

January 2010



**GENERAL FISHERIES COMMISSION  
FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN**

**COMMISSION GÉNÉRALE DES PÊCHES  
POUR LA MÉDITERRANÉE**



<b>GENERAL FISHERIES COMMISSION FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN</b>
<b>SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE</b>
<b>Twelfth Session</b>
<b>Budva, Montenegro 25<sup>th</sup>–29<sup>th</sup> January 2010</b>
<b>SALIENT RESEARCH ACTIVITIES IN MEMBER COUNTRIES*</b>

**\* Only in English**

### **Introduction**

1. This document provides a synthesis of the information contained in 7 national reports received by the Secretariat up to 19th January 2010. It covers, in particular, the description of the current situation of national fisheries, the new management measures implemented as well as the progress made in the field of scientific research during the intersessional period. The information received was analyzed and summarized by the Secretariat (see table in Annex 1). In cases where Members did not submit a national report this year, the information submitted for the previous year(s) was retained in the summary table.

2. This document, together with the respective national reports, should help Members to identify opportunities and synergies for regional cooperation in research activities and management processes.

### **General comments**

3. From the new information reviewed, the following principal points could be identified:
- Information contained in the reports generally focuses on statistical updates, progress in research and scientific activities and new management measures implemented during the intersessional period;

- Progress on the monitoring of stocks in some countries has been noted and detailed information on the status of stocks (previously lacking) within certain GSAs has been provided;
- European Union countries have continued to develop their fisheries data collection programme in line with the revised EC Data Collection Regulation;
- Most countries give prime importance to data collection, statistics and the management of national databases, with some improvements being registered in a number of countries;
- Besides focusing on the status of commercial endemic fish species, research activities are being directed also to alien species, including the impact of invasive algal species. Studies related to subjects such as biodiversity, ecology, marine conservation, reduction of by-catch of non-commercial species, oceanography and pollution are also on-going as in previous years;
- Only three out of the seven countries which submitted a national report for 2009, reported to have a regular data collection framework for socio-economic data in place;
- Six out of the seven reporting countries declared that new management measures have been implemented during the intersessional period.
- The new suggestions for research put forward by the reporting countries this year are very limited. Requests for training in various disciplines were made by one country.

#### **Suggested action by the Committee**

4. SAC is invited to review the progress of the national research activities and to identify areas of cooperation among interested Members. Furthermore, gaps in scientific monitoring and research may be identified along with the requirements for specific external support in some countries, including from sub-regional projects and other regional initiatives.

5. In view of the poor response from countries in submitting their national report, the SAC may wish to review the customary practice related to the submission of national reports and to provide guidance to the Secretariat on the future releases of this meeting document.

### Annex 1. Summary table of National Reports

Member Country	Description of the fisheries	Status of stocks of priority species	Status of the statistics and information system	Status of research in progress	Status of the social sciences studies in progress	Marine environmental studies in progress	National management measures	Research suggestions for consideration by SAC
<b>Algeria (not updated)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Fleet: about 4,000 vessels;</li> <li>Production: 150,000 tonnes.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Demersal species at critical level of exploitation.</li> <li>Pelagic species exploited at optimum level.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ National statistical scheme covers landing sites.</li> <li>A new database is being established.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Main research projects are related to:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Biology, fisheries studies, estimation of exploitable biomass of major demersal, pelagic and large pelagic species.</li> <li>- Processing and value-adding techniques for fish products.</li> <li>- Marketing of fishery products;</li> <li>- The coastal environment;</li> <li>- Physico-chemical characteristics and quality of the environment.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Study on the household consumption of fisheries products was completed.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Quality and classification of aquaculture zones;</li> <li>▪ Study on the environment of the Bay of Bou-Ismaïl.</li> <li>▪ Research on biological indicators for pollutants.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Seasonal closure for highly migratory species;</li> <li>▪ Establishment of minimum marketing size for exploited species.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Development of artisanal fisheries.</li> <li>▪ The effect of the economic crisis on the development of fisheries activities in the Mediterranean. Comparative study on fish prices in Mediterranean countries.</li> </ul>
<b>Bulgaria (not updated)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Fishing activities exclusively in the Black Sea.</li> <li>▪ Fleet: 2,537 vessels</li> <li>▪ Production of main species: 7830 tonnes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ exploitation biomass of turbot in the north region of the Black Sea is:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 938.18 tonnes for autumn and winter period of 2007</li> <li>2. 1251.55 tonnes for spring season 2008</li> </ol> </li> <li>▪ exploitation biomass of</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ National Agency of Fisheries and Aquaculture (NAFA) is responsible for registers of: licenses for commercial and recreational fisheries, persons engaged in fishfarming, fishing vessels, fish markets / centres, registered customers, organisations of fish producers,</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Trawl surveys since 2005</li> </ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Fisheries and Aquaculture Act (FAA) was adopted in 2001 (amended in 2006 and 2008) and determines the management, exploitation, and conservation of the fish resources and the trade with fish and other aquatic organisms.</li> </ul>	

