



Preparatory meeting for the CoP19 of CITES and IWC68

30 juillet 2022
TANGIER (MOROCCO)

INTRODUCTION

1. At the initiative of ATLAFCO, a preparatory meeting was held from July 29 to 30, 2022 in Tangier (Morocco) as a prelude to the international meetings on the conservation and sustainability of living marine resources planned for the 2nd half of 2022, in particular the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties of CITES and the 68th meeting of the International Whaling Conference (IWC).
2. The main objective of the meeting was to strengthen and consolidate the **Voice of Africa** to better take into account the interests of African States. It had to identify and propose the necessary actions for a better participation of MS in international bodies dealing with the management of living marine species.
3. The meeting brought together the National Focal Points (NFPs) for CITES and those for Fisheries, in particular the IWC Commissioners of the following Member States: Benin, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Congo, Cote d'Ivoire, Gabon, Gambia, Guinea Bissau, Guinea, Equatorial Guinea, Liberia, Mauritania, Morocco, Nigeria, Democratic Republic of Congo, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Sierra-Leone, Togo.
4. To be noted the distinguished presence of the Minister of Animal and Fishery Resources of Côte d'Ivoire, current President of the Conference of Ministers of ATLAFCO.
5. The following organizations also participated as observers: the Fisheries Agency and the Overseas Fishing Cooperation Foundation (OFCF) of Japan, the Media Observatory for Sustainable Fisheries in Africa (MOSFA) and the World Conservation Trust (IWMC).
6. The list of participants is in (**Appendix I**).

OPENING CEREMONY

7. At the start of the meeting and on the initiative of **Mr. Sidi Tiémoko TOURE**, Minister of Animal and Fisheries Resources of Côte d'Ivoire and current President of ATLAFCO, the participants observed a minute of silence in memory of **Mr. Shinzo ABE**, former Prime Minister of Japan, assassinated on July 8, 2022.
8. In his opening speech, **Minister Sidi Tiémoko TOURE**, noted the importance of the meeting, which is part of the strengthening of the **Voice of Africa** within international organizations. He indicated that this meeting is an opportunity to reaffirm regional fisheries cooperation in the service of the sustainable exploitation of resources for a prosperous and audible Africa within international fisheries organizations.
9. For this, Africa must ensure its active participation through the exchange of information, develop coherent arguments and participate in the negotiations. He expressed the wish that the exchanges lead to a common position so that Africans participate as a united group in the discussions during these international meetings.
10. Finally, he thanked the Kingdom of Morocco for its constant support, as well as the technical and financial partners, the participants for their contribution to the organization of this meeting. He then declared open the preparatory meeting for CITES CoP19.
11. For his part, **Mr. Yassine EL AROUSSI**, representing the Minister responsible for fisheries of the Kingdom of Morocco, welcomed the initiative which will certainly contribute to a better coordination of the positions of the Member States, on essential questions relating to marine resources. He extended a cordial welcome to all the participants.
12. He also, on behalf of the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, wished all the participants a pleasant and fruitful stay in Morocco, a country in solidarity with the concerns of the States of the Continent. Likewise, he thanked the President of ATLAFCO and the Executive Secretariat as well as the development partners for their support and cooperation.
13. In his speech, the representative of Japan, **Mr. Morio KANEKO** of the Japanese Fisheries Agency, retraced the context in which this meeting was held, marked by food security issues. He thanked the ATLAFCO Secretariat for the invitation addressed to them, noting that 2022 is a crucial year for the fishing sector with the holding of several important conferences related to the conservation of marine resources.
14. He then indicated that the unconditional protection of certain species such as sharks, in particular the blue shark, contributes to the loss of the balance of the ecosystem and therefore does not promote the protection of the environment.
15. He noted the major challenges of the next two conferences, in particular the inclusion of certain species in the CITES appendices, which do not necessarily contribute to the sustainable management of marine resources. He thanked all the participants for their cooperation, especially the solidity of the ATLAFCO group.
16. In his turn, **Mr. Abdelouahed BENABBOU**, Executive Secretary of ATLAFCO, welcomed all the participants and particularly thanked the Minister of Animal and Fishery Resources of Côte d'Ivoire, current President of ATLAFCO for his outstanding participation in this meeting and his continued commitment to regional fisheries cooperation in Africa.

