REPORT OF THE COPEMED II MEETING ON THE DEFINITION OF PRIORITY TOPICS RELATED TO SHARED RESOURCES (DEMERSAL AND PELAGIC) IN THE SUBREGION

29-30 April 2010
Málaga, Spain
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November 2011
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Preface

The CopeMed II Project on Co-ordination to Support Fisheries Management in the Western and Central Mediterranean is executed by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and funded by the Government of Spain, represented by the Secretaría General del Mar, and the European Union, represented by the European Commission (EC).

The objective of the project is to maintain the sustainability of the marine fisheries in the central and western Mediterranean Sea and its ecosystem, taking into consideration environmental, biological, economic, social and institutional issues. In addition, the project will continue to reinforce the collaboration among the participating countries of the sub-region by supporting their participation in the activities of the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) of the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM).

Regions covered by CopeMed II are the western and central sub-regions of the Mediterranean. Countries involved are Algeria, France, Italy, Libya, Malta, Morocco, Tunisia and Spain. The main beneficiaries are the fishery policy-makers, managers and fishery administrations in the western and central Mediterranean countries. The project is also contributing to the strengthening of regional collaboration by supporting the participation of the countries in relevant regional scientific organizations, such as the FAO’s General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM) and the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT). Secondary beneficiaries include the national research institutes, fishers and fishers’ associations, and industrial organizations.

Project CopeMed II (FAO-FIRF)
Subdelegación del Gobierno en Málaga
Paseo de Sancha 64, Offices 305-307
29071 Málaga
Spain

Tel: (+34) 952 989299
Fax: (+34) 952 989252

E-mail: copemed@fao.org
URL: www.faocopemed.org
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Comments on this document would be welcomed and should be sent to the Project headquarters:

Project CopeMed II
Subdelegación del Gobierno en Málaga
Paseo de Sancha 64, Offices 305-307
29071 Málaga (Spain)
copemed@fao.org

Project ArtFiMed
Subdelegación del Gobierno en Málaga
Paseo de Sancha 64, Offices 305-307
29071 Málaga (Spain)
artfimed@fao.org

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Preparation of this document

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Acknowledgements

CopeMed II acknowledges the participation of Mediterranean experts from fishery administrations, research institutions and regional organizations. CopeMed II thanked the Subdelegación del Gobierno in Málaga for the facilities made available to CopeMed II for this bilateral Morocco-Spain meeting to improve the original proposal.


ABSTRACT

The meeting on the definition of priority topics related to shared resources of Demersal and Pelagic Working Groups was organized to accomplish the CopeMed II objective of supporting the establishment and implementation of scientifically based up-dated management plans for relevant specific fisheries both in each specific country and at sub-regional level joint multidisciplinary analysis.

The meeting was focused on shared resources by identifying the most relevant issues and formulating specific activities to be implemented within the cooperative framework of the CopeMed II Project. The organization of the sub-regional Demersal Working Group (DWG) and the Small Pelagic Working Group (SPWG) of experts for the identification and definition of the CopeMed II sub-region shared stocks, to strengthen regional scientific cooperation, was agreed.

The identification and definition of demersal and pelagic shared resources and related fisheries were carried out. Critical areas for shared stocks in the CopeMed sub-region were identified. The list of shared stocks, currently approved by the GFCM-SAC, was reviewed, and two new lists of demersal and pelagic shared stocks, taking into account the critical areas described, were proposed.
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1. Summary minutes

The objectives and Terms of Reference (TORs) of the Sub-regional Demersal and Pelagic Working Groups (SRWGs) were discussed. The long-term objective of the SRWGs is to facilitate the development of capacity in all the participating countries in the Project CopeMed II to carry out joint assessments and research programmes on shared stocks. The celebration of a Forum in a near future for holding discussions on common issues and these joint assessments and programmes was proposed.

1.1. Linkage with GFCM bodies

The main issue in the linkage with the GFCM bodies is the relation with the SAC-SCSA’s Stock Assessment Working Groups. It was stressed that the SRWGs will not replace the Working Groups of the SAC, as they have different objectives.

The TORs of the SRWGs will be mostly concerned with stock-related discussions and organization of scientific work. The stock assessments, carried out by the SRWGs, will be presented to the corresponding Working Group (Demersal or Small Pelagic) of the SAC by the scientists that conducted them, for review and adoption. The information and data used in the stock assessments and the evaluation of any major changes from the previous assessments will also be presented.