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		<p>turbot in the southern region of the Black Sea is:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 958.38 tonnes for autumn and winter period of 2007</li> <li>2. 714.63 tonnes for spring season 2008</li> </ol> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪The stock of sprat is not overexploited (current biomass is 32,718.246 tonnes)</li> </ul>	trade and processing, licenses for catching fish for scientific purposes.					
<b>Cyprus (updated 2010)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪Fleet (2008): 540 vessels;</li> <li>▪production (2008): 1827 tonnes;</li> <li>▪Total working days in 2008: 100,270</li> <li>▪Fleet operates in GSA 25 and international waters of the central and eastern</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪Monitoring of demersal and large pelagic species in GSA 25, as part of the Cyprus National Fisheries Data Collection Programme, performed under the framework of the Community Data Collection Framework</li> <li>▪In 2009 the status of <i>Mullus barbatus</i> in GSA 25 was</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪The Cyprus National Database for the collection and storage of data in the fisheries sector is comprised of the following databases: i).the Data Collection Network System (Data Transmission), ii) the Central Database and iii) the Fishing Vessel Fleet Register (FVR).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪National Fisheries Data Collection Programme: biological sampling for the evaluation of length and age composition of landings, the estimation of biological parameters (growth, maturity) for a number of species, discards sampling from the bottom otter trawls, Medits trawl survey.</li> <li>▪Project to collect information on the alien species <i>Lagocephalus sceleratus</i></li> <li>▪EU Oceanographic research projects</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪Socio-economic surveys through: Inshore Fishery Production Reports, Logbooks, the Fishing Licences and the Sales Notes, interviews.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪Projects on: marine ecology and biodiversity, anthropogenic effects on the marine ecosystem, marine invasive alien species, eutrophication, endangered aquatic species, MPAs, monitoring of environmental parameters, Ecological Quality Status</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪The National and Community legislation provide for a number of management measures for the regulation of the Cyprus fisheries</li> <li>▪During the intersessional period amendments of the National Fisheries Law were made, specifically for extending the implementation of the VMS in</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪None</li> </ul>

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	Mediterranean.	evaluated using VPA – pseudocoast and Y/R analysis: stock is overexploited.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ A new database developed to address the incorporation of biological and economic information, the creation of an administrative mechanism and data transmission of the fisheries data, became fully operational in 2009.</li> </ul>			of coastal waters, ecology and monitoring of the environmental parameters of the Larnaca Salt Lake complex and Akrotiri wetlands, implementation of the Water framework Directive and Habitats Directive.	vessels less than 15m, and for removing national seasonal closures of the swordfish fishery <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Furthermore, the ICCAT recommendation on the prohibition of fishing for swordfish from 1 October to 30 November 2009, endorsed by GFCM, was implemented.</li> </ul>	
<b>Croatia (not updated)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Activities in GSAs 17 and 18: mainly trawling and small passive gears.</li> <li>▪ External waters and fishing grounds: both trawling and purse seines, with bottom-set longlines;</li> <li>▪ Fleet: 3 710 units;</li> <li>▪ Production:</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Demersal and small pelagic resources: situation relatively stable and positive for some stocks in comparison with the previous years.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ National fisheries statistics system in Croatia based on logbook data;</li> <li>▪ Harmonization of statistical data gathering in Croatia with the EU Fisheries Data Collection Regulation (EC 1543/2000);</li> <li>▪ Setting up of an EU-compliant fleet register.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Scientific efforts are centered around the national monitoring activities;</li> <li>▪ The Institute of Oceanography and Fisheries (IOF) Split participates in the MEDITS survey as well as in the AdriaMed-initiated activities;</li> <li>▪ Specific research projects are taking place, funded directly by the Ministry of Science and Technology.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Study on market organization possibilities;</li> <li>▪ Socio-economical study on certain aspects of fisheries.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Ecosystem research undertaken in the framework of the project “JADRAN”;</li> <li>▪ Environmental monitoring of pelagic ecosystem in the eastern part of GSA 17 within the framework of the PELMON Project;</li> <li>▪ Numerous projects on environmental impact of fish farming,</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The main resource management measures include minimum landing sizes, mesh sizes, closed seasons for numerous species, temporal and spatial restrictions for gears;</li> <li>▪ GFCM recommendation were considered in the national legislation.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Validation and interpretation of the results obtained through different scientific methods of stock assessment;</li> <li>▪ Development of indicators and reference points;</li> <li>▪ Research on status of resources in the Jabuka pit;</li> <li>▪ Identification of criteria for shared stocks.</li> </ul>

