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REGIONAL FISHERY BODY SECRETARIATS' NETWORK

The Role of the Network of Executive Secretaries of Regional Fisheries Organizations - Global Platform for Communication and Exchange :

THE REGIONAL FISHERY BODY SECRETARIATS' NETWORK (RSN)

Coordination meeting between the institutions and
Regional Fisheries Organizations operating in the ATLAFCO zone
Morocco, 18 February 2019

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- II. RSN Character and objective
- III. FAO and RSN cooperative framework
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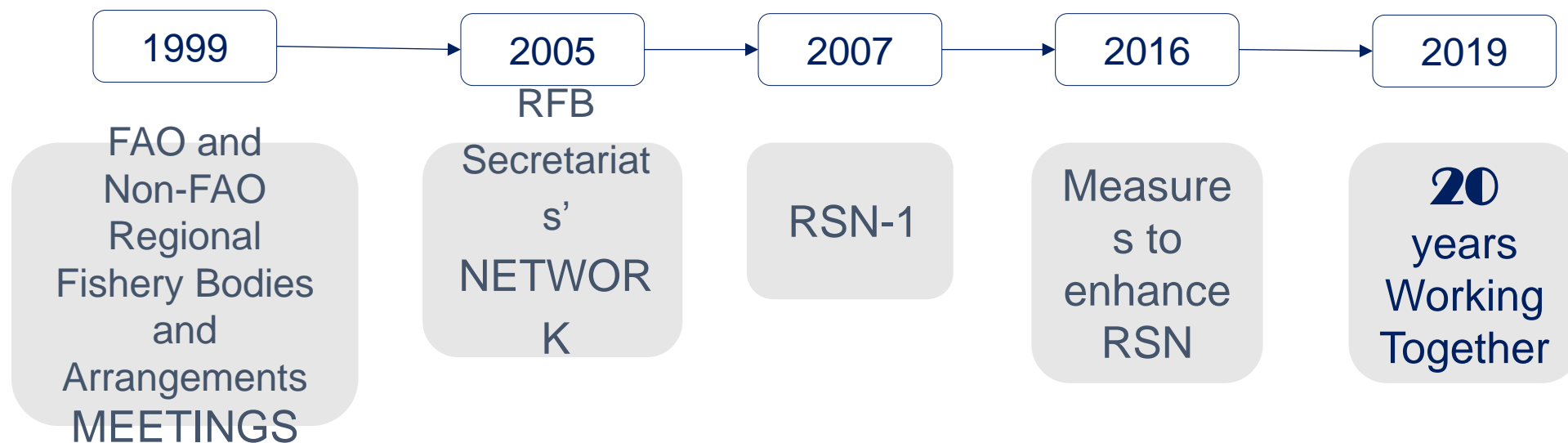
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I. RSN progress – laying the foundation





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II. RSN Characteristics and objective

Characteristics

- Member organizations: secretaries of RFBs and RFMO/As and partners
- RSN is not a FAO body but is supported by FAO
- Biennial meetings
- Decisions by consensus
- Non-binding decisions
- RSN and FAO collaborative background

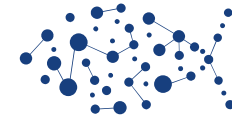


Main objective

Enhance cooperation and coordination among RFBs/RFMOs to achieve fisheries and aquaculture sustainable development through effective regional mechanisms (SDG 14 and 2030 Agenda)









