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منظمة الأغذية  
والزراعة  
للأمم المتحدة

联合国  
粮食及  
农业组织

Food  
and  
Agriculture  
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of  
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Organisation  
des  
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pour  
l'alimentation  
et  
l'agriculture

Organización  
de las  
Naciones  
Unidas  
para la  
Agricultura  
y la  
Alimentación

**GENERAL FISHERIES COMMISSION FOR THE  
MEDITERRANEAN**

**COMMITTEE ON AQUACULTURE**

**Fourth Session**

**Alexandria, Egypt, 7-9 June 2004**

**REVIEW OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE  
TWENTY-SEVENTH AND TWENTY-EIGHTH SESSIONS OF THE  
GFCM CONCERNING AQUACULTURE**

1. Two sessions of the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM) have been held since 2002 when the Committee on Aquaculture (CAQ) held its Third Session (Zaragoza, Spain, 25-27 September 2002).

**Twenty-seventh Session of GFCM**

2. At its Twenty-seventh Session, held in Rome, Italy, from 19 to 22 November 2002, the Commission received the report of the Third Session of the CAQ, and reviewed and endorsed the programme of work suggested by the Committee.

3. In relation to the reporting of aquaculture trends in the Mediterranean, the Commission agreed that freshwater, brackishwater and marine aquaculture should be clearly identified in terms of their outputs and geographical origin, i.e. Mediterranean Sea and Black Sea versus Atlantic Ocean and Red Sea. Furthermore, the Commission agreed that trends on production and value for selected species should be published regularly along with market evolution analysis.

4. Concerning the joint GFCM/ICCAT Ad Hoc Working Group on Sustainable Tuna Farming Practices, the Commission supported the view that close liaison be maintained with the Domestication of *Thunnus thynnus thynnus* (DOTT) project, supported by the European Commission (EC).

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5. The Commission also acknowledged the EC planned community level marketing and trade meeting on seabass and sea bream aimed at further investigating the nature of the constraint faced by the industry and willingness to share the findings with the Commission.
6. The Commission endorsed the invitation made by the Committee to the FAO Fisheries Department to continue supporting CAQ activities during the next intersessional period, as funds available were deemed insufficient to implement the proposed programme of work of the Committee. It further agreed that the share of the autonomous budget dedicated to aquaculture should be enhanced in view of enabling the Committee to carry out its mandate.
7. The Commission noted the recommendation by CAQ that the services of SIPAM (information System for the Promotion of Aquaculture in the Mediterranean) should be extended to all GFCM member countries. It encouraged Members to provide adequate resources to National SIPAM Centers and agreed that an independent audit of the Network be conducted.
8. The Commission encouraged a closer participation of national and regional institutions in the activities of TECAM (Technology and Aquaculture in the Mediterranean) and SELAM (Socio-Economic and Legal Aspects of Aquaculture in the Mediterranean) networks, with a view to ensuring the implementation of more planned activities, particularly those focused on environmental aspects.
9. The Commission noted that SIPAM meetings should take place regularly in order to ensure adequate functioning of the Network and encouraged participating countries to support the attendance of their own National Coordinators unless funds were otherwise identified. With reference to the TECAM and SELAM Networks the Commission acknowledged the continuous support of the International Centre for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies (CIHEAM) through the Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Zaragoza (IAMZ) in the organization of activities under the two Networks.
10. The Commission furthermore agreed that the Secretariat should prepare a revised and focused regional aquaculture project proposal for submission to potential donors, as recommended by the Third Session of CAQ.

### **Twenty-eight GFCM Session**

11. During the Twenty-eight Session of GFCM, held in Tangiers, Morocco, from 14 to 17 October 2003, the Commission requested the Secretariat to consider undertaking an external evaluation of the whole activities of CAQ, in addition to SIPAM, following the approach used for reviewing the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC).
12. The Commission welcomed the following offers made by (a) the delegate from Egypt to host and finance the Fourth Session of CAQ although with the provision of using local interpretation; (b) the delegate from Italy to host and finance a Workshop on Bio-Indicators for Sustainable Aquaculture and the Third Joint GFCM/ICCAT *ad hoc* Working Group on Sustainable Tuna Farming , and (c) the delegate from Tunisia to host the SELAM seminar on “Aquaculture Legislation in Mediterranean countries”, assuming some support from CIHEAM.
13. The Commission during the Session made no specific recommendations on the CAQ.