17. He recalled that the purpose of this meeting, which is being held on the eve of a multilateral event relevant to the conservation and marketing of living marine resources, is to provide information to representatives of Member States and to exchange their points of view on the various issues relating to the conservation of marine resources and their implications for fisheries, with a vision to ensuring their full participation in these meetings.
18. He added that beyond the opportunity it offers for the delegates of Member States to better prepare themselves, this meeting is also an opportunity to develop regional coordination capable of strengthening the "**Voice of Africa**". "whiting these instances.
19. He also pointed out that this preparatory meeting is an eloquent testimony to the clear will to take up the challenges, and to define a common strategy for better management of fisheries resources. Finally, he hoped that this meeting could contribute to progress in the rational preservation of these resources.

CONDUCT OF WORKS

20. The work took place in plenary according to the adopted agenda (**Appendix II**).
21. The chairmanship of the session and the moderation was entrusted to **Mr. Amadou Tellivel DIALLO** of the Republic of Guinea, Commissioner and Vice-Chairman of the International Whaling Commission. (CBI).
22. **Dr. ALI Domtani** (Togo), **Mr. Yassine EL AROUSSI** (Morocco), **Mrs. Azza JIDDOU** (Mauritania), **Mr. Abdennaji LAAMRICH** (ATLAFCO) were appointed to constitute the drafting committee.

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PROGRESS OF WORK

Session1: African States and the international management of marine species

23. **Presentation 1:** *The stakes of the participation of African States in the international management of living marine species*, communication made by **Mr. Yassine EL AROUSSI (Morocco)**
After emphasizing the importance of multilateralism, which is the foundation of international negotiations and noting that Africa's participation is relatively limited due to logistical and operational constraints, and therefore has little influence on decisions, the speaker drew attention to the need for sectoral coordination at the national and regional level in order to influence the decisions of international conferences through the active participation of Africa.
He concluded by insisting on the need for the participation of African States in any process of international negotiations, which concern living marine species, under the law of States enshrined in UNCLOS.
24. **Presentation 2:** *Fisheries and their contribution to food security in Africa*, **Mr. A. Diallo TELLIVEL (Guinea)**
The presenter underlined the importance of the fisheries and aquaculture sector in terms of employment, income and the development of the local economy. Above all, it is a key sector for the food and nutritional security of local populations. Fish represents 1/5 of the proteins consumed in

sub-Saharan Africa. The sector, however, faces challenges that threaten its sustainability and benefits for African people, such as illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, and climate change.

25. **Presentation 3:** *The principle of sustainable use in the context of the conservation of marine biodiversity*, **Ms. Despina SYMONS PIROVOLIDOU, Director (EBCD)**

This communication highlighted the links between the various international organizations including CBD, FAO, CITES, IUCN, SDG 14, BBNJ, IWC, UNFCC and their involvement in the conservation and sustainable management of living marine resources.

Session 2: CITES and marine species: The challenges of the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties

26. **Presentation 4:** *Sustainable use of fisheries resources and participation of African States in international meetings on fisheries*, **Mr. Abdelouahed BENABBOU (ATLAFCO)**

The presentation begins by recalling the duty and the responsibility to ensure the responsible exploitation of natural resources, but also to derive maximum profits from them, in particular to ensure the food and nutritional security of the populations.

The principle of sustainable use is enshrined in various international instruments (UNCLOS, SDG 14, Agenda 21, etc.) recognizes and respects the sovereign rights of countries - in particular coastal States - to exploit marine resources in their exclusive economic zones (EEZ) in a way that does not threaten the existence of a particular species.

The presentation highlighted that the sustainable use of resources, based on the principles of sustainable development, is the key to the rational and responsible conservation and management of living marine resources.

