Report of the Regional Consultation on the Development of a Regional Plan of Action to Combat Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing

14 - 15 October 2019
Chennai, India
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Preparation of this Document

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Participants at the Regional Consultation; 14-15 October 2019; Chennai, Tamil Nadu.
1.0 The first Regional Consultation on ‘Development of a Regional Plan of Action to Combat Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing (RC-IUU)’ by the member-countries of the Bay of Bengal Programme Inter-Governmental Organisation (BOBP), viz., Bangladesh, India, Maldives and Sri Lanka was held in Chennai, India from 14 - 15 October 2019. The RC-IUU was jointly organized by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of United Nations and the Bay of Bengal Programme Inter-Governmental Organisation (BOBP-IGO). The Consultation addressed the FAO Strategic Objective 2: making agriculture, forestry and fisheries more productive and sustainable and BOBP’s Goal: enabling environment for sustainable fisheries governance is in place in the region under its Strategic Plan of Action 2014-18. In addition, the RC-IUU consolidated the regional effort towards meeting the objectives of Sustainable Development Goal 14.4: by 2020, effectively regulate harvesting and end overfishing, illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and destructive fishing practices and implement science-based management plans, in order to restore fish stocks in the shortest time feasible, at least to levels that can produce maximum sustainable yield as determined by their biological characteristics.

2.0 Within these broad objectives, the specific objectives of the RC-IUU were to: (i) sensitize stakeholders on the issues associated with IUU fishing and the need for urgent action; (ii) evaluate the scope and challenges in addressing IUU fishing at the national and regional levels; (iii) prepare an information, need and policy matrix for drafting of RPOA-IUU; and (iv) enlist the support of all stakeholders for timely completion and implementation of RPOA-IUU. The Regional Consultation was attended by twenty-three participants from the member-countries representing the Ministry/Department of Fisheries; Ministry/Department of Environment; Coast Guard/Navy; and community-based organisations (CBOs)/non-governmental organisations (NGOs) apart from experts, FAO and BOBP. The Prospectus and the Agenda of the RC-IUU is placed as Annex 1 and the List of Participants is placed as Annex 2.

3.0 The RC-IUU was inaugurated with the lighting of the traditional lamp. Dr Yugraj Singh Yadava, Director, BOBP-IGO welcomed the participants. He said that in 2008, BOBP-IGO organized the first Regional Workshop on Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (RW-MCS) for Small-scale Fisheries in Chittagong, Bangladesh to progress the implementation of MCS regime in the member-countries. One of the significant outcomes of the RW-MCS was the adoption of the Chittagong Resolution (Annex 3), which called for a holistic integration of fisheries MCS measures in national fisheries management and the capacity building required to do so. Pursuant to which, BOBP member-countries developed their National Plan of Action on MCS. Highlighting the importance of a Regional Plan of Action (RPOA) to curb IUU fishing, Dr Yadava said that the RC-IUU is a critical step in this direction and will strengthen the implementation of the MCS regime in the member-countries.
Participants lighting the traditional lamp

Yugraj Singh Yadava

Simon Nicol
Regional Consultation in progress
Dr Simon Nicol, Senior Fishery Officer, FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific in his welcome address said that FAO has been assisting the countries in developing their NPOA, and at the regional level the RPOA on IUU fishing. He said that by curbing IUU fishing, countries would be ensuring good income for their fishers and in the process also maximizing income through international trade. Dr Nicol said that fisheries are ‘fish’, ‘communities’ and the ‘economics’ surrounding it. He further said that FAO defines IUU through ‘Flag State Responsibilities’, ‘Coastal State Responsibilities and Port State Responsibilities’ and curbing IUU fishing is a high priority for FAO. The need for an RPOA-IUU is to formalize the coming together of countries in the region and to cooperate in a manner that reduces IUU fishing to the extent possible. Referring to MCS, Dr Nicol said that good MCS will help in reducing costs through joint operations (patrolling, etc.), joint trainings for capacity building, and joint enforcement measures to curb IUU fishing. In conclusion, he requested the participants to prepare the modalities for developing the RPOA-IUU and set timelines for its finalization.

Mr Rajdeep Mukherjee, Policy Analyst, BOBP made a presentation on “State of Marine Fisheries in the BOBP Region”. Highlighting the growing economic importance of marine capture fisheries in terms of income generation and export earning, he said that the BOBP region is an ecologically well-integrated region. The region is experiencing increasing fishing effort, which on one hand is leading to increase in production but on the other hand the stocks are showing signs of stress. However, given the ecological integrity and without a regional effort, any single country in the region will find it difficult to ensure sustainable exploitation of its fisheries. Annex 4 contains Mr Mukherjee’s presentation.

In the next presentation on “Definition and Scope of IUU Fishing in International and Regional Fisheries Instruments and Extent and Impact of IUU Fishing in the BOBP Region”, Dr Yadava said that IUU fishing not only destroys the stock but also economy of law-abiding fishers. He explained the definition and scope of IUU fishing in the context of different international instruments, including the FAO International Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate IUU fishing (IPOA-IUU) and FAO Port State Measures Agreement (PSMA). He then summarized the findings of the past studies on the extent of IUU fishing in the BOBP region and said that IUU fishing in the region took many forms such as fishing without license, use of prohibited gear, capture of protected species and cross-border fishing without authorization, etc. At the Indian Ocean level, IUU fishing robbed about 0.7 to 1.5 million tonnes of fish valued at USD 627 – 1378 million. Concluding the presentation, Dr Yadava said that IUU fishing also threatens the livelihoods of small-scale and artisanal fishers as well as food security in the region. Dr Yadava’s presentation is placed in Annex 5.

Dr Md Sharif Uddin, Principle Scientific Officer, Marine Fisheries Survey Management Unit, Department of Fisheries, Government of Bangladesh described the measures taken by the Government of Bangladesh to curb IUU fishing. Elaborating the measures, Dr Sharif Uddin said that the NPOA-IUU was under preparation in cooperation with the FAO; surveys for stock assessment were being undertaken and several MCS measures have been initiated to curb IUU fishing, including installation of Vessel Traffic Monitoring System (VTMS) in 133 industrial trawlers and 100 more such installations were in the pipeline. Further, the Government also proposes to install 10,000 Automatic Identification System (AIS) in artisanal fishing vessels. In terms of policy, the Marine Fisheries Ordinance of
1983 was amended in 2010 to establish traceability and catch certification in line with the 2008 European Union Regulation on IUU Fishing. Further, a new act “Marine Fisheries Act, 2018” and “National Marine Fisheries Policy, 2018” were being examined, which would strengthen the efforts of Bangladesh in curbing IUU fishing and a World Bank Project on “Sustainable Marine and Coastal Fisheries” under implementation proposes to set up 16 additional marine check posts. Annex 6 contains Dr Sharif Uddin’s presentation.

8.0 Mr Rajdeep Mukherjee made a presentation on ‘Addressing IUU Fishing – Position of India’, which detailed the output of the India National Workshop for Preparation of the National Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing, which was held from 23 – 24 April 2018 in Chennai, India. He said that the major output of the Workshop was identification of gaps that required to be addressed to curb IUU fishing and in this regard enactment of a law for controlling fishing in the Indian Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) and by Indian flagged vessels fishing in the high seas, catch reporting, vessel monitoring in real time, harbour-based control measures, etc. were required. Mr Mukherjee informed that the coastal States in the country have taken measures such as registration and licensing, issuing of biometric card, installation of AIS, etc. to improve MCS. In some cases, where Indian fishing vessels were caught fishing in the EEZ of other countries, they were penalized. Highlighting the need for traceability, Mr Mukherjee said that such development would further promote the acceptance of Indian seafood in the international market. In conclusion, Mr Mukherjee informed the recent developments in progressing the draft Bill to control fishing by Indian flagged fishing vessels in Indian EEZ and beyond and setting up of a committee to determine the optimum fleet size. Mr Mukherjee’s presentation is placed in Annex 7.

9.0 Ms Hawwa Raufath Nizar, Research Officer, Ministry of Fisheries, Marine Resources & Agriculture, Government of Maldives made a presentation on ‘National Measures to Curb IUU Fishing in Maldives’. She said that during 1990-2013, Maldives lost an estimated USD 5.16-37.19 million due to IUU fishing. “The Government is committed to curb IUU fishing. The new Fisheries Act of Maldives, enacted on 16th September 2019 is aimed at harmonising international agreements and conventions with national policies. The Act provides for the development of a register of fishermen and boat owners and vessel information would be developed along with the process for collection and sharing of data on fishing activities, vessel position, catch of target and non-target species and fishing effort, etc. In addition, there would be measures to ensure that subsidy is not provided to IUU fishing vessels. The new Act also delineates the responsibilities of concerned government officials, norms for ranger and observer services and provisions for penalty in case of unlawful activity. Other recent developments in the Maldives include signing of PSMA and development of a NPOA-IUU”, said Ms Nizar. Concluding her presentation, Ms Nizar informed that Maldives is also piloting electronic logbooks and e-observer systems to further strengthen MCS and the new Law also requires development of management plan for all commercial fisheries that are in the pipeline and to cover all commercial fishing fleet under the VMS. Ms Nizar’s presentation is given in Annex 8.