1.2. TORs for the Sub-regional Working Groups

The SRWGs will mostly be a forum for discussion on stock and fisheries related issues at the sub-regional level, considering the GFCM Geographical sub-areas (GSAs), the Operational Units (OUs) and other elements of the GFCM scientific framework.

Two SRWGs should be created: one for pelagic species and another for demersal species. It was agreed that the two SRWGs should be created as a permanent structure, with a time horizon of at least 5 to 10 years to ensure the continuity of the work. The chairpersons of each SRWG should be elected at the first meeting.

All the participants agreed that the data supplied to the SRWGs will have specific use during the SRWGs and that circulation and use of the data in a different context of the SRWGs will require explicit written permission from the data owners.

On the basis of the listing of shared stocks/fisheries prepared by the first CopeMed II shared stocks sub-regional meeting (Tables 1 and 2), the SRWGs should:
- Compile and review all information available on the biological and ecological characteristics of the stocks.
- Compile and review the information available on the dynamic of the fisheries, including defining the Operational Units.
- Define how the stocks are shared (e.g. movement across the regions, fleets exploring common grounds, movements of eggs and larvae, etc.) and decide those that should be assessed as shared stocks.
- Identify the priority level to be given to the activities conducted on the shared stocks, based on their relative socio-economic importance and total landings in the countries involved, so as to develop a feasible and phased work programme.
- Define the data and information required for the stocks assessment, and decide the
units and format to be submitted, according to the GFCM-SAC standards.
- Identify the gaps of the scientific knowledge necessary for carrying out joint assessments of these stocks.
- Prepare a scientific programme to address these gaps, in such a way that joint assessments of the priority stocks and fisheries can be carried out in a reasonable time-frame.
- Identify the methods that can be used for the stocks assessment, given the types of information currently available or to become available in the sequence of the planned scientific programme.
- Prepare an adequate report of the meeting and with the conclusions reached.

CopeMed II project will operate as the Technical Secretariat for the two sub-regional Working Groups. CopeMed II will request the countries, through their national focal points, to appoint the members of these Working Groups for the first meeting, prior to the scheduled meetings of the WGs of the SAC.

The appointment of one convener for the first meeting of each SRWG was approved. Mr. Othman Jarboui as convener of the Demersal SRWG and Mr. Luis Quintanilla as convener of the Pelagic SRWG were appointed. The conveners will be responsible of preparing the Agenda of the first meeting of these SRWGs, with the support of CopeMed II.

It was agreed that the first Pelagic SRWG meeting will be held in Málaga (Spain), organized by the IEO, and that the Demersal SRWG meeting will take place in Mazara del Vallo (Italy), organized by the Institute for Coastal Marine Environment (IAMC-CNR), both in September 2010.
2. Identification of shared stocks for fishery management and stock assessment purposes

2.1. Requests from the SAC and the CopeMed II Coordination Committee

2.1.1. *Pagellus bogaraveo*
The SAC proposed the establishment of a joint *ad-hoc* Working Group meeting with Spanish and Moroccan scientists to analyse the existing information on the stock and fishery of *Pagellus bogaraveo*.

CopeMed II was requested to support the organization of this ad-hoc WG meeting. It was agreed that all issues concerning *Pagellus bogaraveo* will be dealt within the Demersal SRWG.

2.1.2. *Parapenaeus longirostris*
The CopeMed II Coordination Committee and the SAC requested CopeMed II and MedSudMed to continue with the joint activities started in the Strait of Sicily on 2009.

2.2. Small Pelagics in the Alboran Sea

A pilot programme on small pelagic fish in the Alboran Sea is being prepared, involving Morocco and Spain. It was agreed to support the programme in the framework of the Pelagic SRWG, and it was mentioned that involvement of Algeria would be important and profitable for the results of this programme.

2.3. Critical areas for shared stocks within the sub-region

The importance of different critical areas for shared stocks in the sub-region was discussed. As a result, the following critical areas for shared stocks were identified:

2.3.1. *Strait of Gibraltar and Alboran Sea;*
Many species may potentially be considered as shared resources in the Alboran Sea on the basis of being part of the Alboran basin. They are subject to common complex hydrographical features (as the exchange of water masses between the Atlantic and the Mediterranean, that affects the northern (GSA01) and southern (GSA03) areas of the Alboran Sea) that influence on their life cycle and distribution and may constitute shared stocks.