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	37 387 tonnes.					impact assessments of activities.		
<b>Egypt (Updated 2010)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Fleet (motorised and sail): 4509 vessels</li> <li>▪ Production (2008): 88,882 tonnes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Mullus barbatus</i> resource in the Egyptian Mediterranean waters is over-exploited with spawner biomass-per-recruit at 26% of pristine levels</li> <li>▪ For <i>Pagellus erythrinus</i> and <i>Lithognathus mormyrus</i> yield per recruit estimate suggested reduction of the fishing effort by 29.34% of current effort and 20cm as optimum fishing length for both species</li> <li>▪ <i>Solea aegyptiaca</i> is suffering from high fishing pressure</li> <li>▪ <i>Boops boops</i> : optimum level of fishing effort without causing recruitment overfishing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ GAFRD collects fisheries data by two methods (Whole survey and Sampling): This system not computerized yet and depends on registering every fishing unit in a special Log book</li> <li>▪ The statistics collection procedures have recently been upgraded and monitoring, control and surveillance activities have been improved</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Seasonal survey for demersal fishes along the Mediterranean coast of Egypt was conducted during 2008</li> <li>▪ Studies on <i>Euthynnus alletteratus</i>, <i>Diplodus</i> spp and <i>Eutrigla gurnardus</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Limited data is available for socio-economic evaluation of the fishing sector.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ In 2008 a study was conducted on the effect of sewage on the Egyptian Mediterranean Coast</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The fisheries of Egypt are essentially unregulated</li> <li>▪ Specific management regulations are limited to (a) a closed season for all fishing methods from 1 May to 30 June and (b) a freeze on the issue of additional fishing vessel licenses</li> <li>▪ Where they exist, minimum mesh sizes for marine fisheries are often set at very small sizes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Training and upgrading of the fisheries workforce</li> <li>▪ Training on the various aspects of fisheries management administration and technology</li> <li>▪ Management of small-scale fisheries within territorial waters</li> <li>▪ New technological and commercial alternatives</li> <li>▪ Assimilation of scientific and technological knowledge for the sustainable development of fisheries</li> <li>▪ Environmental, economic and social integration of fisheries sector</li> </ul>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Siganus rivulatus</i>: overexploited</li> </ul>						
<b>France (not updated)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Not available</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Anchovy: increase in biomass;</li> <li>▪ Sardine: return of biomass to lower values (83 000 tonnes) in comparison to 2003-2005 (231 000 tonnes);</li> <li>Demersal resources: 2006 analyses show an increase in the number of populations with small-sized individuals in the Gulf of Lion and in general in the north-western Mediterranean.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Regular sampling in landing ports; Sampling of commercial fleet landings (measurement of biological parameters), within the framework of the Data Collection Regulation of the EU.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Programme MEDITS, evaluation of the status of the resources and the impact of fisheries on ecosystems;</li> <li>▪ MERLUMED Projet: chemical contamination of the trophic web of hake in the Gulf of Lions;</li> <li>▪ CAFE Projet: analysis of the relationship between capacity and fishing mortality in the hake trawl fishery.</li> <li>▪ PELMED Projet: Direct assessment of stocks of small pelagic species in the Gulf of Lions.</li> <li>▪ SARDONE Projet: Studies on anchovy and sardine stocks in the north-western Mediterranean, Adriatic and Aegean.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ None</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Research on fishing techniques and selectivity.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ None</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ None</li> </ul>
<b>Greece (not updated)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Fleet: 17,580 vessels;</li> <li>▪ production 93,639 tonnes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ GSA 22: Anchovy stock is fully exploited;</li> <li>▪ The stock of sardine is fully exploited or over-exploited</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Fishery statistical data are collected by Administration under various Ministries;</li> <li>▪ Fisheries data are also collected in the framework of the Greek National Fisheries Data Collection Programme;</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Assessment of small pelagic species (SARDONE);</li> <li>▪ Capacity fishing mortality and effort (CAFÉ);</li> <li>▪ A framework for fleet and area based fisheries management (acronym AFRAME)</li> <li>▪ Operational Evaluation Tools for Fisheries</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ None</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ MOFI: Monk Seal and Fisheries: mitigating the conflict in Greek seas;</li> <li>▪ Critical interactions between species and their implications</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ In addition to EC fisheries management measures, Greece has adopted several national measures for managing fishing effort: minimum landing sizes,</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ None</li> </ul>