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27. **Presentation 5:** *History of the listing of marine species at CITES*, **Mr. Eugene LAPOINTE (IWMC)**

The presenter gave a history of the listings of living marine species on the CITES appendices. He recalled that the first CITES listings date back to CoP 10 in Harare, and concerned sturgeon. Listings of marine species continued in subsequent CoP 11 sessions (Great white shark); CoP 12, CoP 13, CoP 14; CoP 15 bluefin tuna listing failure.

The presenter concluded that for all that, the inscriptions did not allow an optimal management of the species in particular. He illustrated this situation with the following examples: Eels, with an increase in the export of juveniles from the EU to third countries, Seahorses, which resulted in lost revenue.

28. **Presentation 6:** *The 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, CoP 19 CITES: Information relating to the marine species concerned by the listing proposals*, **Mr. Med. SADIKI, (ATLAFCO)**

Mr. Sadiki began by recalling that the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Fauna and Flora (CITES) has three annexes I, II, III in which species are classified according to the degree of protection desired.

In principle, according to the listing procedures, following the proposal of a State, a scientific evaluation is carried out by the FAO expert advisory group.

For CoP 19, proposals include 60 species of sharks, 37 species of tropical sea cucumbers, one species of freshwater stingray and freshwater zebra fish.

Finally, he concluded that en bloc registration of families results in abusive registration and insufficient scientific evidence.

29. **Presentation 7:** *Conservation and preservation missions assigned to RFMOs*, **Mr. Driss MESKI (Consultant)**

This presentation highlighted the role of RFMOs in the conservation of living marine species. To illustrate this mission of RFMOs, the speaker gave the example of tuna RFMOs, in particular ICCAT, and the more than satisfactory results in the management of bluefin tuna, whose stocks have improved following the measures taken by the Commission.

He then made a typology of RFMOs involved in the optimal and sustainable exploitation of fisheries, specialized RFMOs, global or general in nature and recommended that cooperation (exchange of information and IUU list) between RFMOs is important in the conservation and sustainable management of marine species, through the strengthening of the fight against IUU fishing

He concluded that the listing of species already well managed by RFMOs is counterproductive and is likely to create management and exploitation difficulties for developing countries, especially African coastal countries.

30. **Presentation 8:** *FAO-CITES cooperation*, **Dr Lahsen ABABOUCHE, (Senior Advisor, Blue Economy-FAO/UNCTAD/UNIDO)**

The presenter recalled that the essential role of the FAO in the classification of species, hence the need for FAO-CITES cooperation. Thus, the meeting of experts on the three groups of species makes it possible to improve species management, by bringing together information and documentation on the species proposed, by assessing the risks and the impact of trade on the species concerned.

31. **Presentation 9:** *CITES developments and actions needed before CoP19*, **Mr. Morio KANEKO (FAJ)**

The speaker described the ongoing process with the panel of FAO experts. He pointed out that of the 100 species proposed 26 species are threatened but 70 species have similarities. It is then necessary to make the distinction between the species and to avoid a block inscription of the families which poses problems of exploitation of the resources. This leads to additional procedures for CITES NFPs, undermines RFMO efforts aimed at resource conservation.

32. **Presentation 10:** *The reform proposals of the WG/Operational Efficiency reforms*, **Mr. Shingo FUKUI (APJ)**

This presentation focused on the work and challenges of the next meeting of the Whaling Commission (IWC68), which will take place in Portoroz (Slovenia) from October 13 to 21, 2022.

The speaker emphasized the main results of the WG/Operational Efficiency, emphasizing the proposal of the WG/EO, relating to the right to vote and the contributions of the Parties to the Convention.

After inviting the participants to take all measures with their government to settle their contributions, he urged them to participate massively in the next session, and thus benefit from the right to vote which should be granted to all Parties who would not be more than 3 years in arrears.

At the end of the presentation, he addressed the importance of the participation of African scientists in the Scientific Committee, stressing that the cetacean observation campaign off ATLAFCO MS is a good opportunity for the collection of reliable scientific data.