10.0 Mr N B M Ranathunga, Director General (Technical), Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Economic Affairs, Irrigation and Fisheries & Aquatic Resources Development, Fisheries Sector, Government of Sri Lanka made a presentation on ‘Sri Lanka:
Regional Consultation in progress - Group Discussions
Emphasizing on the importance of marine fisheries sector for the national economy, Mr. Ranathunga said that the sector receives high priority in governmental policy. “The country has adopted an ecosystem approach to fisheries and co-management framework for sustainable development of marine fisheries. The country is committed towards curbing of IUU fishing and is party to all concerned international and regional agreements and arrangements. The country has amended its basic fisheries law: Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Act, No. 2 of 1996 (last amended in November 2017) and Fisheries (Regulation) of Foreign Fishing Boats Act, No. 59 of 1979 as amended in January 2018 to strengthen measures against IUU fishing, including provision of penalty for violation of law for both domestic and foreign fishing vessels. The specific measures taken by the country to curb IUU fishing include setting up of a Fisheries Monitoring Centre; separate registers for boats fishing in national waters and in international waters; deployment of observers on-board fishing vessels > 24 meter LOA and alternative observation mechanisms for smaller vessels and maintenance of logbook and reporting of catch data by the fishing vessels”, said Mr Ranathunga. Further, the country has signed the PSMA and formulated the NPOA-IUU. A new fisheries policy has also been developed and a new fisheries Act: Fisheries and Living Marine Resources Act is currently being formulated to further strengthen the governance. Mr Ranathunga’s presentation is placed as Annex 9.

11.0 During the discussions on national presentations, all the countries informed that they did not permit any foreign fishing vessel to fish in their waters and neither their vessels were allowed to fish in national waters of other countries. Any such activity would constitute an illegal activity.

12.0 In the next session, the participants were divided into two groups for discussing specific issues assigned to the groups. The first group was tasked to provide views on the following questions:

(i) What benefits and costs are expected from the RPOA-IUU;
(ii) What should be the nature of regional cooperation;
(iii) Is the need for regional cooperation included in their NPOA-IUU;
(iv) Scope for developing a regional cooperative mechanism to report IUU fishing activity;
(v) Development of a regional vessel registry;
(vi) Regional framework for information, knowledge and technology sharing; and
(vii) Identifying cooperating agencies at the national level and coordinating agency at the regional level.

13.0 The questions posed to the second group centred around identification of requirements for building human capacity, research and development and enforcement in the areas identified during the first group discussion. Outputs of the first and second group discussions were discussed in the plenary and are placed as Annexes 10 – 13.

14.0 Based on the responses provided by the groups and the discussions that followed the group presentations, the following recommendation were presented at the plenary.

a. **Benefits and costs from RPOA-IUU**: An RPOA-IUU would be, at the margin, beneficial for the countries, who are likely to accrue some costs in
terms of allocation of human resources, policy harmonization, technology upgradation, etc. However, such costs would be outweighed by better enforcement, regional relations and policy coordination. The groups also cautioned that the specific interests of the small-scale and artisanal fisheries should be considered while adopting a regional approach.

b. **Nature of regional cooperation**: To ensure full compliance, a binding agreement on RPOA-IUU should be considered. As a binding agreement might take time, it was suggested that initially a non-binding instrument may be developed, which could later be progressed into a binding agreement.

c. **Provision of regional cooperation in NPOA-IUU**: Maldives and Sri Lanka have already developed their corresponding NPOAs, which, among other things, categorically emphasise on regional cooperation. Since the NPOA-IUU of India and Bangladesh were in the making, it was recommended that the two countries consider the scope of regional cooperation in their NPOAs. The RC-IUU also noted that there were existing cooperative mechanisms amongst the countries, including Joint Working Groups (bi-lateral) on fisheries and Joint Patrolling by the Coast Guards of India and Sri Lanka and India and the Maldives.

d. **Scope for developing a regional cooperative mechanism to report IUU fishing activity**: The RC-IUU has proposed setting up of a regional mechanism for monitoring and reporting of IUU fishing. This monitoring and reporting on IUU incidences, would include joint patrolling, sharing of information, preparation and maintenance of IUU vessel list, establishment of protocols for seizure, boarding, detention, prosecution and release of fishing vessels (including crew). It was also proposed that the protocols could provide for different set of directions for vessels from neighbouring/friendly countries. It was also agreed that a Joint Working Group of all the four member-countries should be established to deal with the above issues on a regular basis.

e. **Development of a regional vessel registry**: It was recommended that the registered vessel record of one member-country should be shared with the other member-countries in the RPOA. In this regard, first inter-ministerial and later inter-governmental coordination would be necessary. Further, such record should also be carried forward to the global record of fishing vessels.

f. **Regional framework for information, knowledge and technology sharing**: It was recommended to establish mechanism for exchange of information through relevant national agencies and a coordinating agency at the regional level. Such information *inter alia* would include details on fishing vessels and their real-time tracking, stocks and their catch and landing, etc. Further, it was recommended that capacity enhancement in areas such as patrolling, resource monitoring (including monitoring through satellites) and law enforcement should be undertaken.

g. **Cooperating agencies and coordinating agency**: The RC-IUU recommended that the Ministry/Department of Fisheries should be the focal point for coordinating the national effort in conjunction with the Ministry of Environment, Coast Guard, Customs, R&D organizations, etc. It was further
recommended that the BOBP as an existing regional mechanism would serve as the regional coordinating body for the RPOA-IUU.

**h. Drafting of the RPOA-IUU:** The RC-IUU also requested the BOBP to develop the draft RPOA-IUU in consultation with the relevant organizations and validate the same through a regional workshop to be held in Chennai during November 2019.

**i. Nomination of focal points in the member-countries:** The following were nominated to coordinate with the BOBP for developing the RPOA-IUU: (i) Dr Md Sharif Uddin, Principle Scientific Officer, Marine Fisheries Survey Management Unit, Department of Fisheries, Government of Bangladesh; (ii) Ms Hawwa Raufath Nizar, Research Officer, Ministry of Fisheries, Marine Resources & Agriculture, Government of Maldives; and (iii) Mr N B M Ranathunga, Director General (Technical), Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Economic Affairs, Irrigation and Fisheries & Aquatic Resources Development, Fisheries Sector, Government of Sri Lanka.

15.0 In his concluding remark, Dr Simon Nicol thanked the participants for their insight and active participation. He said that the RPOA as the name suggests is a regional instrument and should be developed based on regional needs.

16.0 Dr Yugraj Yadava delivered the vote of thanks. He thanked the participants for their active participation and wished them a safe journey back home.

17.0 The Report of the RC-IUU was adopted on 15 October 2019.

* * *
STOP IUU FISHING

From large vessels to small boats, the IUU actors are diverse and spread across nationalities.

STOP IUU FISHING

Every year IUU fishing costs fish worth billions of dollars, threatening livelihoods of millions of fishers and their families.

STOP IUU FISHING

You Steal We Suffer
1.0 Context

Curbing illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) Fishing is an important objective of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) to which member-countries of the Bay of Bengal Programme Inter-Governmental Organisation (BOBP): Bangladesh, India, Maldives and Sri Lanka are committed to. The SDG 14.4 holds that “By 2020, effectively regulate harvesting and end overfishing, illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and destructive fishing practices and implement science-based management plans, in order to restore fish stocks in the shortest time feasible, at least to levels that can produce maximum sustainable yield as determined by their biological characteristics”. Although a larger part of the effort is expected to be driven by the countries individually, however, without regional cooperation and coordination the objective cannot be fully realized.

Marine capture fisheries play a pivotal role in the economy of the BOBP member-countries supporting millions of livelihoods directly, ensuring food security, contributing to exports and creating a multiplier effect through the value chain. Prevalence of IUU fishing can significantly undermine these benefits in the form of resource depletion and forgone income, among others. Further, as fisheries management is being increasingly considered in global fisheries trade, failure to tackle IUU fishing can also impact the trade prospects of the countries. The need for regional cooperation to combat IUU fishing, while being institutionalized in International voluntary and non-voluntary agreements and treaties, the felt need stems from the biological integrity of the region where resources are shared and health of fisheries in one country depends on the state of management in another country. A framework for regional cooperation is also expected to lead to better information and science to manage fisheries.