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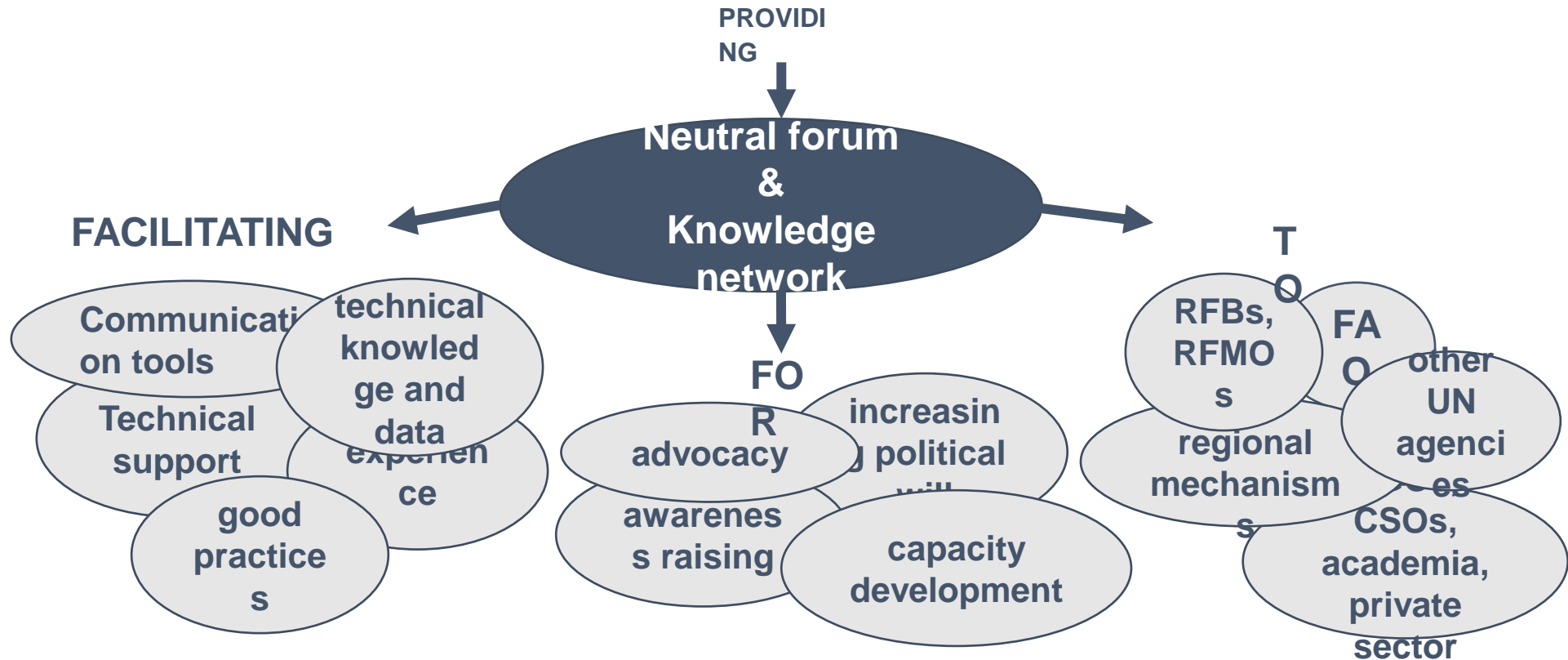
III. FAO and RSN cooperative framework

- S**ecretariat services
-  **V**enue and facilities for meetings
-  **D**edicated website - newsletters – publications
-  **I**nformation and data sharing
-  **C**ooperation in projects and technical support
-  **S**upport to regional cooperation and implementation of FAO/COFI policies
-  **O**utreach and advocacy on the role of RFBs in international processes



IV. RSN activities

to support the strengthening of its Member organizations and identifying together collective actions





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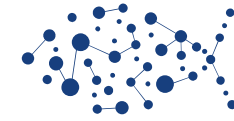
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V. COFI outcomes in the agenda of RSN and its Members

- Appreciated the role of the Regional Fishery Body Secretariats Network (RSN), including in facilitating coordination
- Highlighted the role of RFMOs for the fisheries sustainable management
- Called FAO for increased support to RFBs and RFMOs and national mechanisms
- Reiterated calls for support to the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden, the Caspian Sea and the CECAF and the WECAFC regions (i.e. Central Eastern and Western Atlantic).
- Encouraged FAO to advocate the positive contribution of fisheries and aquaculture to sustainable development and avoid the duplication of efforts through regional coordination



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VI. Why strengthening the regional cooperation?

According to international instruments, the main mechanism for organizing cooperative management is through international bodies such as RFBS/RFMOs

- ❖ Fisheries global issues must/can be addressed at regional level
- ❖ Responses to address country, regional and international concerns on fisheries and aquaculture governance should be coordinated and harmonized
- ❖ The main international processes and agenda (UNGA, CBD, WTO) are evidencing the need of RFBs/RFMOs key role
- ❖ RSN and its members are recognized as key actors in regional cooperation for delivering Agenda 2030, in particular SDG14
- ❖ RSN and its members positioned in international processes and agendas generate/increase political will and commitment at country level



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VII. a) Conclusions

RFBs/RFMOs have a key role to play in regional fisheries and aquaculture governance, promoting collaboration and joint action in relation to conservation and management of fisheries and associated biodiversity



Collaboration requires the identification of issues of mutual concern, identification of organizations with the necessary mandate and their respective limitations



Regional projects in support of cooperative fishery management are highly instrumental to boost cooperation among countries



Following the COFI outcomes, FAO is available to support the regional cooperation in the Atlantic as well as in other areas according to the RSN members requirement





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VII. b) Follow up

The *'Coordination meeting between the institutions and Regional Fisheries Organizations operating in the ATLAFCO zone'*

is kindly requested to discuss and advise on how to follow-up on the COFI outcome related to the enhanced regional cooperation for sustainable fishery management in the Central Eastern Atlantic, in collaboration with FAO and other relevant entities.



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Thank you

Get in touch:

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FI-RSN-Secretariat@fao.org

Video:

<https://youtu.be/XR8uBMsvVc0>