2.3.2. *Strait of Sicily*
The Strait of Sicily area includes 4 countries (Italy, Libya, Malta and Tunisia). The GFCM identified six GSAs (12, 13, 14, 15, 16 and 21). As first step, the meeting agreed to propose a deeper analysis on the new shared stocks in the area (included in Tables 1 and 2). Moreover, the meeting stressed that the complex bathy-morphological, oceanographic and biological characteristics of the area make necessary a more detailed study on the relationships between stocks distribution and spatial fishery patterns in the six GSAs. As an example, for the red mulled (*Mullus barbatus*), as representative of coastal species, more shared stocks can be likely identified in the Strait of Sicily: one stock in GSAs 12, 13 and 16 and another one in GSAs 14 and 21. In the case of deep-water pink shrimp (*Parapenaeus longirostris*), which is an offshore species, one single common shared stock can be likely identified.
2.3.3. *Gulf of Lions*

Sardine and anchovy, targeted in the GSA07 (Gulf of Lions) by the pelagic trawlers of the French fleet, are believed to belong to two stocks which are also exploited by Spanish fleet in GSA 06 (northern Spain).

The same consideration is applied to several demersal species exploited on the continental shelves and slopes of GSAs 06 and 07 by the French and Spanish bottom trawlers, longliners and gillnetters, mainly targeting hake, red mullets and monkfishes.

2.4. Identification of shared stocks

The list of shared stocks currently approved by the GFCM-SAC, as well as the contributions to the list suggested by the expert who prepared the working document on this issue, was reviewed.

After a long discussion, Tables 1 and 2 after were adopted taking into account the three special areas described above. It was agreed that both tables show an extensive list of the stocks for which the information available suggested to be shared between at least two different countries. However, the presentation of this list does not imply a recommendation of the meeting to the SRWG. Joint stock assessments were recommended to be carried out for all the listed stocks. The definition of the stocks should be fulfilled by the Demersal and Pelagic SRWG to consider them as “shared stocks”.

In the light of the absence of experts of some countries of the CopeMed II sub-region, it was considered that certain possible shared stocks listed in Tables 1 and 2 needed the confirmation by the corresponding national experts.

As well as the information sources presented by the experts, namely: a) the species accompanying the targeted resources, b) the importance of national landings statistics and c) the opinions of the national experts, recommendations were based on the known characteristics of the species and of the different areas, as follows:

- Morphobathymetry of the regions.
- Depth range and mobility of the juvenile and adult stages of the species.
- Main current patterns in the region, and their likely effect on the transport/movement of the different life-stages of the species.