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ National fisheries data collection programme 2002-2006: in application of regulation EC 1543/2000.</li> </ul>	<p>Management Options (EFIMAS);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Fisheries independent survey based operational assessment tools (FISBOAT);</li> <li>▪ NECESSITY: research in fishing gear technology, selectivity and by-catch reduction;</li> <li>▪ PRONE: Precautionary risk methodology in fisheries</li> <li>▪ MADE: Mitigating adverse ecological impacts of open ocean fisheries</li> <li>▪ FISH: Framework contract for the promotion of the dissemination of Scientific information</li> <li>▪ CoralFISH: Assessment of the interactions between corals, fish and fisheries, in order to develop monitoring and predictive modelling tools for ecosystem based management in the deep waters of Europe and beyond</li> <li>▪ Status of ray population in the Mediterranean Sea</li> <li>▪ Dynamic behavior of longline and static nets in deep waters. Experimental trial in the</li> </ul>		<p>for a precautionary fisheries management in a variable environment;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Developing Indicators of Environmental Performance of the Common Fisheries Policy (INDECO);</li> <li>▪ MEECE: Marine Ecosystem Evolution in a Changing Environment</li> </ul>	<p>fishing gear restrictions, seasonal and local closures, distance from coast and depth restrictions;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Regarding large pelagics, such as bluefin tuna, albacore and swordfish, fishery is regulating by issuing special permits valid for one year;</li> <li>▪ Seasonal closure for swordfish during October to January, with a minimum fish size of 120 cm.</li> </ul>	



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				<p>region of Southern Aegean;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪Dynamic behavior of long line and static nets in deep waters. Experimental trial in the region of Southern Aegean</li> <li>▪MONOFILAMENT: Investigation of the possibility to use more selective gears targeting the same fish catch.</li> <li>▪ Fish Population Structure and Traceability</li> <li>▪ Management and control of terms of access of trawlers in the region of Northern Aegean</li> <li>▪Management and control of terms of access of trawlers in nursery of the species <i>Merluccius merluccius</i> in Thracian Sea</li> </ul>				
<b>Italy (not updated)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪Fleet: 13,583</li> <li>▪Production: 267 368 tonnes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪The available information is included in the report of the stock assessment sub-committee</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪The production of Italian fisheries statistics is carried out by Irepa on behalf of the Ministry of agriculture and forestry policies and is included in the ISTAT National Statistic Programme.</li> <li>▪The Fleet Register of the</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪Fisheries data have been collected in the framework of the Italian National Data Collection Program, which is supported both from the Italian Government and the European Union (Regulation 1543/00, 1639/01 and 1581/04).</li> <li>▪Research activities on marine living resources have been carried out in</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪None</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪Spatio-temporal identification of nursery area in the Italian seas</li> <li>▪Guidelines and technical measures for the management of Fishery Restricted Areas</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Technical measures were adopted in order to ensure exploitation and conservation of living aquatic resources or the protection of marine ecosystems</li> <li>▪ Fishing activities (i.e.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪Suggestions include research / studies on: population dynamics and genetics, data collection methods, EAF, oceanography – fisheries interactions, revision of GSA</li> </ul>

