

**ACP/84/078/17 Rev.2**  
*Sustainable Economic Development and  
Trade Department*

**Brussels, 4 September 2017**

**Draft Annotated Agenda for the  
Meeting of Senior Officials**

**5<sup>th</sup> Meeting of ACP Ministers in charge of Fisheries and Aquaculture**

**Melia Nassau Beach Resort, Bahamas, 18-19 September 2017**

<b>TIME</b>	<b>Monday 18 September 2017</b>
<b>8:00</b>	<b>Registration</b>
<b>9:00</b>	<b>Opening Session</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Mr. Viwanou Gnassounou</b>, <i>ACP Assistant Secretary-General</i></li> <li>• <b>Mrs. Phedra Rahming</b>, <i>Permanent Secretary Ministry of Agriculture and Marine Resources of the Bahamas</i></li> <li>• Chair of the 5<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Senior officials meeting</li> <li>• Adoption of the agenda</li> </ul>
<b>10:00</b>	<b>Session 1: Stocktaking the implementation of the ACP strategic plan of action for fisheries and aquaculture</b>
	<p>One of the foremost milestones of the ACP fisheries mechanism was the adoption of the five-year ACP strategic plan of action for fisheries and aquaculture 2012 - 16 and its implementing roadmap adopted in 2015 extending the lifespan of the plan up to the year 2020. The plan is a framework to reinforce coherence of actions for fisheries and aquaculture development in ACP countries and is implemented in accordance to member states' needs and circumstances. This session will consider the state of play of implementation of the strategic plan, highlighting the progress of implementation and to draw lessons from key national and regional successful initiatives The session will provide updates on regional perspectives on the implementation of the strategic plan of action.</p> <p><b>Speakers:</b>  <b>ACP Secretariat</b>  <b>Ms. Maria Luisa Cassama Ferreira</b>, <i>Fisheries and Aquaculture policy coherence in the UEMOA region</i></p>
<b>11:00</b>	<b>Networking Break</b>
<b>11:15</b>	<b>Session 1: Stocktaking the implementation of the ACP strategic plan of action for fisheries and aquaculture</b>
<b>12:00</b>	<b>Session 2: ACP Aquaculture Development</b>
	<p>Aquaculture is one of the fastest growing food production sectors globally and is projected to fill the gap in the demand for fish and fishery products as the world's capture fisheries become increasingly fully exploited/overexploited. Due to the centrality of aquaculture development to the nutritional security and economic development of ACP countries, the session will focus on key challenges and opportunities to further expand aquaculture development.</p> <p><b>Speakers:</b>  <b>Dr. Motseki Hlatshwayo</b>, <i>Technical Advisor- Fisheries, SADC Secretariat</i>  <b>Ms. Matilda Quist</b> <i>Deputy Director Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture Development- Ghana</i>  <b>Mr Shalendra Kumar Singh</b>, <i>Ministry of Fisheries, Fiji</i></p>
<b>13:00</b>	<b>Networking Lunch</b>

14:00	<b>Session 3 : Advancing the implementation of SDG 14: Ending Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing in ACP countries</b>
	<p>Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing is a persistent problem undermining the sustainable management of fisheries and must be effectively tackled to improve the fisheries management outcomes. Ending IUU fishing is one of the early targets of the Sustainable Development Goal of Agenda 2030. The ambition is to eradicate IUU fishing and unsustainable fishing practices by the year 2020. Just three years away from the target, this session will explore options for accelerating the eradication of IUU fishing, highlight successful initiatives and approaches at national, regional and international levels; further explore options for scaling up through enhanced partnerships and collaboration</p> <p><b>Speakers:</b>  <b>Mr. Per Erik Bergh;</b> <i>Fish –I-Africa: Perspectives from the West Indian Ocean Region</i></p> <p><b>Stefaan Depypere;</b> <i>Director for International Ocean Governance and Sustainable Fisheries; EU Directorate General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (DG MARE)</i></p>
15:30	<b>Session 4 : Effectively managing our fisheries: The way ahead for ACP sustainable fisheries</b>
	<p>At least 31% of the assessed fish stocks globally are overfished due to weak governance and ineffective management that have compromised the fish stocks' natural regenerative capacity to provide high yields over the long-term, consequently resulting in loss of net economic benefits. The session will explore ways and means to give impetus to SDG goal 14 target 4. The aim is to reinforce the implementation of the fisheries management strategies and governance approaches to effectively maintain and rebuild ACP fisheries at sustainable levels to ensure high productivity and maintain healthy resilient stocks in order to secure the economic and environmental benefits to society in the future.</p> <p><b>Speakers:</b>  <b>Mr. Milton Haughton,</b> <i>Executive Director; Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism</i></p> <p><b>Mr. Mohamed B.D. Seisay,</b> <i>African Union InterAfrican Bureau for Animal Resources (AU IBAR)</i></p>
17:30	<b>End of Day One</b>