The minutes were adopted and entrusted to CopeMed II, as the Secretariat of the two SRWG, to finalize the meeting report. CopeMed II agreed to incorporate in the final version the expert’s documents, the Agenda and the documents discussed during the meeting and to send the final draft version for revision to all the participants before the final edition.
Table 1: Suggested demersal shared stocks.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English name</th>
<th>Scientific name</th>
<th>Area (and GSAs)</th>
<th>Countries</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hake</td>
<td>Merluccius merluccius</td>
<td>Gulf of Lions (GSA7, 6)</td>
<td>France &amp; Spain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hake</td>
<td>Merluccius merluccius</td>
<td>North Tyrrhenian and Corsica (GSA 8, 9)</td>
<td>Italy &amp; France</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hake</td>
<td>Merluccius merluccius</td>
<td>Sicily Channel (GSA 12,13,14,15,16,21)</td>
<td>Italy, Tunisia, Libya &amp; Malta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hake</td>
<td>Merluccius merluccius</td>
<td>Alboran sea (GSA1, 3, 4)</td>
<td>Spain, Morocco &amp; Algeria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blue whiting</td>
<td>Micromesistius poutassou</td>
<td>North Tyrrhenian and Corsica (GSA 8, 9)</td>
<td>Italy &amp; France</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blue whiting</td>
<td>Micromesistius poutassou</td>
<td>Alboran sea (GSA1,3,4)</td>
<td>Spain, Morocco &amp; Algeria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blue whiting</td>
<td>Micromesistius poutassou</td>
<td>Sicily Channel (GSA 12,13,14,15,16,21)</td>
<td>Italy, Tunisia, Libya &amp; Malta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blue whiting</td>
<td>Micromesistius poutassou</td>
<td>Alboran sea (GSA1,3,4)</td>
<td>Spain, Morocco &amp; Algeria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red mullet</td>
<td>Mullus barbatus</td>
<td>Corsica and Sardinia (GSA 8, 11)</td>
<td>Italy &amp; France</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red mullet</td>
<td>Mullus barbatus</td>
<td>Alboran sea (GSA1, 3, 4)</td>
<td>Spain, Morocco &amp; Algeria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Striped red mullet</td>
<td>Mullus surmuletus</td>
<td>Corsica and Sardinia (GSA 8, 11)</td>
<td>Italy &amp; France</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red mullet</td>
<td>Mullus surmuletus</td>
<td>Alboran sea (GSA1, 3, 4)</td>
<td>Spain, Morocco &amp; Algeria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red mullet</td>
<td>Mullus surmuletus</td>
<td>Gulf of Lions (GSA7, 6)</td>
<td>France &amp; Spain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black spot seabream</td>
<td>Pagellus bogaraveo</td>
<td>Alboran Sea &amp; Straits of Gibraltar (GSA1, 3)</td>
<td>Spain &amp; Morocco</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red mullet</td>
<td>Mullus barbatus</td>
<td>Sicily Channel (GSA 12,13,14,15,16,21)</td>
<td>Italy, Tunisia, Libya and Malta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Axillary Seabream</td>
<td>Pagellus acarne</td>
<td>Alboran sea (GSA 1, 3, 4)</td>
<td>Spain, Morocco &amp; Algeria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bogue</td>
<td>Bopsis boops</td>
<td>Alboran sea (GSA 3, 4)</td>
<td>Morocco &amp; Algeria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pink shrimp</td>
<td>Parapeneaus longirostris</td>
<td>Sicily Channel (GSA 12,13,14,15,16,21)</td>
<td>Italy, Tunisia, Libya &amp; Malta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pink shrimp</td>
<td>Parapeneaus longirostris</td>
<td>Alboran sea (GSA 1, 3, 4)</td>
<td>Spain, Morocco &amp; Algeria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red shrimp</td>
<td>Aristesomorpha foliacea</td>
<td>Sicily Channel (GSA 13, 14, 15, 16, 21)</td>
<td>Italy, Tunisia and Malta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Violet shrimp</td>
<td>Aristes antennatus</td>
<td>Alboran sea (GSA 1, 2, 3, 4)</td>
<td>Spain, Morocco &amp; Algeria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Common octopus</td>
<td>Octopus vulgaris</td>
<td>Sicily Channel (GSA 13, 14, 15, 16, 21)</td>
<td>Italy, Tunisia, Libya &amp; Malta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Common octopus</td>
<td>Octopus vulgaris</td>
<td>Alboran sea (GSA 3, 4)</td>
<td>Morocco &amp; Algeria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norway lobster</td>
<td>Nephrops norvegicus</td>
<td>North Tyrrhenian and Corsica (8, 9)</td>
<td>Italy &amp; France</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Common spiny lobster</td>
<td>Palinurus elephas</td>
<td>Corsica and Sardinia (GSA 8, 11)</td>
<td>Italy &amp; France</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Common spiny lobster</td>
<td>Palinurus elephas</td>
<td>Alboran sea (GSA 3, 4)</td>
<td>Morocco &amp; Algeria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Common spiny lobster</td>
<td>Palinurus elephas</td>
<td>Sicily Channel GSA12, GSA13, GSA16</td>
<td>Tunisia &amp; Italy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pink spiny lobster</td>
<td>Palinurus Mauritanicus</td>
<td>Sicily Channel GSA12, GSA13, GSA16</td>
<td>Tunisia &amp; Italy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2: Suggested pelagic shared stocks.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English name</th>
<th>Scientific name</th>
<th>Area (and GSAs)</th>
<th>Countries</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dolphin fish</td>
<td>Coryphaena hippurus</td>
<td>Western Mediterranean</td>
<td>Italy, Malta, Spain &amp; Tunisia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anchovy</td>
<td>Engraulis encrasicolus</td>
<td>Gulf of Lions (GSA7, 6)</td>
<td>France &amp; Spain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* Sardine</td>
<td>Sardina pilchardus</td>
<td>Gulf of Lions (GSA7, GSA 6)</td>
<td>France &amp; Spain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* Anchovy</td>
<td>Engraulis encrasicolus</td>
<td>Alboran sea (GSA 1, 3, 4)</td>
<td>Spain, Morocco &amp; Algeria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* Sardine</td>
<td>sardina pilchardus</td>
<td>Alboran sea (GSA 1, 3, 4)</td>
<td>Spain, Morocco &amp; Algeria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* Horse mackerel</td>
<td>Trachurus trachurus</td>
<td>Alboran sea (GSA 1, 3, 4)</td>
<td>Spain, Morocco &amp; Algeria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Porbeagle</td>
<td>Lamna nassus</td>
<td>All Mediterranean</td>
<td>All countries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shortfin mako</td>
<td>Isurus oxyrinchus</td>
<td>All Mediterranean</td>
<td>All countries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blue shark</td>
<td>Prionace glauca</td>
<td>All Mediterranean</td>
<td>All countries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Albacore</td>
<td>Thunnus alalunga</td>
<td>All Mediterranean</td>
<td>All countries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bluefin tuna</td>
<td>Thunnus thynus</td>
<td>All Mediterranean</td>
<td>All countries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swordfish</td>
<td>Xiphias gladius</td>
<td>All Mediterranean</td>
<td>All countries</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* = CopeMed II Málaga meeting new shared stock proposal in the sub-region.
Annex 1: Agenda