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			<p>General Directorate for Fisheries and Aquaculture of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry Policies, managed on the basis of Eu Re. 1438/2003 and 1277/2007.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Statistics are produced on the basis of a sample of national fishing fleet, yearly updated, and their reliability is guaranteed by specific validation software.</li> </ul>	<p>Italy by several bodies, both private and public, among which are mainly involved University Departments and Research Institutes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fishery and marine pollution: studies on the effects of pollutants on marine fishery</li> </ul>	<p>trawlers) have been temporarily banned</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Biological stop changed among regions in order to improve the marine environment and to avoid to the depletion of certain stocks</li> </ul>	<p>boundaries, stock-recruitment interactions, spawning areas and essential fish habitats, echo surveys, climate change effects on fisheries, spatial management measures.</p>
<b>Lebanon (updated 2010)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fleet :2,662 vessels</li> <li>Vessels operate in GSA 27</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Not available.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>University of Balamand (IOE-UOB) has been collecting commercial fisheries data in the Mohafaza (district) of North Lebanon and Akkar on a regular basis since August 2005.</li> <li>Data is then entered into a software application FLOUCA - Fish Landing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Biology and ecology of Lessepsian species along the Lebanese coast</li> <li>Biology of two species of shores crabs along the rocky coast</li> <li>Freshwater fish diversity in inland waters of Lebanon</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Not available</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Current scientific research focuses on Lessepsian species and ecosystem management</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minister Decision 20/1 on January 1, 2009, Defining the types of marine fishing gear</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None</li> </ul>

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			Operational Utility for Catch Assessment					
<b>Libya (not updated)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪Fleet: 4026 vessels</li> <li>▪Production: 33,106 tonnes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Biological and morphometric characteristics of at least seven commercially exploited fish species, namely: Mullus spp., P. erythrinus and M. sermatus; Balistes carolinensis, Lithognathus mormyrus. Merlusius marlusius and Scorpaena sp. are being studied during the intercessional period.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪None</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪Biological and morphometric characteristics of at least seven commercially exploited fish</li> <li>▪Small pelagic species caught by "Lampara</li> <li>▪Biological data on large pelagic species</li> <li>▪MedSudMed project</li> <li>▪Genotype and distribution of the commercially exploited exotic Siganus sp.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪The data of the socio-economic study based on a regional standardized questionnaire covering all fishing gears and boats, according to size-classes of the artisanal fleet which has been collected last year.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪Monitoring of exotic and/or alien marine species.</li> <li>▪Turtle (Caretta caretta) nesting sites.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪Trawl fishing for demersal fish species was prohibited during the period June through July 2008</li> <li>▪Fishing for the Dolphin fish (Coryphaena hippurus ) is prohibited by law from 1 January to 14 August of each year.</li> <li>▪ Fishing for sponges in Libyan waters is being forbidden from 1st of November to 30th of May of each year.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪Regional project aimed to assess the stocks and distribution of Elasmobranch fish species</li> <li>▪ought to be attempted.</li> <li>▪By-catch regional assessment is also worth studying by SAC.</li> </ul>
<b>Malta (not updated)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪Fleet: 2,685 vessels</li> <li>▪Total production of main species: 952.48 tonnes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪Stocks of Thunnus thynnus and Xiphas gladius are overexploited</li> <li>▪The stock of Merluccius merluccius is overexploited</li> <li>▪Trawled areas within the 25</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪Malta collects data on catch and effort for each segment by species, by quarter and by geographical origin.</li> <li>▪Catch figures are based on exhaustive data reported in</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪National programme to routinely collect fleet, catch, effort, economic, biological, resources abundance and processing industry data (EC1639/2001 and 1581/2004);</li> <li>▪FAO MedSudMed Project</li> <li>▪EU projects on dynamics and stock</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪Routine economic survey for fisheries as part of the EC Data Collection Programme.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪FAO MedSudMed project</li> <li>▪EU funded LIFE project on the impacts of fisheries practices on sea bird populations.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪Malta implemented the management measures in line with EU regulations and according to the recommendations by ICCAT and GFCM.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪None.</li> </ul>