In this backdrop, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations (through its Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific) and the BOBP propose to develop a Regional Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (RPOA-IUU) for the member-countries of the BOBP-IGO. The activity will contribute to the FAO objective of (Strategic Objective 2) making, agriculture, forestry and fisheries more productive and sustainable and BOBP’s Goal: Enabling environment for sustainable fisheries governance is in place in the region under its Strategic Plan of Action 2014-18.

2.0 The Development Programme for RPOA-IUU

The development programme for RPOA-IUU will start with a two-day Regional Consultation (this event) where countries will be represented by the concerned government authorities and primary stakeholders. Based on the inputs from the Regional Consultation, the BOBP/FAO will prepare a draft RPOA-IUU. The draft RPOA-IUU will subsequently be presented to the BOBP member-countries for validation (Figure 1).
3.0 The Regional Consultation

3.1 Date & Venue: The Regional Consultation will be held from 14 – 15 October 2019 in Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India. Agenda of the Regional Consultation is given in Appendix.

3.2 Objectives: Within the broad objective, the specific objectives of the Regional Consultation are to:

(i) Sensitize stakeholders on the **Issues Associated with IUU Fishing** and need for urgent action;

(ii) Evaluate the **Scope and Challenges in Addressing IUU Fishing** at the National and Regional levels;

(iii) Prepare an **Information, Need and Policy Matrix** for drafting of RPOA-IUU; and

(iv) Enlist the **Support of all Stakeholders** for timely completion and implementation of RPOA-IUU.

3.3 Participants: The Regional Consultation will be attended by about 30 participants: five (05) participants from each member-country representing Ministry/Department of Fisheries (02); Ministry/Department of Environment (01); Coast Guard/Navy (01); and community-based organisations (CBOs)/non-governmental organisation (NGO) (01) apart from experts, FAO and BOBP.

3.4 Language

The Workshop will be conducted in English.

4.0 Expected Outputs

The Regional Consultation is expected to produce the following outputs:

(i) **Sensitization of stakeholders and their support towards the need of curbing IUU fishing**;

(ii) **Agreed inputs and roadmap for preparation of RPOA-IUU**; and

(iii) **Workshop Report**.

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**Fig. 1: Work plan for the development of RPOA-IUU**

1. Questionnaire Survey
2. Regional Consultation (14/15 October 2019)
3. FAO/BOBP
4. September to November
5. Feedback from BOBP member-countries

**Validation & adoption of RPOA**

1. Presentation of RPOA to BOBP member-countries
2. Finalization of RPOA
3. Validation Workshop (Nov 2019)
4. Adoption (Nov 2019)
5.0 Travel & Accommodation

BOBP-IGO will bear all reasonable costs towards participation, including travel from the nearest airport to Chennai and return, accommodation in Chennai for the duration of the Workshop, Workshop meals and other reasonable expenses. Travel, lodging and boarding arrangements will be communicated to the participants upon receiving their nomination. Participants are expected to have their own insurance arrangements. BOBP-IGO will not bear any cost or responsibility towards insurance or any incident towards participation in the Regional Consultation.

6.0 Information & Contact

For further information, please contact:

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## Agenda and Timetable

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<td>24</td>
<td>1615 - 1625</td>
<td>Closing Remarks</td>
<td>FAO</td>
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<td>25</td>
<td>1625 -1630</td>
<td>Vote of Thanks</td>
<td>BOBP</td>
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</table>
# List of Participants

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<th>NAME</th>
<th>POSITION &amp; ADDRESS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. Bangladesh</td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Keya Khan <em>(Ms)</em></td>
<td>Joint Secretary&lt;br&gt;Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change&lt;br&gt;Government of Bangladesh&lt;br&gt;13th Floor, Bangladesh Secretariat Secretariat&lt;br&gt;Dhaka – 1000, Bangladesh</td>
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</table>

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<td>14</td>
<td>Mohamed Hilmy</td>
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<td>Daisy Maage, Galolhu</td>
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<td><strong>D. Sri Lanka</strong></td>
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<td>15</td>
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<td>Resources Development</td>
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<td>Fisheries Sector, New Secretariat</td>
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<td>Maligawatta, Colombo 10</td>
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<td>Sri Lanka</td>
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<td><strong>E. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations</strong></td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>Simon Nicol</td>
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<td>United Nations (FAO)</td>
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<td>18</td>
<td>V Venkatesan</td>
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<td>19</td>
<td>Rajdeep Mukherjee</td>
<td>Policy Analyst&lt;br&gt;Bay of Bengal Programme&lt;br&gt;Inter - Governmental Organisation&lt;br&gt;91, St Mary’s Road, Abhiramapuram&lt;br&gt;Chennai – 600 018&lt;br&gt;Tamil Nadu</td>
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<td>S Jayaraj</td>
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<td>Tel: + 91 44 24936188&lt;br&gt;Email: <a href="mailto:v.sreenivasan@bobpigo.org">v.sreenivasan@bobpigo.org</a></td>
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<td>Cheryl Verghese</td>
<td>Secretary&lt;br&gt;Bay of Bengal Programme&lt;br&gt;Inter - Governmental Organisation&lt;br&gt;91, St Mary’s Road, Abhiramapuram&lt;br&gt;Chennai – 600 018&lt;br&gt;Tamil Nadu</td>
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<td>23</td>
<td>M Krishna Mohan</td>
<td>Secretary&lt;br&gt;Bay of Bengal Programme&lt;br&gt;Inter - Governmental Organisation&lt;br&gt;91, St Mary’s Road, Abhiramapuram&lt;br&gt;Chennai – 600 018&lt;br&gt;Tamil Nadu</td>
<td>Tel: + 91 44 24936188&lt;br&gt;Email: <a href="mailto:krishnamohan@bobpigo.org">krishnamohan@bobpigo.org</a></td>
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</table>
Conscious that the marine fisheries sector is highly important for the economies of member-countries of the Bay of Bengal Programme Inter-Governmental Organisation (BOBP-IGO);

Recognizing that the marine fisheries sector is a major contributor to the livelihoods, food and nutritional security and foreign exchange earnings of member-countries;

Realizing that a high percentage of the world’s artisanal fisheries and small-scale fisheries are concentrated in South Asia, where many of the coastal stocks are almost fully exploited;

Recognizing that the marine fisheries sector largely operates in an open-access regime, and that the present condition of fisheries is largely attributable to weaknesses in the institutional and regulatory environment, a declining resource base and poor socio-economic conditions;

Realizing that monitoring, control and surveillance (MCS) regimes are weak in the marine fisheries sector of member-countries;

Concerned about the social and political constraints for regulating access to marine fisheries and for optimizing the fishing fleet;

Concerned that the current fisheries management regime for coastal fisheries in the region may lead to further unsustainable levels of exploitation of fisheries resources and thereby impact the livelihoods of small-scale fishermen;

Concerned that the supporting regulations and policy framework relevant to the needs of MCS for small-scale fisheries remain inadequately addressed by fisheries and maritime administrations in the sector;

Recognizing the limitations in institutional capacity of fisheries and maritime administrations in the region to undertake all responsibilities associated with the mandate;

Recognizing that the 1995 Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (CCRF) of the FAO does not adequately address the need and requirements of MCS in marine fisheries;

Emphasizing the urgent need to address the multi-dimensional issue of MCS for small-scale fishermen in a holistic manner; and

Recognizing that the problem is not insurmountable;

We, the representatives of Fisheries and Maritime Administrations, Coast Guard and Fishermen’s Associations, nominated by the Governments of Bangladesh, India, the Maldives and Sri Lanka, having participated in the BOBP-IGO Regional Workshop on Monitoring, Control and Surveillance for Small-scale Fisheries held in Chittagong, People’s Republic of Bangladesh, from 16 -18 January 2008, now therefore:

Resolve to address, as a matter of urgency, the issue of MCS for small-scale fisheries;

Recommend that MCS requirements be comprehensively integrated into every member- country’s fisheries policy and regulatory and managerial frameworks. This would include associated commitments under the CCRF and other regional, inter-regional or global instruments and initiatives;

Emphasize the need to rationalize institutional mandates and inter-sectoral cooperation at the national level, in order to enhance implementation of MCS in small-scale fisheries;

Recommend that fisheries and maritime administrations enhance their knowledge and database on the health of the fish stocks and on commensurate efforts required to harvest resources in a sustainable manner;

Recommend the development and implementation of education, training and awareness programmes which satisfy and promote MCS requirements;

Recommend that mandatory requirements for improving implementation of MCS be supplemented by other strategies which involve the participation of fisher communities, families, the media and other stakeholders in order to promote the adoption of a wide range of MCS measures;

Recommend that member-countries, while implementing MCS, also undertake measures to enhance the economic viability of small-scale fishing enterprises, as an essential element of the marine fisheries sector;

Recommend that member-countries make full use of the available technologies, including Vessel Monitoring System wherever feasible, in support of MCS;

Recommend that member-countries employ innovative measures such as co-management. This will be an effective cost-sharing measure for MCS and enhance the participation of fishers and other stakeholders in the management of marine fisheries resources;

Recommend that member-countries undertake measures to formulate time-bound action plans for successful implementation of MCS and for strengthening the national agencies responsible for MCS;

Recommend that member-countries undertake measures directed towards regional cooperation in ensuring successful implementation of MCS; and

Strongly recommend the formation and implementation of a regional MCS programme, employing a consultative and participatory approach, building upon institutionally derived data and the operational experience of small-scale fishermen.