33. **Presentation 11:** *The draft resolution on food security*, **Mr. A. Diallo TELLIVEL (Guinea)**
(Appendix III)

Mr. Diallo recalled that Ghana had presented in Florianópolis a draft resolution on food security (IWC/67/07), proposed by Antigua and Barbuda, Cambodia, Ghana and Guinea. The resolution urged Member States to consider the blue economy in relation to food security to optimize the benefits of the marine ecosystem by including the responsible and sustainable management of the fisheries sector as a key objective to strengthen food strategies. and nutrition in developing countries.

Following meetings of delegates in informal groups, the proposal was withdrawn. Antigua and Barbuda said the proposal lacked full support, but could be tabled at IWC-68.

The presenter invited participants to support this proposal at the next IWC68. After adhesion of all the participants, it was agreed that the Resolution will be presented by The Gambia.

34. **Presentation12:** *the 35th Session of the Committee on Fisheries (COFI)*; **Dr Lahsen ABABOUCHE, (Senior Advisor, Blue Economy-FAO/UNCTAD/UNIDO)**

At the start of his presentation, **Dr ABABOUCHE** recalled that COFI is a subsidiary body of the FAO Council created in 1965 by the FAO Conference, and is the only global intergovernmental space within which FAO Members meet to analyze and discuss issues and challenges related to fisheries and aquaculture.

At its 35th session, COFI is expected as in the past, to formulate global recommendations and guidelines for governments, regional fisheries bodies, civil society organizations and actors from the private sector and the international community.

Then, the presenter shared the projections for the next decade on fishing. This is a higher maximum level of capture fisheries production than seen in the previous decade and will result from a combination of improved catches in some fishing areas (due to improved management regimes in some cases but to increases in effort in others), higher market prices and new regulations stimulating the reduction of discards and waste on board ships.

He then reviewed the agenda for the next COFI session which will take place in Rome from 05 to 09 November 2022, emphasizing:

Appointment of the drafting committee

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (for information and discussion)

Support artisanal and small-scale fisheries, particularly in the context of the International Year of Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture (IYAFSA) (for information and discussion)

Fight against IUU fishing (for information, discussion and approval)

Addressing climate change in fisheries and aquaculture: progress report and action plan for the implementation of the FAO Strategy on Climate Change 2022-2031 (for information and discussion)

Evolution of global and regional processes related to fisheries and aquaculture (for information and discussion)

Decisions and Recommendations of the Eleventh Session of the COFI Sub-Committee on Aquaculture, 24-27 May 2022 (PCM) (for information and endorsement)

Decisions and Recommendations of the Eighteenth Session of the COFI Sub-Committee on Fish Trade, 8 April-8 May, 7-9 and 20 June 2022 (PCM) (for information and approval)

He finally listed the highlights of this session including fisheries management, fishing operations, aquaculture development, integration of fisheries into coastal zone management, post-harvest practices and trade, fisheries research, artisanal fishing, regional fishing organizations and NGOs as well as the constraints and solutions.

35. **Presentation 13:** *The Intergovernmental Conference on an international legally binding instrument relating to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction (BBNJ)*, **Mr. Driss MESKI (Consultant)**

The presenter began his intervention by pointing out that the texts of the Convention on the Law of the Sea which were promulgated in 1982 concerned a certain number of provisions relating to the use of the sea and its resources in general. and that this law could not go into detail on all the measures that cover all the aspects relating to the sea, which left the door open to the adoption of Supplementary Agreements or Conventions that can be adopted by the Parts for each of the specific questions.

He added that there were several agreements including:

- 1995 Agreement on Straddling Stocks and Migratory Species
- Port State Agreement adopted by the FAO in 2009.

He then noted that since 2017 the UN General Assembly has adopted a resolution to convene an intergovernmental conference to develop the text of a legally binding international instrument on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity areas beyond national or ABNJ jurisdiction.

It is in this context that the agreement relating to the BBNJ is experiencing very significant advances, especially with regard to its themes:

- Issues concerning marine genetic resources, including those related to benefit-sharing
- Measures such as area management tools, including marine protected areas
- Environmental impact studies
- Capacity building and transfer of marine techniques

He concluded that the final text will have to be validated during an additional session in August 2022, which was desired by Russia at the end of the work in March 2022. However, several points remain unresolved and risk constraining the continuation the process of adopting an instrument that legislates on the marine biodiversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction (BBNJ).