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		nautical mile zone the stocks are overexploited however in non-trawled areas within the zone the stocks are in a virgin state	logbooks (for vessels over 10 m LOA), by sampling the small scale fishery in ports (for vessels under 10 m LOA) and on sales notes from the official fish market <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The MaltaStat database and information system is developing into an integrated system.</li> </ul>	status;				
<b>Montenegro (updated 2010)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fleet: 213 vessels operating in GSA 18</li> <li>As from 2010, 10 more trawlers and 20 purse seiners</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10 stations sampled during trawl survey. collecting population dynamic parameters of commercially important species.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New fisheries information system developed: Fleet register and catch logbook;</li> <li>Other information systems to be developed are related to: VMS, sales notes and EU reporting.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Activities within the framework of ADRIAMED</li> <li>Biological samples of eighteen economically important species were taken from all vessels in three fishing ports</li> <li>Data collecting of population parameters for juvenile anchovy and sardine from small scale fishery</li> <li>New technology for mussel (European mussels) <i>Mytilus galloprovincialis</i> growing.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Collection of socioeconomic data of the marine fishery will be implemented in due course.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ADRICOSM STAR Project - influence of river Bojana inputs on coastal marine environment;</li> <li>Studies on the impact of invasive algal species planned;</li> <li>Work on the management plan for the first marine protected zone in the Montenegro is on-going.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Law on Marine Fishery and Mariculture was adopted by Parliament in August 2009.</li> <li>The document "National program of Fisheries Development (NFP) from 2009 to 2013" was adopted by the Government of Montenegro in February 2009.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None.</li> </ul>
<b>Morocco (not updated)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fleet: 3355 vessels</li> <li>Production:</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Mullus barbatus</i>: overexploited</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Three Institutions (INRH, ONP and MPM) are</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Study on the selectivity of trawls with a 40mm mesh size.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Socio-economic evaluation and analysis of artisanal fisheries in</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Biodiversity studies.</li> <li>Monitoring of</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Measures based on effort control and protection of</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Selectivity of fishing gears ;</li> <li>Biological</li> </ul>

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	21,190 tonnes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Merluccius merluccius</i>: a reduction in fishing mortality and an increase spawning stock biomass</li> <li>▪ Small pelagic species: fully exploited</li> <li>▪ Stock assessment of large pelagic tunas is carried out at regional level by ICCAT.</li> </ul>	involved in the national statistical system which comprises biological, statistical and fishing effort data collection.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Survey of red coral to estimate its abundance</li> <li>▪ Monitoring and assessment of exploited resources</li> <li>▪ Monitoring of trawling, longlining, sardine fishery and artisanal fishery.</li> <li>▪ Monitoring of fisheries of large pelagic species</li> <li>▪ Parasitology of highly valuable species.</li> <li>▪ Study on marine biodiversity.</li> </ul>	<p>the Jebha – Larache region.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Monitoring of the establishment of socio-economic indicators of fisheries in the Nador lagoon.</li> <li>▪ Characterisation of artisanal fisheries in the zone between Jebha and Saïdia.</li> </ul>	threats to cetaceans and marine turtles.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ juveniles.</li> <li>▪ Seasonal closure for bluefin tuna and swordfish.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ study on small tunas;</li> <li>▪ Stock structures</li> <li>▪ Interactions between fisheries and cetaceans</li> <li>▪ Study on spawning and nursery areas.</li> </ul>
<b>Slovenia (updated 2010)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Fleet (in GSA 17): 184 vessels</li> <li>▪ production: 687 tonnes.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Sardine (<i>Sardina pilchardus</i>): Overexploited</li> <li>▪ Anchovy (<i>Engraulis encrasicolus</i>): fully exploited</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Information system InfoRib contains several modules. The modules are stored in a centralized database in the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food</li> <li>▪ Currently the IS is undergoing improvements for cross-checking and automatically correcting logbook data;</li> <li>▪ Improvements in the IS reporting system underway and plans also to</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ National monitoring of pelagic fish resources</li> <li>▪ SOLEMON project (Evaluation of the stock of <i>Solea vulgaris</i> in the Central and Northern Adriatic and estimation of the impact of different gear)</li> <li>▪ MEDITS trawl survey programme (since 1996).</li> <li>▪ MEDIAS echo-survey (since 2007)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Three studies on the basis of Council Regulation (EC) No 199/2008 and of Appendix VI to the Commission Decision: (1) Module of evaluation of the fishing sector; (2) module of the evaluation of the economic situation of the aquaculture sector and (3) module of the evaluation of the economic situation of the processing industry.</li> </ul>	None	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Management measures in the Slovenian seas follow the Council Regulation (EC) No 1976/2006 which contains principles and rules relating to the conservation and management of the living resources of the seas.</li> <li>▪ Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food on the basis of the expert opinion of Fisheries</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Support for the 2<sup>nd</sup> MEDITS trawl survey (i.e. bi-annual)</li> <li>▪ Further development of the SOLEMON project within the framework of the EC Data Collection Regulation.</li> </ul>