Adopted on Friday, 18th January 2008 in Chittagong, Bangladesh.
Technical presentation 1: "State of Marine Fisheries in the BOBP Region"

Rajdeep Mukherjee
Policy Analyst

State of Marine Fisheries in the BOBP Region

Bay of Bengal Programme
Inter-Governmental Organisation

Re-learning fisheries

Subsistence to commercial
- Extraction for self-consumption and surplus sale

Commercial
- Extraction for sale for profit

Ecosystem approach
- Sustainable extraction, sustainable business, food security, conservation, rights, etc.

Stone age - 6000 BC - 16th CE - Present

The oneness of the region

Profile of the countries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>EEZ area (sq km)</th>
<th>Marine fish catch (FAO, 2017) (tonnes)</th>
<th>Fishers</th>
<th>Fishing boats</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bangladesh</td>
<td>0.12 million</td>
<td>637,476</td>
<td>516,000</td>
<td>67,917</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>2.02 million</td>
<td>3857213</td>
<td>1.4 million</td>
<td>257,898</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maldives</td>
<td>1.0 million</td>
<td>143258</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>729</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sri Lanka</td>
<td>0.5 million</td>
<td>426108</td>
<td>163,000</td>
<td>27,850</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

During 1990-2014, real value of catch from the region has increased from US$2,555 Million to US$6,083 Million (at 2010 prices)

Region's share in global trade doubled during 1990-2016. Both export and import increased significantly!
However, marine fish production in the region seems to be flattening!

Catch composition shows no significant quantitative change. The fishery remains largely coastal in the region.

Excluding India, marine fisheries is driven by hilsa and tunas!

The fishing fleet in number has increased over the years except Maldives. We do not have adequate information on power, which likely has also increased.

Fishing down the food web?

Fishing down the food web is the process whereby fisheries in a given ecosystem, "having depleted the large predatory fish on top of the food web, turn to increasingly smaller species, finally ending up with previously unprayed small fish and invertebrates". Marine Trophic Index is a measure of the overall health and stability of a marine ecosystem or area. The index is also a proxy measure for overfishing and an indication of how abundant and rich the large, higher trophic level fish are.

The Small Interconnected World of Fisheries: or how $10 Billion is generated in national fisheries globally through international flows of larvae.

A new study by researchers at the University of California, Berkeley, the London School of Economics, and the University of Delaware, shows that the world’s marine fisheries form a single network, with over 1.4 billion units of fish each year being caught in a country other than the one in which it spawned.

India and GDP in the tropics depend more on issues covered here than neighboring nations more other regions. These regions are too big to fail if they fail as a network. However, some countries in Europe, Asia and South America, that rely heavily on their own fisheries for protein, also have high economic and food security dependencies.

Summing up

- While countries differ in scale, fishing technology and targets, the interconnectedness means trend in fish stocks concerns everyone!
- The oneness of the region matters!
Technical presentation 2: “Definition and Scope of IUU Fishing in International and Regional Fisheries Instruments and Extent and Impact of IUU Fishing in the BOBP Region”

Yugraj Singh Yadava
Director

Bay of Bengal Programme
Inter-Governmental Organisation

Globally, the total loss from illegal and unreported fishing is about USD 23.5 billion annually, or about 26 million tonnes of catch.

How much is 26 million tonnes? 5X BOBP

IUU fishers are “free riders” who benefit from the sacrifices of legitimate fishers.
These fish pirates are not only enemies of nature, but their action is accelerating POVERTY for fishers of the future.

What is IUU fishing?

Illegal fishing

• conducted by national or foreign vessels in waters under the jurisdiction of a State, without permission or in contravention of its laws and regulations.
• conducted by vessels flying the flag of States that are parties to a relevant regional fisheries management organization but operate in contravention of the conservation and management measures adopted by that organization.
• in violation of national laws or international obligations, including those undertaken by cooperating States to a relevant regional fisheries management organization.

However...

• The definition is not clear whether ‘traditions’ are to be considered as a form of authorization or not.
• Neither the size of a fishing vessel nor the objective of fishing (commercial vs. subsistence) is mentioned. The definition is equally applicable to all vessels engaged in any kind of fishing.
• Means a fishing vessel is engaged in illegal fishing is done so in full conscience. However, infringement of the rules and regulations due to system failure should not be considered as illegal fishing!!
Unreported fishing...

- Fishing activities which have not been reported.
- Misreported.
- Undertaken in the area of competence of a relevant RFMO, which have not been reported or have been misreported.

Unregulated fishing...

- Fishing activities in the area of application of a relevant RFMO that are conducted by vessels without nationality.
- By those flying the flag of a State not party to that organisation.
- By a fishing entity, in a manner that is not consistent with measures of that organisation.
- In areas or for fish stocks in relation to which there are no applicable conservation or management measures and where such fishing activities are conducted in a manner inconsistent with State responsibilities for the conservation of living marine resources under international law.

IPOA-IUU

- First voluntary international coordinated action against IUU fishing.
- Based on four main areas of action:
  - Flag State responsibilities
  - Coastal State measures
  - Port State measures, and
  - Internationally agreed market-related measures

### IPOA-IUU Action Areas

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Flag State</th>
<th>Coastal State</th>
<th>Port State</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Check, report, and share information on IUU fishing</td>
<td>- Fishers must have flag state authority to enter a fishery.</td>
<td>-需实施措施以鉴定IUU渔业活动的存在。</td>
<td>-确保信息和执法。</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Enforce and co-operate to combat IUU fishing</td>
<td>- Implement measures to deter IUU fishing in their EEZ.</td>
<td>-需实施措施以禁止并打击IUU渔业活动。</td>
<td>-确保信息和执法。</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Combat IUU fishing</td>
<td>- Check and report IUU fishing.</td>
<td>-需实施措施以禁止并打击IUU渔业活动。</td>
<td>-确保信息和执法。</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Combat IUU fishing</td>
<td>- Implement measures to combat IUU fishing.</td>
<td>-需实施措施以禁止并打击IUU渔业活动。</td>
<td>-确保信息和执法。</td>
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### Using market to control IUU fishing

- The market-related measures are prescribed in IPOA-IUU and states that market-related measures are to be implemented in a fair manner and in accordance with the rules of WTO.
- **EU-IUU Regulation**
  - EU regulation No 1055/2008 on "Establishing a community system to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing".
  - Trade barrier on IUU barrier.

SDG-14 and WTO - IUU Fishing

- **Target 14.4**: By 2020, effectively regulate harvesting and end overfishing, IUU fishing and destructive fishing practices and implement science-based management plans, to restore fish stocks in the shortest time feasible, at least to levels that can produce maximum sustainable yield as determined by their biological characteristics.
- **Target 14.6**: By 2020, prohibit certain forms of fisheries subsidies which contribute to overcapacity and overfishing, eliminate subsidies that contribute to IUU fishing and restrict from introducing new such subsidies, recognizing that appropriate and effective special and differential treatment for developing and least developed countries should be an integral part of the World Trade Organization fisheries subsidies negotiation.
- **Indicator 14.6.1**: Progress by countries in the degree of implementation of international instruments aiming to combat IUU, unreported and unregulated fishing.
- **WTO - 2017 Buenos Aires Ministerial Conference (MCL1)**: ministers agreed on a work programme to conclude the negotiations by aiming to adopt, at the 2019 Ministerial Conference, an agreement on fisheries subsidies which deliver on Sustainable Development Goal 14.6.

### PSMA

- FAO 2009 Agreement on Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate IUU Fishing (entered into force in 2016).
- MSF member states and one FAO member organization (EU) have ratified or acceded to this Agreement (including Maldives, Myanmar, Indonesia and Sri Lanka).
- PSMA shall apply to fishing conducted in marine areas that is illegal, unreported or unregulated, as defined in Article 1(e) of the Agreement, and to fishing related activities in support of such fishing. (Article 3.3 of the PSMA)
**NPOA-IUU**

- Paragraph 25 IPOA-IUU: States should adopt national plans of action to further achieve the objectives of the IPOA-IUU and to review the implementation.
- Give full effect to the provisions of IPOA-IUU as integral parts of their fisheries management programmes, including measures adopted by RFMOs to prevent, deter, and eliminate IUU fishing.
- Full participation and engagement of all stakeholders, including industry, fishing communities and NGOs, is encouraged to combat IUU fishing.
- National efforts should be internally coordinated.