FAO-CopeMed II Working Document

CopeMed II meeting on the definition of priority topics related to shared resources (demersal and small pelagic) in the subregion

Málaga, Spain, 29-30 April 2010

Draft Agenda

1. Opening of the meeting and election of chairperson and reporters.
2. Adoption of the Agenda.
3. Objectives of the meeting.
   - Brief revision of the Terms of Reference of the DWG and SPWG
   - Organizational issues for the DWG and SPWG.
4. National reports on priority activities on shared stocks.
   - Report on species considered shared stock that needs priority actions according the country need and Status of current knowledge on the ecology and population dynamics of main shared stock;
5. List of GFCM priority species and shared stock to be considered in the CopeMed II sub-region.
   - List of target commercial species by GSA that are thought to constitute shared stock, considering the available information and knowledge on how these resources are shared between countries/fishing fleets;
6. The SAC 12 session. Revision of evaluated stock within the CopeMed II sub-region.
   - Stocks reviewed by the 12 SAC meeting and Recommendations.
7. Identifying and defining shared demersal and small pelagic resources and related fisheries.
   - Joint identification of shared stocks and related fisheries priority to the CopeMed II subregion.
   - Requests from the SAC and the Coordination Committee of CopeMed II, particularly on Pagellus bogaraveo, Parapenaeus longirostris and small pelagic in the Alboran sea
   - Critical areas for shared stocks within the subregion.
8. DWG and SPWG Work programme and schedule.
   - Proposing activities of subregional scientific cooperation to be carried out within the CopeMed II framework.
9. Other matters.
10. Date and venue of the next DWG and SPWG meeting.
Annex 2: Terms of Reference for the CopeMed II Working Groups on Demersal (DWG) and Small Pelagic (SPWG)

FAO-CopeMed II Working Document

toRs for the CopeMed II Working Groups on Demersal (DWG) and Small Pelagic (SPWG)

CopeMed II meeting on the definition of priority topics related to shared resources (demersal and small pelagic) in the sub-region

Málaga, Spain, 29-30 April 2010

1. Background of the Project Objective

The CopeMed II Project document establishes that “CopeMed phase two will support the establishment and implementation of scientifically based up-dated management plans for relevant specific fisheries both in each specific countries and at sub-regional level. This will be pursued through coordinated scientific investigations and data gathering as well as joint multidisciplinary analysis”. Moreover, the 2008 SAC report (paragraph 17), “to improve the functioning of working groups on assessments of demersal and pelagic species, SAC endorsed the proposal that the Demersal Working Group on demersal to carry out its work into four (4) thematic sub-groups on crustaceans, hake, mullets and other demersal species respectively, dealing exclusively with practical stock assessments, done on the spot at the meeting venue. The Small Pelagic Working Group will also deal with practical sessions essentially on sardines and anchovies. Other assessments undertaken with the support of FAO regional projects and/or other international initiatives, such as the Scientific, Technical and Economic Committee for Fisheries, Sub-groups of the Mediterranean (STCF-SGMED), would be presented directly to the SCSA for review”.

In line with the Project aim of strengthening joint research and sub-regional management of shared fishery resources, this CopeMed II meeting should mainly focus on shared resources by identifying the most relevant issues and consequently formulating specific activities to be implemented within the cooperative framework of the CopeMed II Project.