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>include Task 1 reporting.</li> <li>▪VMS fully operational since June 2009.</li> </ul>				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Research Institute of Slovenia temporary stopped issuing new fishing permits for trawlers.</li> <li>▪In May 2008 Slovenia adopted the regulation on monitoring of catches and selling of fisheries products.</li> </ul>	
<b>Spain (not updated)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪Fleet: Operates mainly in GSA 1, GSA 2, GSA 5, GSA 6. 3,826 vessels;</li> <li>▪Production of main species: 67,694 tonnes.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪GSA 01 – <i>Engraulis encrasicolus</i> has a low biomass level</li> <li>– <i>Sardina pilchardus</i>: fully exploited</li> <li>▪GSA 05 – <i>Aristeus antennatus</i>:s fully exploited</li> <li>– <i>Nephrops norvegicus</i> fully exploited</li> <li>– <i>Mullus surmuletus</i>: fully exploited</li> <li>– <i>Mullus barbatus</i> is moderately exploited to fully exploited</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪Data of landings by species, commercial categories, prices, fishery vessel identification, fishing grounds, landing ports and dates are recorded on a daily basis;</li> <li>▪IEO collects length and biological data of main commercial species (Reg. (EC) 1543/2000 and Reg (EC) 1639/2001);</li> <li>▪Data is stored and managed by the SIRENO database developed by the IEO;</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪IEO ensures the scientific monitoring of the fisheries of the main commercial species at the principal landing sites;</li> <li>▪Studies on growth and reproduction of demersal and small pelagic objective species are routinely carried out</li> <li>▪<i>Octopus vulgaris</i> artisanal fishery: fishing effort and on the selectivity of the employed gears</li> <li>▪In 2006, several tagging surveys on lobsters (<i>Palinurus elephas</i>) were carried out in two Marine Protected Areas</li> <li>▪IEO research project on</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪None</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪Quarterly surveys monitoring oceanographic conditions off Málaga (GSA 1), Murcia (GSA 6) and Mallorca (GSA 5);</li> <li>▪Research activities are related to Marine Protected Areas;</li> <li>▪in each of the 7 Spanish Mediterranean Marine Reserves, several studies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪The Spanish ministerial order ORDEN APA/254/2008, of January 31th, that establishes an integral management plan for fisheries resource conservation in the Mediterranean is currently enforced.</li> <li>▪The General Secretariat for the Sea keeps on managing the seven Spanish Mediterranean Marine Reserves existing at</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪The impact of environmental changes (climatic variability, increase of gelatinous plankton, etc.) on the early life stages of exploited species;</li> <li>▪Studies on the influence of environmental factors affecting catchability and fleet efficiency.</li> <li>▪The study of survival of specimens in</li> </ul>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Merluccius merluccius: fully exploited at above a sustainable level</li> <li>▪ GSA 06 - Parapenaeus longirostris: depleted</li> <li>- Mullus barbatus is overexploited</li> <li>– Merluccius merluccius: overexploited</li> <li>– Engraulis encrasicolus: low biomass</li> <li>– Sardina pilchardus: high fishing mortality</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Secretariat of Maritime Fisheries is developing a global tool to compile the different sources of information in a common database.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the Red Seabream (<i>Pagellus bogaraveo</i>) fishery in waters off the Strait of Gibraltar</li> <li>▪ Mediterranean tuna research program of the IEO</li> <li>▪ A National Research project on BFT biology and migration patterns has been initiated in 2007-2008.</li> <li>▪ International bottom trawl survey MEDITS;</li> <li>▪ Research activities on Albacore (<i>Thunnus alalunga</i>, ALB) were developed on board recreational and long-line fishery vessels targeting ALB</li> <li>▪ Small tuna species, mainly Atlantic bonito (<i>Sarda sarda</i>), Atlantic little tuna (<i>Euthynnus alletteratus</i>), and bullet tuna (<i>Auxis rochei</i>) were monitored and sampled in tuna traps.</li> <li>▪ Biological sampling of <i>Xiphias gladius</i>.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>are carried out on fisheries enhancement, biodiversity (mapping of sea grasses, maërl and others), effect of climatic change;</li> <li>▪ Studies on interactions between birds, cetaceans and fisheries.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>present, with enforcement through guards on the spot, follow up, awareness programs, etc.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the escapements through the trawl meshes.</li> </ul>
<b>Tunisia (updated 2010)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Fleet: about 11,800 vessels</li> <li>▪ Production: about 100, 578 tonnes</li> <li>▪ Fishing operations in GSA 12,</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The national Data collection system is managed by the “Direction générale de la pêche et de l’aquaculture”;</li> <li>▪ Improvements to the system</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Assessment of marine resources in Tunisian waters (1996-2002);</li> <li>▪ Research programmes ESREB, ESSATEL and ERACHID (2002-2006);</li> <li>▪ BIHARE Project: Biology of pelagic and</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Socio-economic indicators of the fisheries of the Gulf of Gabès and of the north and east regions of the country;</li> <li>▪ Use of bio-economic models for the king prawn fishery in the</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ By-catch reduction of marine turtles through changes in the bait of surface longline fisheries</li> <li>▪ Interaction of</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Trawling ban in GSA 14 between 1st July 2009 and 30th September 2009.</li> </ul>	