---

**Profile of the BOBP Region**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>EEZ area (sq.km)</th>
<th>Marine fish catch (FAO, 2017) (tonnes)</th>
<th>Fisheries</th>
<th>Fishing boats</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bangladesh</td>
<td>0.32 million</td>
<td>637,476</td>
<td>516,800</td>
<td>67,917</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>2.02 million</td>
<td>3,857,211</td>
<td>1.4 million</td>
<td>257,898</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maldives</td>
<td>1.6 million</td>
<td>143,258</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>729</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sri Lanka</td>
<td>0.5 million</td>
<td>420,108</td>
<td>143,000</td>
<td>27,350</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**IUU Fishing in the BOBP region takes many forms...**

- Fishing in the EEZ of other countries without authorization.
- Fishing without license.
- Non-reporting and misreporting of catches.
- Use of illegal catching methods.
- Capture of protected species.
- Discard, etc.

**Occurs in most fisheries:**

- Small-scale or industrial.
- Marine or inland.
- Zones of national jurisdiction or on the high seas.

---

**Causes of IUU fishing**

- Overfishing and declining stocks.
- Perverse incentives (for increasing fishing capacity, fuel subsidies).
- Markets and economic reasons;
- Poor fisheries management and control (extent of IUU fishing has significant relationship with governance indicators).

---

**Extent of IUU fishing in the Indian Ocean**

- Catch IUU fishing: 6.971.150 t - 15.303.311 t (approximately 6% of global IUU fishing).
- Value: US$ 627 - 1.379 million.
- Decline in Western Indian Ocean from 31% to 18% of total catch (increasing control by coastal states and reduction in unreported catch).

*Agnew et al. (2005): Estimates based on data on surveillance, trawl, stock assessments based on fishery-independent (survey) data and subject opinion to establish point estimates.*
Extent of illegal fishing in the Indian context*

- EEZ between India and Pakistan
- Lakshadweep Islands
- British Indian Ocean Territory (BIOT)
- Palk Bay: Between India and Sri Lanka
- Andaman and Nicobar Islands: Between India and Myanmar

*APFIC CB I. Regional review of illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing by foreign vessels. APFIC Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, Bangkok, Thailand, APFIC Publication, 2013.

Indian fishing boats operating in the EEZ of other countries (Source: APFIC, 2013)

Foreign fishing boats operating in the EEZ of India (Source: APFIC, 2013)

Impact of IUU fishing

- Economic impacts:
  - Loss of revenue to coastal communities
  - Loss of employment

- Environmental impacts:
  - Depletion of fish stocks
  - Damage to ecosystems

- Social impacts:
  - Instability and conflict

- Governance:
  - Weak governance and enforcement

- Benefits:
  - Increased fish catches

- Challenges:
  - Lack of international cooperation

- Recommendations:
  - Strengthen law enforcement
  - Improve transparency and traceability

- Other impacts:
  - Loss of biodiversity

Thank You!
Country presentation 1: Bangladesh

Md Sharif Uddin
Scientific Officer, Marine Fisheries Survey Management Unit, Department of Fisheries, Government of Bangladesh

Presentation Outline

- General Information
- IUU: Perspective Bangladesh
- IUU Catch Monitoring
- Challenges
- Way Forward

Fisheries Sector Contribution

- Annual Fish Production (2017-18): 4.28 million MT
- National GDP (BER 2019): 3.50%
- Agricultural GDP (BER 2019): 25.71%
- Export Earning: 1.51%
- Animal Protein Supply: 60%
- Employment (full time & part time): 17.13 million
- Women Employment (fish processing): 1.38 million
- Average growth rate during last 5 years: 5.61%

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fisheries Sectors in Bangladesh</th>
<th>Sector-wise Marine Fish Production (2017-18)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. Inland Open Water (Capture)</td>
<td>Total Marine Production: 0.65 MMT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Inland Close Water (Culture)</td>
<td>Artisanal Fisheries: 0.53 MMT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Marine</td>
<td>Industrial Trawlers: 0.12 MMT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Industrial 18%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Fisheries Sector Targets under 7FYP

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Baseline (2015-16)</th>
<th>Projection (2020-21)</th>
<th>Progress up to FY 2017-18</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Inland aquaculture (% increase) (MT/M)</td>
<td>1.96</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>22.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Capture fisheries (% increase) (MT/M)</td>
<td>0.99</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Hilsha (% increase) (MT/M)</td>
<td>0.39</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>34.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Marine fisheries (% increase) (MT/M)</td>
<td>0.60</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>9.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Export (US$ million)</td>
<td>615.35</td>
<td>1250.00</td>
<td>514.93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Per capita fish consumption (g/day/person)</td>
<td>53.00</td>
<td>60.00</td>
<td>62.58</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Legitimate right on Maritime Boundary

- Total area within EEZ: 118,813 sq.km
- Total Coast line: 710 km
- ABNJ including EEZ: 354 nm (677 km)
- Territorial water up to 12 nautical miles from the base line: 9,069 km²
- Internal water up to 40 fathom from the coast line: 24,800 km²

Gears, Catch and Depth Zone

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Species caught</th>
<th>Depth of operation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Trawl</td>
<td>Tiger, and other penaeid shrimps, Carfhi, jper fish, ribbon fish, mackerel, scads etc</td>
<td>40-100 m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gill-net</td>
<td>Hilsha, Indian salmon, mackerel, para, croaker, gruniers etc</td>
<td>8-10 m (flex), up to 30m (gill nets), up to 60 m (bottom set gill net)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESBN (Barred)</td>
<td>Mostly penaeid shrimps of fresh water and marine shrimp, jper, Bombay ducks, croakers etc</td>
<td>5-10 m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MSBN</td>
<td>Penaeid shrimps, anchovies, Bombay ducks, clupeids, sea perch</td>
<td>10-30m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bottom long line</td>
<td>Scaiers</td>
<td>10 -30m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beach seine</td>
<td>Small penaeid shrimps, clupeids, anchovies, sciaens</td>
<td>8-10m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shrimp PL nets</td>
<td>PL of P. monodon</td>
<td>Up to 5m</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Marine Fisheries at a Glance

- Marine species: 475
- No of Industrial Trawlers: 250
- No of Artisanal Boats: 67,669 (Mechanized-32,946 and Nonmechanized-34,810)
- No of Fishermen (Coastal & Marine): 0.516 Million
- Fishing Ground: 4 (North Bank Ground, Middle Ground, South Patates & South of South Patates)
- Marine Reserve: 0.98 sq. Km, est. in 2000
  - 3188 sq.Km at Nijhum Dwip, est. in 2019

Marine Fishing Zones in EEZ

[Marine Fishing Zones in EEZ diagram]

IUU: Perspective Bangladesh

Legal Framework: Policies/Plans/Act & Regulations

- National Fisheries Policy (NFP) 1998
- Hilsha Fisheries Management Action Plan (HFMAP) 2003
- National Marine Fisheries Policy (NMFP) 2018 (drafted)
- Government Vision 2021 & 2041
- 7th Five Year Plan (2016-2020)
- Bangladesh Country Investment Plan 2017-2021
- UN SDGs and Targets (2016-2030)
- The fish & fish Products (Inspection & Quality Control) Ordinance, 1983

Legal Framework........cont.

