



General Assembly

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Review Conference on the Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks

New York, 22–26 May 2023

Organization of work

Framework questions

Delegations are requested to organize their interventions around the following questions so as to frame the discussions on assessing the effectiveness of the Agreement:¹

1. In which areas is implementation of the Agreement and the recommendations adopted at the Review Conference in 2016 proceeding generally well, and in which areas could such implementation be strengthened?
2. What means could be proposed to further strengthen the substance and methods of implementation of the Agreement?

¹ This methodology does not preclude delegations from addressing other questions in order to complement and inform the discussions.



Programme of work

<i>Date/time</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Programme</i>
Monday, 22 May		
10 a.m.–1 p.m.	Items 1–7	Opening of the resumed Review Conference; election of the President; address by the Secretary-General or his representative; adoption of the agenda; election of officers other than the President; credentials of representatives to the Conference; organization of work
	Item 8	Presentation of the reports of the thirteenth, fourteenth, fifteenth and sixteenth rounds of informal consultations of States parties to the Agreement
	Item 9	Consideration of the report on the status of the Assistance Fund
	Item 10	Assessment of the effectiveness of the Agreement in securing the conservation and management of straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks
	Item 10 (a)	Review of the implementation of the recommendations relating to the conservation and management of stocks: • Adoption and implementation of measures • Application of precautionary and ecosystem approaches • Determination of reference points or provisional reference points for specific stocks • Environmental factors affecting marine ecosystems, including adverse impacts of climate change and ocean acidification • Achievement of compatible measures • Development of area-based management tools • Reduction of fishing capacity to levels commensurate with the sustainability of fish stocks • Elimination of subsidies that contribute to illegal, unregulated and unreported fishing, overfishing and overcapacity
3 p.m.–6 p.m.	Item 10 (a) (continued)	• Lost, abandoned or otherwise discarded fishing gear, including marine debris • Data collection and sharing of information • Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) data arrangements and the global fisheries statistics database • Conservation and management of sharks • Conservation and management measures for deep-sea fisheries

<i>Date/time</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Programme</i>
		• Strengthening of the science-policy interface • Establishment of rebuilding and recovery strategies • By-catch management and discards • Compliance with obligations as members or cooperating non-members of regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements • Establishment of new regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements
Tuesday, 23 May		
10 a.m.–1 p.m.	Item 10 (a) (<i>continued</i>)	Review of the implementation of the recommendations relating to mechanisms for international cooperation and non-members • Strengthening mandates and measures in regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements • Performance reviews and best practice guidelines • Strengthening and enhancing cooperation and coordination among regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements • Participation in regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements • Improvement of decision-making rules and procedures in regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements • Implementation of interim measures • Effective control by flag States as members of regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements Review of the implementation of the recommendations relating to monitoring, control and surveillance, and compliance and enforcement: • Strengthening of flag State responsibility • Assessment of flag State performance • Fishing vessels without nationality • Participation under the Agreement on Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing of FAO and the adoption of port State measures • Control over fishing activities of nationals • Strengthening compliance, cooperation and enforcement schemes in regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements

<i>Date/time</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Programme</i>
		• Development of alternative mechanisms for compliance and enforcement in regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements • Regulation of trans-shipment, supply and refuelling vessels • Strengthening fisheries access agreements • Market-related measures • Participation in and provision of support to the International Monitoring, Control and Surveillance Network for Fisheries-Related Activities • Participation under the Agreement to Promote Compliance with International Conservation and Management Measures by Fishing Vessels on the High Seas and development of a global record of fishing vessels
3–6 p.m.	Item 10 (a) (<i>continued</i>)	Review of the implementation of the recommendations relating to developing States and non-parties: • Take concrete measures to enhance the ability of developing States to develop their fisheries for straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks, including facilitating access to such fisheries, consistent with articles 24 and 25 of the United Nations Fish Stocks Agreement • Enhancing the participation of developing States in regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements • Strengthening the capacity of developing States • Strengthening the capacity-building mechanisms and programmes, including the Assistance Fund under Part VII of the Agreement • Avoiding adverse impacts on, and ensuring the access to fisheries of, subsistence, small-scale and artisanal fishers and women fish workers, as well as indigenous peoples in developing States • Avoiding the transfer of a disproportionate burden of conservation action onto developing States • Cooperation with and assistance to developing States • Promotion of wider participation in the Agreement

<i>Date/time</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Programme</i>
Wednesday, 24 May		
10 a.m.–1 p.m.	Item 10 (b)	Proposed means of further strengthening, if necessary, the substance and methods of implementation of the Agreement (framework question 2)
3–6 p.m.	Item 10 (b) (<i>continued</i>)	Proposed means of further strengthening, if necessary, the substance and methods of implementation of the Agreement (framework question 2)
Thursday, 25 May		
10 a.m.–1 p.m.	Item 6 (b)	Credentials of representatives to the Conference: report of the Credentials Committee
	Item 11	Consideration and adoption of the outcome of the resumed Review Conference
3–6 p.m.	Item 11 (<i>continued</i>)	Consideration and adoption of the outcome of the resumed Review Conference
Friday, 26 May		
10 a.m.–1 p.m.	Item 11 (<i>continued</i>)	Consideration and adoption of the outcome of the resumed Review Conference
3–6 p.m.	Items 12 and 13	Other matters; suspension of the Conference