17%					2,198	100%
Japan	309	309	100%	309	100%	303	98%									309	100%
Lebanon	8	8	100%	8	100%	8	100%										
Libya	271	270	100%	271	100%												
Malta	1,069	59	6%	1,069	100%	1,069	100%	1,069	100%					84	8%		
Monaco	0	0															
Montenegro																	
Morocco	555	555	100%	555	100%	555	100%	555	100%								
Romania	476	7	1%			476	100%	476	100%					4	1%		
Slovenia	186	8	4%	166	89%	186	100%	186	100%					8	4%		
Spain	3,218	926	29%	3,218	100%	3,218	100%	3,218	100%			24	1%	996	31%		
Syrian Arab Republic	31	31	100%	31	100%	31	100%										
Tunisia	821	821	100%					821	100%								
Turkey	17,399	1,225	7%			15,843	91%	17,399	100%	1,372	8%						
	49,206	9,938	20.2%	29,490	60.5%	45,178	92.7%	45,636	93.6%	2,210	4.5%	60	0.1%	1,926	4.0%	2,672	5.5%