- The Marine Fisheries Ordinance, 1983
- The Marine Fisheries Rules, 1983
- Marine Fisheries Act 2018 (under final approval stage)
- The Bangladesh Merchant Shipping Ordinance 1983
- Bangladesh Labour Act 2006
Legal Framework

- Fish Protection & Conservation Act, 1950 (amended in 1995)
- The protection and Conservation of Fish Rules, 1985 (amended in 2008)
- The fish & fish products (Inspection & Quality Control) Rule, 1997 (amended in 2008)
- Roadmap (2014-2030) for Blue Economy

Marine Fisheries Management

- Marine Fisheries resources of BD is multi-gear and multi-species in nature.
  - Main targeting fishes are Hilsa, Bombay duck, Ribbon fish, Croakers, Catfish, Sardines, Snappers, Pomfret, Groupers, Thread fin breams, Mackerels etc. as major groups
  - Depth Zone Restriction: Shrimp and fish trawlers beyond 40m and Artisanal fishers within 40m depth zone. Up to 10 m Depth zone is prohibited for fishing
  - Mesh size control: 45 mm mesh size at cod end for shrimp trawl nets and 60 mm mesh size at cod end for fish trawl nets
  - Licence for trawler and boats: All trawlers and artisanal boats should have fishing license
  - Pre-sailing permission for trawlers from the MFO

Marine Fisheries Management

- Limiting the Fishing Days: Freezing trawlers for 30 days and ice trawlers for 13 days limit per cruise
- Banned Period: 65 days Ban (20 May-23 July), 22 days ban for Hilsa fish conservation (09-30 October this year)
- Conversion of industrial bottom trawlers to eco-friendly mid-water
- All types of trawlers new sanction has been stopped to restrict overcapacity
- Established two Marine Reserves: 696 s. km in 2000 and 3185 s. km in 2019
- VMS is introduced into 133 industrial fishing vessels
- Marine fisheries stock assessment by R V Meen Shandhini

Marine Fisheries Management

- Bangladesh Navy (BN) and Bangladesh Coast Guard (BCG) are deployed to enforce the ban and provisions of law routinely
- Deep Sea Fishing: Govt. has sanctioned 10 LL and 67 PS for deep sea fishing beyond 200 m
- A new act "Marine Fisheries Act 2018" and "National Marine Fisheries Policy 2018" are in underway of approval
- A mega project "Sustainable Coastal and Marine Fisheries Project (SCMF)" funded by WB and GoB launched to develop the coastal and marine sector in Bangladesh
- 16 Surveillance Check Post cum Joint Monitoring Cell will be established by SCMF project
- 100 VMS and 10,000 AIS will be set up by SCMF Project

IUU Catch Monitoring

- The Government has amended the Marine Fisheries Ordinance, 1983 in 2010 to incorporate FAO-CCRF to control, deter and eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing to conserve marine life
- The European Union through its Council Regulation EC 1005/2008 has laid down Catch Certificate Scheme (CSS) to combat IUU Fishing. Under this Scheme any company wanting to export marine fishes to European Union countries must have IUU-Catch Certificate (CC) approved by the flag state’s Competent Authority
- The Marine Fisheries Ordinance 1983 was amended in 2010 to facilitate issuing IUU-Catch Certificates by the Director, Marine Fisheries Office as Competent Authority

IUU Catch Monitoring... contd.

- Every month five industrial fishing trawlers are being inspected to monitor IUU catches in the Bay of Bengal
- As integral part of MCS implementation, VTMS is introduced in 133 commercial fishing vessels. Now the system is upgrading for real time data generation. 100 more VMS to industrial trawlers and 10000 AIS for artisanal fishing boats
- A number of 67,669 artisanal mechanized & non-mechanized boats has been recorded into database by the project "Bangladesh Marine Capacity Building Project" implemented by DoF

IUU Catch Monitoring... contd.

- Under The Marine Fisheries Ordinance-1983, 40 meter water depth is reserved for small-scale fisheries to minimize the conflict between industrial vessels and artisanal fishers
- One marine surveillance check post at Potenga, Chittagong is in operation
- DoF has identified and provided Fishers’ ID cards to the all fishermen including coastal and marine fishers
Report of the Regional Consultation on the Development of RPOA to Combat IUU Fishing

FAO Technical Cooperation Project: Support to Countries to Address Illegal Unreported and Unregulated Fishing (IUU)

**Impact:** Improved food and nutrition security in participating countries

**Outcome:** Improved management of fisheries and marine resources and reduced IUU fishing in the Asia Pacific Region

**Indicators:**
- Strategies to combat IUU (RPOA, NPOA, PSMA) in countries and regions/sub regional level
- Regional partnership programme

**Project Support: In-country**
- 3 stakeholder consultation meetings at Dhaka, Chittagong and Barisal to draft NPOA-IUU
- 21 October 2019 at Dhaka for ministry and high officials, 22 October 2019 at Chattogram for both industrial and artisanal sectors and 24 October 2019 at Barisal for artisanal sectors
- NPOA-IUU Validation workshop in 02-06 December 2019

**Project support: Regional**
- A Regional Inception Workshop (held in Bangkok Dec 2016)
- A Regional Strategy development meeting (combined with 1) A Sub Regional RPOA-IUU for participating countries (Chennai, India 14-15 October 2019)
- A Regional Programme validation meeting and project closure meeting (??).

**Challenges**

**Challenges to combat IUU**
- Entry of illegal fishing boats and poaching in our EEZ
- Licensing of mechanized fishing boats and control of effort at sustainable level
- Weaker management and monitoring of artisanal sectors
- Intense fishing deploying detrimental/destructive fishing operation by ESBN/ MSBN/Small-meshed gill nets and illegal gears
- Lack of observer scheme
- Shortage of manpower and logistics of DoF
- Shortage of human and logistics of BN & BCG

**Challenges to combat IUU……contd.**
- Implementation of the relevant rules of the FAO/UN CCRF including the fishers’ safety at sea
- Address adaptation to climate change paradigm
- Poverty of fishers for sustenance of livelihood
- Complete survey and formulation of management and development action plan
- Close monitoring of the impact of increased fishing efforts
- Developing a routine catch monitoring & database system

**Way Forward to Combat IUU**
- Formulating National Plan of Action (NPOA)-IUU
- Regional cooperation and Plan of Action to combat IUU
- Strengthen BN and BCG and developing a strong coordination with BN & BCG
- Capacity building of DoF manpower and strengthen logistics support
- Survey of artisanal fishing boats to update data
- Simplify the process of Licensing of mechanized and non-mechanized fishing boats
Way Forward ……..contd.

- Strengthen management and monitoring of artisanal sectors as well as for industrial fishing (e-monitoring, e-reporting, e-log book etc)
- Established observer scheme
- Strengthen port/land side inspection for artisanal fishing
- Strengthen VMS scheme and established VMS Center & VMS wing at DoF
- Improving livelihood of poor fishers
- Training and motivation for stakeholders
- Signing to Agreement on Port State Measures (PSMA).
Country presentation 2: Addressing IUU Fishing - Position of India

Rajdeep Mukherjee
Policy Analyst, BOBP-IGO

Addressing IUU Fishing – Position of India

Bay of Bengal Programme
Inter-Governmental Organisation

National Workshop on IUU Fishing

- National Workshop for Preparation of Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing held from 23 – 24 April 2018 in Chennai, Tamil Nadu.
- 38 Participants took part representing National Government, Coastal States and Union Territories (UTs), R&D Organization, Indian Coast Guard and Fisher Organizations.

Workshop outputs

- Gap analysis
- Measures taken by the States and UTs
- Measures taken by the Union Government
- Concerns related to WTO
- Inputs for preparation of NPOA-IUU

Position of fisheries in Indian Set-up

- Coastline to 12 Nautical Miles (NM) or territorial waters are under the jurisdiction of the respective coastal states/UTs.
- Water > 12 NM - 200 NM (Exclusive Economic Zone) under the purview of the National Government.
- Areas beyond national jurisdiction – National Government is responsible to ensure validity of the operation by the Indian flagged fishing vessels.

Thank You!
Country presentation 3: Maldives

Hawwa Raufath Nizar
Research Officer, Ministry of Fisheries, Marine Resources & Agriculture, Government of Maldives

Characteristics of National Fisheries Sectors

- Total Production: 201,510
- Total Number of Fishermen: 17,559
- Total Number of Vessels: 2,599
- Total Export Revenue Generated: MVR 3,745,951,002

National Measures to Curb IUU Fishing in Maldives

IUU Fishing in the Context of Maldives

- 3,103 scattered coral islands
- An EEZ of nearly 1 million km²
- Land to sea ratio is approximately 1:3,000
- 2004 estimates showed 20 percent of the working population was dependent on the Maldivian tuna fishery and industry
- Losses from IUU fishing (1990–2013) in the Maldives EEZ are estimated to average between USD 3.16-5.72 million

Legislature: The Fisheries Act of Maldives

- The new Fisheries Act of Maldives has been ratified on 16th September 2019. The law is designed to better harmonise with existing international agreements, conventions and obligations we are party to.
- It is structured to act as a framework law, in that, it touches upon the various multi-disciplinary aspects of the sector and serves as the legislative backbone for the sector as a whole, while leaving the more detailed codification to the regulations that will follow subsequently.
- There are several regulations under the previous law, which are to be carried over under this Law shortly.