<b>Tuesday 19 September 2017</b>	
<b>09:00</b>	<p><b>Session 5: Blue Economy: maximizing benefits from fisheries and aquaculture</b></p> <p>What needs to be in place to unlock the economic potential of the blue economy and increase economic benefits to ACP economies, particularly from fisheries, aquaculture and nature-based coastal tourism? The session will provide lessons learnt and share experiences and build partnerships to further accelerate and sustain the blue economy growth.</p> <p><b>Speakers:</b></p> <p><b>Jacqueline Alder</b> <i>Blue Growth Initiative; FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Department</i></p> <p><b>Mr. Mike Batty</b>, <i>Director Fisheries Development, Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA)</i></p> <p><i>Mauritius National Perspectives</i></p>
<b>10:00</b>	<p><b>Session 6: Small, scale fisheries: Securing access to resources and markets</b></p> <p>An important feature of the ACP fisheries is that the small-scale fisheries are a very significant part of the catching sector. The small-scale fisheries sector tends to be firmly rooted in local communities, traditions and values. This represents an important sector which underpins food security, employment, livelihoods, international trade and development. As much as US\$5.3 billion worth of ACP fish exports enter the international market, the greatest portion of these from the small-scale fisheries. Yet, small-scale fishers are faced with significant market access difficulties, in particular, compliance with food standards of export markets, access to resources, and competition from large scale operators.</p> <p>This session will deal with the question of securing small scale fisheries access to markets and resources, which is front and centre for many ACP states and clearly prioritized as a key target of the SDG 14. What deliberate actions are required to deal specifically with developing the small scale fisheries sector?</p> <p><b>Speakers:</b></p> <p><b>Mr. Mitchell Lay</b>, <i>Coordinator the Caribbean network of fisherfolk organization</i></p> <p><b>Mr Dawda Foday Saine</b>, <i>Mr Dawda Foday Saine, Secretary General, African Confederation of Artisanal Fisheries Professional Organisations, Senegal</i></p>
<b>11:00</b>	<b>Networking Break</b>

<b>11:15</b>	<b>Session 7: The way ahead for fisheries subsidies reforms</b>
	<p>Certain forms of subsidies provided by governments to the fishing sector are a major driver for the build-up of excessive fishing capacity, thereby undermining the sustainability of marine fisheries resources and the livelihoods that depend on them. The need to develop effective disciplines on fisheries subsidies which contribute to overcapacity and overfishing has remained an important agenda item in the international arena, and more so, with the adoption of Goal 14 of the 2030 agenda for Sustainable Development .</p> <p>During this session, in acknowledgement of the urgent need to expeditiously conclude a multilateral agreement to prohibit certain forms of fisheries subsidies, the meeting will deliberate on the following: The state of play of negotiations; Key elements of an acceptable fisheries subsidies reform for ACP countries that allows for sufficient policy flexibility for sustainable fisheries development, and further contribute to refinement of a coherent ACP position on fisheries subsidies reform.</p> <p><b>Speaker:</b></p> <p><b>Mr Ricardo M. James</b>, <i>Chargé d’Affaires, Permanent Delegation of the OECS in Geneva and ACP Focal Person on Fisheries Subsidies</i></p>
<b>12:30</b>	<b>Networking Lunch</b>
<b>14:30</b>	<p><b>Side Events</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Fisheries Transparency Initiative (FiTI): Increasing transparency and participation for the benefit of a more sustainable management of marine fisheries</li> <li>• What's in your "IUU tool box"? Budget friendly legal and technology solutions that can help you support your goals to combat IUU fishing in your waters and drive growth and community development</li> </ul>
<b>17:00</b>	<b>Session 8: Consideration of report of senior official meeting</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The meeting shall consider the Report of the Senior official meeting</li> <li>• Any Other Business</li> </ul>
<b>End of Day Two</b>	