1.1 Objective

The medium term aim is the strengthening of regional scientific cooperation through the organization of a sub-regional Demersal Working Group (DWG) and a Small Pelagic Working Group (SPWG) of experts on the identification and definition of the CopeMed II sub-region shared stocks. Many commercial species constitute or will constitute shared stocks, but sound scientific evidence is somewhat fragmentary. There seems to be the need to comprehend the pattern by which some stocks are shared between countries. Therefore, it would be desirable to produce and assemble evidence on the nature of shared stocks.

The main objectives of the DWG and SPWG are to enhance the potential of scientists community in the sub-region, prepare the data sets according to needs of the GFCM-
SAC Sub-Committee on Stock Assessment (SCSA) and reinforce the sub-regional coordination, cooperation and synergy on stocks assessment by favouring sub-regional joint training.

1.2 Organizational approach
The 2008 SAC mandate above is an opportunity to work together on shared stocks with the support of CopeMed II in a friendly, cooperative and coordinate environment. *Ad hoc* Demersal and Small Pelagic Working Groups (DWG&SPWG) will consist of sub-regional experts open to external, qualified contributions. Each WG will be coordinated by an experienced scientist from the sub-region assisted by the CopeMed II staff. Initially, the DWG&SPWG will consider a list of target commercial species that are thought that constitute shared stocks. Consequently, to complete the available scientific evidence that is uncertain or insufficient, information from each country (e.g. research data, fishery statistics, etc.) will be cooperatively used for analysis. Important gaps in the scientific knowledge of some shared stocks, which cannot be filled with the existing information, will be highlighted and research proposals drawn up.

1.3 Output
It is expected that from the DWG&SPWG activities an improved definition and assessment of commercially important shared stocks will be obtained through strengthened sub-regional scientific cooperation. Proposals for joint research priorities will be elaborated where needed. Technical advice for cooperative fishery management of shared resources will be formulated.

2. Description and Objectives of the CopeMed II Demersal and Small Pelagic Working Groups

2.1 Description
The DWG&SPWG are established within the Project **Immediate Objective 2**: Strengthening the fisheries scientific research and upgrade the research activity in the national and international context.

The two WGs have the practical and operative objectives of:
- Identifying and defining shared demersal/small pelagic resources and related fisheries of the sub-region;
- Considering the available information and knowledge on how these resources are shared between countries/fishing fleets;
- Reviewing and highlighting the gaps in the scientific knowledge of shared stocks which are relevant for their management;
- Proposing of sub-regional scientific cooperation’ activities to be carried out within the framework of CopeMed II.

2.2 Topics to be addressed by the Demersal and Small Pelagic Working Groups
The following topics are proposed for consideration in the Agenda First Meeting:
- Listing of target shared stocks/fisheries by CopeMed II sub-region by Geographical Sub areas and Operational Units;
- Status of the available knowledge on the ecology and population dynamics of the main shared stocks also with reference to their seasonal and spatial distribution
pattern by size/age, reproduction and fishery recruitment dynamics in territorial and international waters, growth and mortality rates;
- Current identification of, and available knowledge on, critical areas for spawning and recruitment of shared resources which may require the adoption of management measures;
- Dynamics of the fishery exploitation exerted by fishing fleets/gear of the countries sharing the resources;
- Preparation of a synopsis on the biology and fishery exploitation of the main shared stocks in the sub-region.

3. Output and Follow-up
The DWG and the SPWG will identify the main and priority issues concerning the biological knowledge and fishery management aspects of the shared stocks of the CopeMed sub-region. Consequently, practical formulation of joint activities will be elaborated by the meeting, inclusive of methodological approach, to be implemented by the countries’ experts supported by CopeMed II within its resources and mandate. The work programme for the future WGs activities should be established.

4. Participants
The meeting should be attended by:
- Fisheries research managers of the national research institutions and relevant scientist from each country participating in the Project (nominated by the national Focal Point).
- FAO-CopeMed II staff.
- FAO FIRF officers.
- GFCM Secretariat.