He concluded his presentation by inviting the Fisheries Departments of African countries to participate actively within their respective delegations in the ongoing negotiation process.

36. **General discussion**

The discussions focused on several topics:

- The position to adopt during the next meetings on the international management of living marine species;
- The challenges of proposals for the listing of living marine species on Appendix II of CITES;
- The involvement of African scientists in the work of panels and decision-making;

- Research and data collection relating to marine species;
- ATLAFCO support,
- Coordination at national and regional level.

The discussions thus enabled:

- To become more aware of the importance of the stakes and the impact of decisions on the economic and social level;
- To agree on a considered position in accordance with national and regional interests;
- To agree on the development of harmonious regional coordination capable of influencing decisions;
- To adopt joint actions to make the Group's **voice more heard** in favor of the principle of *sustainable use*, in forums on the management and conservation of living marine species.

Finally, it should be noted that two presentations were made during this meeting by the ATLAFCO secretariat on the conditions and procedures for participation in CoP 19 IWC68.

They also focused on the logistical arrangements deployed by ATLAFCO to ensure the participation of representatives of its Member States.

37. Recommendations

After a rich discussion, the participants made the following recommendations:

- **Taking into** account the need to ensure integrated and eco-systemic sustainable development, centered on maximizing economic benefits, social and environmental, in line with the principles of the FAO Program Priority Area” Blue (2022-2030)
- **Reaffirming** the commitment to contribute to the achievement of the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in particular SDG14 on the conservation and sustainable use of the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development, and the target 14b. “Guarantee *small-scale fishermen access to resources and markets*”;
- **Emphasizing** the need to ensure the conservation, management and rational exploitation of fishery resources and their sustainable development;
- **Conscious** of the vital importance for developing countries of the fisheries and aquaculture sector through its contribution to economic growth and the achievement of sustainable development goals, in particular the eradication of hunger and the reduction of poverty ;
- **Aware** of the growing dangers that threaten food security, in particular the use of food fishery resources, which can have potentially harmful consequences for the populations of our countries;
- **Concerned** by the precarious condition of many artisanal fisheries in African States as well as the situation of vulnerability and deprivation of the fishing communities who depend on them;
- **Referring** to the inalienable right of States to dispose of their marine resources for exploitation primarily for the benefit of their current and future populations;
- **Reaffirming** that sustainable use is a universal principle based on the application of sound scientific evidence;
- **Noting** the compatibility of the Strategic Objectives of FAO and the mandate of CITES;
- **Noting** that the conservation and management of commercially exploited aquatic species are properly ensured by the competent regional and international fisheries management organizations;
- **Committed** to the spirit of the Constitutive Act of the African Union, which calls for " *Promoting and defending common African positions on issues of interest to the continent and its people* ", and to the principles of unity and solidarity, to speak with one voice and weigh in on negotiations, in order to defend our collective interests relating to the management, use and sustainable conservation of marine resources;

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The participants agree on the following recommendations:

- 1- Promote the sustainable exploitation of fisheries resources by relying on the best available scientific advice from competent national, sub-regional, regional and international institutions and bodies, in decision-making for the conservation and rational management of living marine resources;

- 2- Ensure that the fishing sectors are involved in all coordination and decision-making processes that establish national and international policies that have an impact on the management of commercially exploited living aquatic resources,
- 3- Strengthen communication, diplomatic lobbying and cooperation efforts to promote the legitimacy and benefits of science-based conservation and *sustainable use*, in order to address growing pressure from those opposing the principle of sustainable use;
- 4- Participate, speak with one voice and weigh in on negotiations, in order to defend our collective interests relating to the management, use and sustainable conservation of marine resources;
- 5- Strengthen the scientific capacities of African institutes and researchers and ensure their regular and effective participation in the scientific committees of the competent international bodies for the conservation of marine resources;
- 6- Maintain consultation between ATLAFCO member states and countries sharing the principle of *sustainable use*, for better harmonization of their positions on issues of conservation and exploitation of marine resources, within the competent international bodies, and particularly at the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CITES;
- 7- Strengthen, within the States, the national coordination between the entities in charge of fishing and those in charge of environment conservation, and this, for a coherent and integrated management of the fishery resources;
- 8- Take into account, in decision-making by international bodies for the conservation and management of fisheries resources, regional specificities for certain fisheries, in particular the strategic importance of small-scale fishing, and its essential role in food and nutritional security, poverty reduction, and development of coastal communities;

