



**GENERAL FISHERIES COMMISSION
FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN
COMMISSION GÉNÉRALE DES PÊCHES
POUR LA MÉDITERRANÉE**



Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC)
Workshop on the Regional Management Plan on Red Coral in the Mediterranean
Brussels, Belgium, 21-22 January 2014
Terms of Reference

Red coral (*Corallium rubrum*) in the Mediterranean has experienced a decrease in landings over the last 30 years and especially in shallow waters of certain areas red coral populations are near to depletion. At the request of its members, GFCM has engaged in several actions during the last 4 years to develop a Regional Management Plan for Red Coral (RMP-RC). Two technical meetings and a consultancy have resulted in the elaboration of a technical document with the basic information needed for the development of a Management Plan. The document was reviewed and accepted by the GFCM and its scientific bodies in 2013. The Commission agreed that it must serve as a basis for a more formal document that could be adopted at the next Session of the Commission. The objective of this workshop is to group together red coral national experts and managers in order to:

1. Assess the feasibility of national systems to comply with the fundamental elements of the draft plan, namely:
 - Goals and broad objectives
 - Management measures
 - Implementation and enforcement mechanisms
 - MCS systems
 - Traceability mechanisms
 - Reviewing system and timeframe
2. Agree on key elements for a Regional Management Plan to be submitted to SAC for validation and to the 38th Session of the Commission for consideration and possible adoption.