5. Venue
Headquarters of the Project CopeMed II in Málaga (Spain).

6. Date
29-30 April 2010.

7. Working papers
Any kind of written contribution will be considered as a support paper and is welcome for discussion.

8. Organisation
The WG will be organised by the FAO–CopeMed II Project in collaboration with the CopeMed II’ National Focal Points and the FAO Mediterranean Projects and in coordination the GFCM Secretariat. Contact persons:

For travel and accommodation: Abla Kadiri (abla.kadiri@fao.org)
Technical aspects: Juan A. Camiñas (juanantonio.caminas@fao.org)
Annex 3. List of participants

Coordination to Support Fisheries Management in the Western and Central Mediterranean. CopeMed Phase II (GCP/INT/028/SPA; GCP/INT/006/EC)

CopeMed II Workshop
Place: CopeMed offices, Subdelegación del Gobierno. Paseo de Sancha 64, Málaga (Spain)
Dates: 29-30 April 2010

ALGERIA

Assia BEDAIRIA
Attachée de recherche en halieutique
CNRDPA
11, boulevard du Colonnelle Amirouche, Bou Ismail, Tipaza, Algeria
Tel: + 213 24 46 23 77
Fax: + 213 24 46 29 70
Email: assiabedairia@yahoo.fr

Nawel AINOUCHE
Attachée de recherche en halieutique
CNRDPA
11, boulevard du Colonnelle Amirouche, Bou Ismail, Tipaza, Algeria
Tel: + 213 24 46 23 77
Fax: + 213 24 46 29 70
Email: ainouchenawel@yahoo.fr

Hanane KENNOUCHE
Attachée de recherche en halieutique
CNRDPA
11, boulevard du Colonnelle Amirouche, Bou Ismail, Tipaza, Algeria
Tel: + 213 24 46 23 77
Fax: + 213 24 46 29 70
Email: kennouchehanane@yahoo.fr

Khadra FERHANI
Ingénieur d’Etat
CNRDPA
11, boulevard du Colonnelle Amirouche, Bou Ismail, Tipaza, Algeria
Tel: + 213 24 46 23 77
Fax: + 213 24 46 29 70
Email: ferhani_khadra@yahoo.fr

FRANCE

Henri FARRUGIO
Director IFREMER Avenue
Jean Monnet BP 171 34203 Sete.
Tel: +33 4 99 57 32 08
Fax: +33 4 99 57 32 95
Email: Henri.Farrugio@ifremer.fr

ITALY

Fabio FLORENTINO
Istituto per l’Ambiente Marino Costiero
Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche
V. Luigi Vaccara 61
91026 Mazara del Vallo (TP) Tel:
+39 09 23948966
Fax: +39 09 23906634
Email: fabio.fiorentino@iamc.cnr.it
**MOROCCO**

**Saïd BENCHOUCHA**  
Chief of Haliutic Resources Laboratory  
Centre INRH in Tangier  
B.P. 5268, Dradeb  
90000 Tangier,  
Tel: +212 5639325134  
Fax : +212 5639325139  
Email: bench2468@yahoo.fr

**Omar KADA**  
Chief of Haliutic Resources Laboratory  
Centre INRH in Nador B.P 493 Nador,  
Morocco Tel: +212 636331251  
Fax: +212 636603828  
Email: inrhomarkada@yahoo.fr

**Mostafa LAYACHY**  
Biologist  
Centre INRH in Nador B.P 493 Nador,  
Morocco Tel: +212 636331251  
Fax: +212 636603828  
Email: mostafalayachi@yahoo.fr

**SPAIN**

**Jorge BARO**  
Director  
Centro Oceanográfico de Málaga  
Instituto Español de Oceanografía (IEO)  
Puerto Pesquero s/n  
29640 Fuengirola, Málaga  
Tel: +34 952478148  
Fax: +34952463808  
Email: Jorgebaro@ma.ieo.es

**Alberto GARCIA**  
Centro Oceanográfico de Málaga  
Instituto Español de Oceanografía (IEO)  
Puerto Pesquero s/n  
29640 Fuengirola, Málaga  
Tel: +34 952478148  
Fax: +34952463808  
Email: albertaino@ma.ieo.es

**Luis QUINTANILLA**  
Centro Oceanográfico de Málaga  
Instituto Español de Oceanografía (IEO) Puerto Pesquero s/n  
29640 Fuengirola, Málaga  
Tel: +34 952478148  
Fax: +34952463808  
Email: luisquintanilla@ma.ieo.es

**TUNIS**

**Othman JARBOUI**  
INSTM  
Institut National des sciences et Technologies de la mer  
28 rue 2 Mars 1934  
2035 Salambo – Tunis  
Tel: +216 71730420  
Fax: +216 71732622  
Email: othman.jarboui@instm.rnrt.tn