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	13 and 14.		<p>developed in 1995 are foreseen in the coming years;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Data collection is through logbooks and port inspections;</li> <li>▪ Databases for biological and environmental data are in place.</li> </ul>	<p>demersal exploited species (2007-2010);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ LAMPAROS Projet: Eggs and larvae, abundance and migration of pelagic species (2007-2010);</li> <li>▪ CHANCHOUL Projet: Selective pelagic trawling (2007-2010)</li> </ul>	<p>Gulf of Gabes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Study on the profitability of vessels targeting small pelagic species.</li> </ul>	<p>marine turtles with entangling nets</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Catches of elasmobranchs in trawlers operating in the Gulf of Gabes</li> <li>▪ Interaction of <i>Tursiops truncatus</i> with fishing nets around the Kerkennah Islands</li> <li>▪ Inventory of <i>Posidonia</i> meadows and benthos in the Gulf of Gabes</li> </ul>		
<b>Turkey (updated 2010)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Fleet: 17,816 units;</li> <li>▪ production: 453113 tonnes in 2008.</li> <li>▪ Fishing operations in GSAs 22, 24, 28, 29,</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Scientific stock assessment studies are currently not in place in Turkey.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ An integrated web-based Fisheries Information System (FIS) has been developed and is able to collect, process, transmit and disseminate data;</li> <li>▪ MARA is planning to shift the paper-based logbook into the electronic one;</li> <li>▪ A VMS has been started in 2008 with the vessels</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ None</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ On-going project (partly funded by GEF) entitled: <i>Strengthening Protected Area Network of Turkey</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ New technical regulation on fishing and landing of anchovy has been issued.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ None</li> </ul>



<b>Member Country</b>	<b>Description of the fisheries</b>	<b>Status of stocks of priority species</b>	<b>Status of the statistics and information system</b>	<b>Status of research in progress</b>	<b>Status of the social sciences studies in progress</b>	<b>Marine environmental studies in progress</b>	<b>National management measures</b>	<b>Research suggestions for consideration by SAC</b>
			<p>involved into bluefin tuna fishing (about 200 vessels);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ As from 2010, fishing vessels over 15 meters (about 1250 vessels) will be under an obligation to have Automated Identification System (AIS) installed.</li> </ul>					