



**GENERAL FISHERIES COMMISSION FOR THE
MEDITERRANEAN**

**COMMISSION GÉNÉRALE DES PÊCHES POUR
LA MÉDITERRANÉE**



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CIRCULAR LETTER

Subject: Announcement of the first meeting of the GFCM Working Group on the Black Sea. Constanta (Romania), 16-18 January 2012

At its 13th Session held in Marseille in February 2011, the GFCM Scientific Advisory Committee called the attention on the need to start specific actions to be included in the short-term work plan with the aim to improve the knowledge of the fisheries in the Black Sea area and to strengthen their management. Upon this proposal, the annual meeting of the GFCM Commission in May 2011 decided to set up a Working Group to facilitate the work of the SAC in delivering fishery management advice for the Black Sea and to promote the regional cooperation in the field of fisheries and environmental issues.

In this context, the GFCM is pleased to confirm that the *First meeting of the GFCM Working Group on the Black Sea* will be held from 16th to 18th January 2012, kindly hosted by the **National Institute for Marine Research and Development "Grigore Antipa" (NIMRD), in Constanta (Romania).**

This meeting is open to all experts and managers of the Black Sea riparian countries (namely: Bulgaria, Georgia, Romania, Russian Federation, Turkey and Ukraine) as well as Organizations and initiatives sharing the same interests and objectives in the Black Sea.

Please find attached the draft Agenda of the meeting as well as practical information, also available on the GFCM website (www.gfcm.org). You are invited to disseminate this announcement to whom might be interested in the subject of the meeting. Considering the importance of this Working Group, the participation of experts dealing with the Black Sea fisheries issues is highly appreciated.

Interested experts are kindly invited to register for the meeting by sending the attached Registration Form duly completed to the GFCM Secretariat either by e-mail (GFCM-Secretariat@fao.org) or by fax to +39 06 57055827/+39 06 57056500.

Should you need any further information or assistance, please do not hesitate to contact the GFCM Secretariat.

Thank you for your collaboration.

Best regards,

Abdellah Srour
GFCM Executive Secretary