Legislature: The Fisheries Act of Maldives

Some Key Provisions to Deter and Prevent IUU Fishing:
- Provides for monitoring vessels that request safe passage or entry into ports for non-fisheries related services
- Lays down the conditions under which licences can be revoked or withheld, alongside fines and other penalisation
- Details out the responsibilities of enforcement officers from the Maldives Police Service, Maldives Customs Service and the Coast Guard (and MDF)
- Includes provisions for Rangers and Observers
- States that a register of fishermen, boat owners and crew must be developed including vessel information
- Collect and share, in a timely manner, complete and accurate data concerning fishing activities on, inter alia, vessel position, catch of target and non-target species and fishing effort, as well as information from national and international research programmes
- Measures against subsidising IUU fisheries
Inter-Agency Cooperation in Monitoring Fisheries Activities

Institution / Authority / Ministry | Key Roles and Responsibilities
--- | ---
NHOI Coast Guard | • Surveillance of Maldives EEZ
• Enforcement of Fisheries Law of the Maldives
Maldivian Customs Service | • Implementation of PSMA
• Issuing Port clearance
• Inspection of fish holding
• Customs clearance for import/export of fisheries products
Maldives Food and Drug Authority (MFDA) | • Control health and safety measures for fishing vessels’ processing facilities
Transport Authority | • Registration of vessels and regular maritime measures.
Ministry of Environment | • Establishes MRPs and ensures that the integrity of their [state area] boundaries is maintained
Ministry of Police Services | • Enforcement of Fisheries law and regulations

Port State Measures Agreement

- Maldives has ratified PSMA (March 2017)
- If foreign fishing vessels call in to request use of Maldivian ports for various purposes other than fishing, they are permitted and inspected at the port by PSMA guidelines.
- Under the Fisheries Act, foreign fishing vessels seeking port entry are required to obtain a pre-entry permit in to the EEZ.

Surveillance Operations

- Each year, during the fishing season, joint surveillance operations are conducted with the help of neighboring countries.
- Cooperative efforts with US and Indian navies, particularly notable.

NPOA IUU

- NPOA-IUU has been formulated with the assistance of FAO. We are currently working on the implementation of the measures addressed in the plan.
- This law requires the development of management plans for all commercial fisheries.
- A regulation specifically on integrating the PSMA in to the fisheries legal framework has been finalised, it is currently undergoing review at the AG Office.

MCS – eObservers and VMS

- In the effort towards replacing the onboard observers with electronic observer systems, the procurement contract has been signed, and we are scheduled to receive and begin installation within the next 3 months under this contract. Tie into IOTC Resolution 11/04 on Regional Observer Scheme which mandates members states to monitor 5% of the total operations undertaken by vessels larger than 2,500.
- Similarly, the contract for VMS units to cover the entire commercial licensed fleet has been signed. Installation is scheduled to begin in 3 months. Both initiatives are funded under the SW/OP16A WB project (SRMP)

Management Plans

New Fisheries Act requires the development of management plans for all commercial fisheries:
- Licensing
- Catch and other fisheries data logging
- Quota-based management
- Gear restrictions
- Time-area closures
- Monitoring via VMS and eObserver System
Independent Fisheries Data Sources

Catch Certification
- All products of tuna and grouper exported from Maldives is required by law to be accompanied with a catch certificate.
- Discussions and negotiations are currently ongoing with stakeholders to integrate other products and species into the catch certificate system.

STREAMLINING INFORMATION SHARING MECHANISMS

FISHERIES INFORMATION SYSTEM, KEYOLHU
- Incorporate all commercial fisheries into the FIS – licensing and market linkages
- Online database designed to share data from all aspects of a fishery and promote traceability and the easy flow of information across both sides of the value chain

Thank You
Country presentation 4: Sri Lanka

N B M Ranathunga
Director General (Technical), Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Economic Affairs, Irrigation and Fisheries & Aquatic Resources Development, Fisheries Sector, Government of Sri Lanka

Sri Lanka
Combatting IUU Fishing

Motly Ranathunga
Director General Technical
Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock Development, Irrigation and Fisheries & Aquatic Resources Development

Fisheries of Sri Lanka
- Contribution to the National Economy
  - To GDP: 1.4% (2018)
  - National Fish Production: 27,000 tons, Value addition: USD 1,300 million
  - To animal protein intake of masses: 70%
  - Export earnings (2018): USD 280 million
  - Employment: 576,009 (8.7% of the workforce)

Management of Fisheries
- Owing to the importance of fisheries in the national economy, the government gives high priority for its management on a sustainable basis.
- Ecosystem approach, precautionary approach and participatory approach (co-management) are used as appropriate in management.

IUU Fishing
- Perceives IUU fishing as a serious threat to the sustainability of fisheries both in national jurisdictions and high seas
- Agrees that IUU fishing has to be prevented, detected, and eliminated
- Implements measures in conformity with the national and international law to combat IUU fishing
- Committed to cooperate with other States either directly or through IOTC (or other RFMOs) to prevent, detect, and eliminate IUU fishing

Implementation of Measures – All State Responsibilities
- Sri Lanka is a party to the
  - IOTC Agreement – ratified on 13.06.1994
  - United Nations Fish Stocks Agreement – ratified on 24.10.1996
  - FAO Compliance Agreement – acceded to on 29.08.2014
  - FAO Port State Measures Agreement – ratified on 20.01.2011
  - Provisions have been made in the national regulations to give effect to the above
The National Legislation for Management of Fisheries


- Fisheries (Regulation) of Foreign Fishing Boats Act, No. 59 of 1979 as amended by Act 1/2013

Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Act provides for (Contd.)

- Issuance of fishing operation licenses to local fishing boats on high seas (2013 amendment)
- Co-management (2013 amendment)
- Enhanced penalties for local fishing boats for violation of laws and regulations on high seas (2016 amendment)
- Prohibition of mechanized bottom trawling in Sri Lanka waters (2017 amendment)

Fisheries (Regulation) of Foreign Fishing Boats Act provides for Enhanced penalties for foreign fishing boats fishing in Sri Lanka waters.

- Sri Lanka does not issue licenses for foreign fishing vessels to fish in Sri Lanka waters.
- Sri Lanka issues permits only to foreign fishing vessels, which are not in the IUU fishing vessel list of IOTC, and which are fishing on high seas to tend their catches in designated ports subject to Port State Measures Regulations for re-export.

“Sri Lanka waters” means

- The area declared to be the territorial sea of Sri Lanka by proclamation made under section 2 of the Maritime Zones Law, No. 22 of 1976
- The area declared to be the contiguous zone of Sri Lanka by proclamation made under section 4 of the same law
- The area declared to be the exclusive economic zone of Sri Lanka by proclamation made under section 5 of the same law
- The area declared to be the historic waters of Sri Lanka by proclamation made under section 9 of the same law
- Bays, lagoons, estuaries, rivers, lakes and other public inland or internal waters

“Local fishing boat” means any fishing boat

- Wholly owned by the Government of Sri Lanka or any public corporation established by or under any law of Sri Lanka
- Wholly owned by one or more persons who are citizens of Sri Lanka
- Wholly owned by any company, society or other association of persons, incorporated or established under the law of Sri Lanka, a majority of the voting shares of which are held by citizens of Sri Lanka

Monitoring, Control and Surveillance

A scheme of issuing fishing operation licenses to local fishing boats to fish in Sri Lanka waters or on high seas established.

- Separate registers of local fishing boats (1) fishing in Sri Lanka waters, and (2) on high seas established.
- A land-based fisheries monitoring centre (FMC) with a satellite-based vessel monitoring system established.
- Fish catch data collection regulations, 2014 compelling fishing vessels to provide catch data issued.
- Observers are being deployed on vessels over 24 m, and an alternative observation mechanism for smaller vessels established.
- Vessels are required to maintain logbooks.

The Sri Lanka National Plan of Action to Combat IUU Fishing (SLNPOA-IUU)

- Established in 2013 on the lines of the FAO International Plan of Action on IUU Fishing, and revised in 2015.
- DIFAR is the implementing authority.
- The Sri Lanka Navy, Sri Lanka Coast Guard, Sri Lanka Customs and Ceylon Fishery Harbours Corporation cooperate in implementing.
- Subject to periodic review and revision in consultation with all stakeholders.
Flag State Measures

All fishing vessels need registration as fishing boats, fishing either (1) in Sri Lanka waters or (2) on high seas.

Only Sri Lankan fishing boats and no foreign fishing boats are given registration.

All registered fishing vessels require a fishing operation license (authorization to fish) to fish in Sri Lanka waters or on high seas.

Fishing operation licenses are issued only for fishing vessels, the activities of which can be monitored through VMS.

Coastal State Measures

Sri Lanka has no agreements or other arrangements with other States on fishing in Sri Lanka waters.

No fishing operation licenses are issued for foreign fishing vessels to fish in Sri Lanka waters.

Port State Measures

- Foreign fishing vessels fishing on high seas are issued with permits to land fish at a designated local harbour provided
  - The flag State of such vessels is a member country of IOTC
  - Such vessels are not on the IUU vessel list of IOTC
  - Such vessels have no history of IUU fishing
  - For the first permit, agent or captain of the vessel has to give 48 hours notice to enable DPAR to make inquiries, and subsequent permits 24 hours notice
  - Each landing is inspected by a trained inspector.

Market State Measures

Sri Lanka is a member of the World Trade Organization (WTO) and performs international trade in all items including fish in conformity with WTO requirements.