And more specifically on the occasion of:

CITES19

- 9- Propose to CITES and FAO to assess the impact and ensure the scientific monitoring of marine species listed in the CITES appendices, on their conservation and sustainable development;
- 10- Review proposals for inclusion in the CITES Appendix with reference to the scientific and technical advice of the FAO Expert Advisory Group established in accordance with the 2006 Memorandum of Understanding between CITES and FAO
- 11- Ensure that the fisheries authorities of each Member State actively participate in the national decision-making process on CITES and examine proposals for listing in the CITES appendix, to exclude those that are not based on scientific evidence.
- 12- Raise awareness of the challenges developing countries face in implementing the requirements of CITES aquatic species listings (e.g. species identification, issuance of non-detriment findings (NDFs), issuance of the "introduction from abroad" certificate, "introduction from the sea" certificate) and the negative impacts on the sustainable development of fisheries and socio-economic aspects, the livelihoods of local communities, the threat to food security, rising prices of food and other products, including fish products.
- 13- While acknowledging that CITES aims to protect species truly threatened with extinction by restricting their international trade, raise public awareness of the fact that any listing proposal contrary to the objectives of CITES as provided for by the Convention not worthy of consideration;
- 14- Adopt the principle of resorting to restrictions on international trade in marine species threatened with extinction at the CITES level, only after the observation of the inability of coastal states and the competent Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMOs) to ensure their exploitation sustainably

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- 15-** Engage proactively in the food security and livelihoods discussion within the IWC: Resubmit the food security resolution;
- 16-** Develop new options to enable the IWC to stick to the objectives of whale resource management, given its longstanding dysfunction and inability to make sound decisions as a resource management organization;
- 17-** Support the active participation of developing countries in the work of the commission:
 - Temporarily restore at IWC68 only, the right to vote for all contracting parties with arrears of 3 years or less, due to the COVID-19 pandemic;
 - Align the suspension of voting rights with the timing of the biennial meeting and allow contracting parties that are late to participate in intersession decision-making;
 - Make payment plans more accessible.

38. **At the end of this meeting, Mr. Sidi Tiémoko TOURE**, Minister of Animal and Fishery Resources of Côte d'Ivoire, President-in-Office of ATLAFCO took the floor to thank all the participants, the resource persons, the interpreters, the Executive Secretary ATLAFCO as well as anyone who contributed to the success of this important meeting.

39. Finally, he wished that the recommendations made by the participants during this meeting be operationalized.

40. The proceedings of this meeting are declared closed at 13.30.

Appendix 1: List of participants

No.	Country	Full name	Title	E-mail address
1	Fisheries agency/ Japan	Mr. Shingo Fukui	Negotiator	shingo_fukui970@maff.go.jp
2		Mr. Takeru Iida	Assistant Director	takeru_iida150@maff.go.jp
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55		Mr. Coumba Ndoffene DIOUF	Head of Fisheries Management Office	coramac001@gmail.com coromac001@gmail.com
56	Sierra Leone	Mr. ShekuSei sei	deputy director and head of the competent authority for fish and fishery products	seisheku@yahoo.com
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59		Lt Col ADJEI-TOURE Issobou	Water and Forestry Engineer Head of Protected Areas and Wildlife Division , CITES Focal Point	issobou63@gmail.com
60	IUCN	Ms Despina symons Pirovalidou	Director, European Bureau for Conservation and Development (EBCD) Coordinator, IUCN/CEM/FEG	Despina.Symons@ebcd.org