**GFCM**

**Abdellah SROUR**  
Deputy Executive Secretary  
FAO-International Institutions and Liaison Service  
Fisheries and Aquaculture Economics and Policy Division  
Viale delle Terme di Caracalla  
00153 Rome, Italy  
Tel: +39 0657055730  
Fax: +39 0657056500  
Email: Abdellah.Srour@fao.org

**FAO-Headquarters**

**Pedro de Barros**  
Marine and Inland Fisheries Service (FIRF)  
Fisheries and Aquaculture Resources Use and Conservation Division (FIR)  
Viale delle Terme di Caracalla  
00153 Rome, Italy  
Tel: +39 0657055730  
Fax: +39 0657056500  
Email: Abdellah.Srour@fao.org
**FAO-COPEMED**

**Juan Antonio CAMIÑAS**  
Project Coordinator for CopeMed II and ArtFiMed  
Marine and Inland Fisheries Service (FIRF) Fisheries and Aquaculture Resources Use and Conservation Division (FIR)  
Subdelegación del Gobierno  
Paseo de Sancha 64, despacho 306  
29071 Málaga-España  
Tel: +34 952 98 92 99  
Fax: +34 952 98 92 52  
Email: JuanAntonio.Caminas@fao.org

**FAO-EASTMED**

**Konstantina RIGA**  
Project Coordinator EastMed  
FAO-Fisheries Management and Conservation Service  
Androu 1  
112 57 Athens, Greece  
Tel: +30 210 8847960  
Fax: +30 210 8837600  
Email: Konstantina.Riga@fao.org
### Annex 4. SAC list of priority species (2010)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scientific name / 3 Alpha Code / English common name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Acipenser gueldenstaedtii APG Danube sturgeon (=Osetr)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acipenser stellatus APE Starry sturgeon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acipenser sturio APU Sturgeon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anguilla anguilla ELE European eel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aristaeomorpha foliacea ARS Giant red shrimp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aristeus antennatus ARA Blue and red shrimp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auxis rochei BLT Bullet tuna</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boops boops BOG Bogue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coryphaena hippurus DOL Common dolphinfish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eledone cirrosa EOI Horned octopus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eledone moschata EDT Musky octopus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engraulis encrasiculus ANE European anchovy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Euthynnus alleteratus LTA Little tunny(=Atl.black skipj)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huso huso HUH Beluga</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Isurus oxyrinchus SMA Shortfin mako</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Katsuwonus pelamis SKJ Skipjack tuna</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lamna nasus POR Porbeagle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loligo vulgaris SQR European squid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lophius budegassa ANK Blackbelleied angler</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lophius piscatorius MON Angler(=Monk)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Merlangius merlangus WHG Whiting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Merluccius merluccius HKE European hake</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Micromesistius poutassou WHB Blue whiting(=Poutassou)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mullus barbatus MUT Red mullet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mullus surmuletus MUR Surmullet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nephrops norvegicus NEP Norway lobster</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Octopus vulgaris OCC Common octopus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oryctes unicolor BOP Plain bonito</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pagellus bogaraveo SBR Blackspot(=red) seabream</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pagellus erythrinus PAC Common pandora</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palinurus elephas SLO Common spiny lobster</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palinurus mauritanicus PSL Pink spiny lobster</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parapenaeus longirostris DPS Deepwater rose shrimp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Pecten jacobaeus</strong> SJA Great Mediterranean scallop</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pomatomus saltatrix BLU Bluefish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prionace glauca BSH Blue shark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psetta maxima TUR Turbot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Raja alba</strong> RJA White skate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sarda sarda BON Atlantic bonito</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sardina pilchardus PIL European pilchard(=Sardine)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sardinella aurita SAA Round sardinella</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scomber scombrus MAC Atlantic mackerel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sepia officinalis CTC Common cuttlefish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Solea solea SOL Common sole</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sprattus sprattus SPR European sprat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Squatina squatina</strong> AGN Angelshark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thunnus alalunga ALB Albacore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thunnus thynnus BFT Atlantic bluefin tuna</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trachurus mediterraneus HMM Mediterranean horse mackerel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trachurus trachurus HOM Atlantic horse mackerel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Xiphias gladius SWO Swordfish</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* proposed by SAC-SCSA (Malaga 2009)

** from RAC-SPA Annexes as proposed by SAC-SCMEE (Malaga 2009)