Appendix II: Agenda

Day 1: Friday 29 July

- 09:00-09:30** **Welcome and Introduction**
- **1.1. Welcome speech**
 - **1.2. Opening statements**
 - **1.3. Organization of the meeting**
 - Designation of a Chairman
 - Appointment of rapporteurs

09:30-09:40 **Reading and adoption of the agenda**

- 09:40-11:00** **Session1: African States and the international management of marine species**
- **1.1.** The necessary participation of African States in the international management of living marine species, **Mr. Y. ELAROUSSI (Morocco)**
 - **1.2.** Fisheries and their contribution to food security in Africa, **Mr. A. TELLIVEL DIALLO (Rep. of Guinea)**
 - **1.3.** The principle of sustainable use in the context of the conservation of marine biodiversity, **Ms. SYMONS PIROVOLIDOU, Despina Director (EBCD)**

General discussion

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11:00-11:15 **Coffee Break**

- 11:15-13:00** **Session 2: CITES and marine species: The challenges of the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties**
- **2-1.** CITES: Definitions, objectives and process of listing in Appendices I and II, and the mechanisms and operation of CITES, **Mr. M. SADIKI , (ATLAFCO)**
 - **2-2.** History of the listing of marine species at CITES, **Mr. E. LAPOINTE**
 - **2-3.** The 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, CoP 19 CITES:
Information relating to the marine species concerned by the listing proposals:

General discussion

Participants are invited to comment on the proposed amendments to Appendix II of CITES concerning commercially exploited aquatic species

13:00 -14:30 **Lunch**

14:30-16:00 **Session 2 (continued):**

- **2.4.** Conservation and preservation missions assigned to RFMOs, **Mr. D. MESKI (Consultant)**
- **2.5.** FAO-CITES cooperation, **Dr. Lahsen ABABOUCHE, (Senior Advisor, Blue Economy-FAO/UNCTAD/UNIDO)**

- **2.6** The conclusions of the FAO and CITES Expert Panel, **Mr. Fumia TAKAHASHI, (FAJ)**

- General discussion
Participants are invited to present their opinion

16:00-16:30 Coffee break

16:30 - 18:00 Session 3: Round table: The common African position and taking into account the interests of African States: the way forward

**Animation: Dr. Abbabouch, Mr. Domtani, Mr. Meski, Mr. Camara,
Mr. Mr A. Diallo Telligel
Moderator: El Aroussi**

- **3.1.** National coordination
- **3.2.** Regional coordination
- **3.3.** The CITES listing procedures
- **3.4** The key arguments
- **3.5** The participation of ATLAFCO Member States in the 19th CoP, **Mr. A. LAAMRICH (ATLAFCO)**
 - Logistic arrangements
 - Travel arrangements
 - Visa procedures
 - Others
 - ✓ Presentation of credentials for observers and media
 - ✓ Presentation of powers by the parties

18:00 End of day 1

Day 2: Saturday 30 July

09:00-10:15 Session 4: The 68th Meeting of the International Whaling Commission in 2022 (IWC68)

- **4.1.** The reform proposals of the WG/Operational Efficiency reforms, **Mr. S FUKUI (FAJ)**
 - The main results of the WG/Operational Efficiency,
 - Voting rights and membership contribution
- **4.2.** The participation of African scientists in the Scientific Committee
 - The cetacean observation campaign off ATLAFCO MS

Discussion
- **4.3.** Draft resolution on food security, **Mr. AT Diallo (Guinea)**
- **4.4.** Information on the CBI68, **Mr. A. LAAMRICH (ATLAFCO)**
 - Logistical arrangements for the participation of representatives of ATLAFCO Member States
 - Travel arrangements

- Visa procedures

10:15-10:45 Coffee break

10:45- 13:00 Session 5: The other international meetings of 2022

- **5.1. COFI35, Dr. Lahsen ABABOUCHE, (Senior Advisor, Blue Economy-FAO/UNCTAD/UNIDO)**
- **5.2. BBNJ, Mr. D. MESKI (Consultant)**

Discussion

13:00 -14:30 Lunch

14:30-16:00 Session 6: Conclusions

- Recommendations drafting

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16:00 -16:15 Coffee break

16:15-17:30 Adoption of recommendations

17:30 Closing of the meeting

Appendix III: DRAFT RESOLUTION ON FOOD SECURITY

Submitted by Antigua and Barbuda, Cambodia, Ghana and Guinea

CONSIDERING THAT The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) was established on October 16, 1945 with the aim of overcoming world hunger and comprises 194 Member States, 2 Associate Members and 1 Member Organization;

CONSIDERING THAT the International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling (ICRW) was signed on December 2, 1946 and that the International Whaling Commission (IWC) includes 88 member states;

CONSIDERING THAT the United Nations predicts that the world's population will increase from 7.2 billion today — 870 million of whom suffer from hunger — to 9.6 billion by 2050

WHEREAS the FAO has given itself the vision “A world in which the responsible and sustainable use of fisheries and aquaculture resources makes a significant contribution to well-being, food security and poverty reduction” ;

WHEREAS the FAO has a mission to “Strengthen global governance, management and technical capacities of members and lead efforts to build consensus to improve the conservation and use of aquatic resources”;

RECALLING that the ICRW recognizes in its preamble, “that it is in the common interest to reach as quickly as possible the optimum level with regard to the stock of whales, without however causing general economic and food distress”;

RECALLING the right of every person to an adequate standard of living, including healthy eating _ in accordance at the Statement universal of the rights of the man;

RECALLING paragraph 158 of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20 “The future we want”, 20-22 June 2012), highlighting “the importance of conservation and sustainable use of the oceans, seas and their resources to ensure sustainable development, in particular through their role in helping to eradicate poverty, ensure sustained economic growth and food security and create sustainable livelihoods and decent jobs, while protecting biodiversity and the marine environment and addressing the consequences of climate change” ;

RECALLING the Millennium Development Goals of the United Nations which call for “halving, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people who suffer from hunger”;

RECALLING that United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 14 is to “conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for development sustainable”;

RECALLING the 2014 UN DESA “to improve human well-being and social equity while significantly reducing environmental risks and ecological scarcities”;

NOTING that responsible and sustainable management of the fisheries sector remains an essential objective for strengthening food and nutrition strategies in developing countries **NOTING** that whales have been hunted for nutritional needs for thousands of years;

NOTING that the CAM has established five Goals strategic, at to know:

- Contribute to eradicating hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition;
- Make agriculture, forestry and fishing more productive and sustainable;
- Reduce rural poverty;
- Work towards the establishment of inclusive and efficient agricultural and food systems;
- Strengthen the resilience of livelihoods to disasters.

NOTING by elsewhere that the members of the IWC are Member States of the FAO;

GRATEFUL the importance of food and nutritional security for the world's poorest and the need to engage in responsible and sustainable management of marine resources;

GRATEFUL the value of global cultural diversity, the existence of different methods of food production, and individuals and communities who practice sustainable hunting under the IWC's Indigenous Subsistence Whaling (ASW) framework;

REAFFIRMING our solidarity with communities whose food supply depends primarily on whales, given their nutritional needs, cultural identities and livelihoods;

REAFFIRMING the close link between food security and nutrition, preservation of cultural identity and secure livelihoods when achieving the global Sustainable Development Goals;

Considering that the convergence of FAO and IWC visions and cooperation between them will further strengthen the capacity of both organizations to fulfill their respective missions;

FOR THESE REASONS, THE COMMISSION

REAFFIRMS Article 25 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights which stipulates the right of everyone to an adequate level, in particular for food;

URGES the parties to take into account, inter alia, the need to ensure food security and good nutrition, the preservation of cultural identity and the security of livelihoods when making their decisions;

URGES parties to take into consideration the perspectives of the blue economy and blue growth in relation to food security to optimize the benefits (economic and non-economic) of the marine ecosystem, thus enhancing the societal footprint;

DECIDED to set up an ad hoc committee to recommend how the IWC can in the future take into account the need to ensure the food and nutritional security of many peoples of the world when making amendments to the Rules;

INSTRUCTS the Secretariat to forward this resolution to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations requesting while requesting to increase the exchange of information between FAO and the IWC