Sri Lanka implements the six digit harmonized commodity description and coding system developed by World Customs Organizations in international trade in fish.

Other Measures

Sri Lanka has developed and adopted a national plan for conservation of sharks and management of shark fisheries in accordance with the FAO International Plan of Action on Conservation and Management of Sharks.

Sri Lanka is committed to implement the measures in the FAO Code of Conduct of Responsible Fisheries.

Sri Lanka has developed and adopted a new national fisheries policy with technical assistance from Norway which targets all among other objectives
- Sustainable management of fisheries using science-based information;
- Compliance with regional and international obligations
- Combating IUU fishing including fish laundering.
A new Act – Fisheries and Living Marine Resources Act - is being formulated to replace the current Act as Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Act.
Output from Group Discussion-1A

Requirements for Preparation of RPOA-IUU: Legal & Policy, Regional Cooperation and Technology Aspects

A. Group Members

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- Shoba Joe Kizhakudan, India
- Ankur Marodia, India
- Hawwa Raufath Nizar, Maldives
- Mohamed Hilmy, Maldives

B. Discussion

1.0 What benefits and costs do you visualise from RPOA-IUU?

Benefits

- As some countries in the region are more developed in their MCS capacity, an RPOA would provide a good platform for technology transfer and sharing, as well as sharing the lessons learnt.
- Opportunity for the countries to harmonise their internal coordination and data sharing mechanisms between stakeholder agencies and ministries prior to taking part in the regional initiative.
- Will serve as an exercise in confidence building, leading to regional harmony and a mechanism through which information can be better shared.
- Shared information also means that coordinated action can be taken to gain better results. For example, Bangladesh already shares information on when Hilsa fishing is restricted (annual 22-day ban) with the Indian counterparts, so that the measure can be carried over across the border.
- Will help in curbing other transnational crimes that occur at sea or associated with the fisheries sector.
- Help in expediting processes of maritime boundary delimitation within the region, as this would be crucial for coordination. For example, this may lend strength to the conversation on finalising the border between India and Bangladesh. Consequently, this would also mean an improvement in the maps, especially those provided to fishermen, thus reducing the chances of accidental infringement.
- Will help in improving safety at sea.
- Sustainable management of resources will be encouraged, especially shared and migratory resources.
- The RPOA-IUU will increase the proportion of legitimate fishing, thus helping to create a global brand that capitalises on sustainable fisheries for the region.
Costs

- In the context of non-monetary costs, the impact of larger-scale measures need to be considered and how they affect different communities, in particular small-scale fisheries, which are often over looked in the broader context.
- Cost-benefit analysis need to be carried out to determine whether the costs incurred are worth the benefits that will be accrued.
- Both human resource development and technological improvements are direct costs that may require significant financial investment at the initial stage and subsequent recurring costs. Though the initial financial investment is considerable, however, it will continue to give benefits in the long-term.
- Cost will also be incurred on ensuring that all enforcement officers have harmonised knowledge of regional laws and regulations.

2.0 What should be the nature of regional cooperation?

- Cooperation should be ensured through a binding instrument, as cooperating on a voluntary basis will not be conducive in the long-run.

3.0 Is regional coordination formulated in the NPOA IUU?

3.1 Scope of policy harmonisation

- National policy should be harmonised with the RPOA.
- Ecosystem and the biological characteristics are quite different within the coastal environments of each country, so harmonisation makes more sense in the high-seas context.
- However, some level of harmonisation must be achieved, especially in the case of shared resources. For example, in one country, there might be very little prosecution for an IUU activity, whereas in an adjacent country, the penalisation may be severe. This creates an incentive for vessels to cross over. The degree of deterrence should be equitable, to the possible extent.
- Joint authorisation to board a vessel for high seas should be considered.
- If the Coast Guard/Navy of one country apprehends a vessel from another country, they may warn the vessel and handover the vessel to the custody of the original Flag state. Further, there should be a mechanism for sharing the report, so that the case can be followed right up to prosecution.
- Focus must be to address issues that are of importance to all countries.

3.2 Regional monitoring mechanism, especially in the high seas

- Joint patrolling can be carried out. Patrol areas and days can be decided in coordination and should not duplicate.
- Monitoring data, including satellite data should also be shared.
4.0 Scope for developing a regional cooperative mechanism for reporting

- IUU reporting centres should be established, considering the lessons learnt from the Piracy Reporting Centres and cooperation within IOTC (can explore whether this reporting centre can be merged with the Piracy Reporting Centre or Information Fusion Centre).
- The identity of the IUU vessel must be first established, if required through diplomatic means. A decision can then be taken to apprehend, report as IUU or deal with the situation in a friendly manner.
- Often, a fishing vessel is unable to accurately judge the International Maritime Boundary Line. Enforcement officers should guide them in cases of accidental infringement. Sometimes vessels also come into ports of neighbouring countries for shelter in stormy weather (*e.g.* Indian fishermen who took shelter during a storm in Bangladesh and were later escorted to India.
- A formal joint working group should be formed.

5.0 Development of regional vessel registry

- The registry of fishing vessels should be shared and such registry should also be brought into the global record of fishing vessels. In the process, each vessel will get a unique identification number.

6.0 Regional Framework for Information Knowledge and Technology Sharing

6.1 Types of Information Needed

1. Details of the vessels (uniform reporting format).
2. Identified focal points and contact information.
3. Knowledge and information about the resource (details of catch).

6.2 Types of Information Available Nationally

1. VMS.
2. Vessel Data.
3. Information on straddling stocks.
4. Nationally available information on IUU Vessels.
5. Satellite monitoring data.

6.3 Protocols of Information sharing

- Methodology and time-frame for action (*e.g.*: in the case of boarding).
- Designate an authority for information sharing.
7.0 Cooperating and Coordinating Agencies

- BOBP will coordinate regionally and each member-country will have a sub-coordinating focal agency.
- Cooperating Agencies:
  - Ministry/Department of Fisheries.
  - Ministry of Defence (Coast Guard, Navy).
  - Port Authority/ Customs.
  - Ministry/Department Environment.
  - Ministry/Department Foreign Affairs.

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Output from Group Discussion-1B

Requirements for Preparation of RPOA-IUU: Legal & Policy, Regional cooperation and Technology Aspects

A. Group Members

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- Ahmed Anwar, Maldives
- N B M Ranathunga, Sri Lanka
- Md Rashed Parvej, Bangladesh
- T Peter, India
- Mohamed Naeem, Maldives
- Ummu Kulsoom, Maldives
- N Venugopalan, India

B. Discussion

1.0 What benefits and costs do you visualise from RPOA-IUU?

Benefits

- Strengthening relationship between and among the member-countries towards combating IUU.
- Increase in reporting and sharing of information.
- Use of homogenous and harmonized rules and regulations to fill up the gaps among the member-countries.
- Increase in fish stocks.
- Easy conflict resolutions.

Costs

- Establishment of regional forum (allocation of resources, harmonization, etc.).
- Conducting awareness and capacity building programmes.
- Organizing conferences and review meetings.
- Monitoring, Control and Surveillance.

2.0 What should be the nature of regional cooperation?

- Binding. However, a non-binding instruments may be considered immediately with a long-term objective of moving towards a binding arrangement.
3.0 Is regional coordination formulated in NPOA IUU?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Policy harmonization</th>
<th>Information Sharing</th>
<th>Regional Monitoring to High Seas</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<tr>
<td>Bangladesh</td>
<td>NPOA under preparation. Bangladesh also has Joint Working Group (JWG) with</td>
<td>NPOA Under preparation</td>
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</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>neighbouring countries in place for regional cooperation.</td>
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<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>NPOA under preparation. India also has JWG with neighbouring countries in</td>
<td>NPOA Under preparation</td>
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<td>place for regional cooperation.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maldives</td>
<td>Yes. Maldives also has JWG with neighbouring countries in place for regional</td>
<td>• Yes</td>
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<td>• Acquisition, management and verification of data</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sri Lanka</td>
<td>Yes. Sri Lanka also has JWG with neighbouring countries in place for regional</td>
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</table>

4.0 Scope for developing a regional cooperative mechanism for reporting

- A regional fusion centre should be established.
- Exchange of information on records of vessels.
- Acquisition, management and verification of data.
- Investigation assistance and collaboration.
- Technology transfer and harmonizing policies.
- Formulation of Joint Working Groups (JWG).
- Fishermen to fishermen collaboration.

5.0 Development of regional vessel registry

- Possible. However, at national level inter-ministerial cooperation will be required.

6.0 Regional Framework for Information Knowledge and Technology Sharing

- Robust mechanism for exchange of information between responsible agencies of BoB States.
- Sharing of monitoring real-time tracking information of fishing vessels of the region among all BoB States.
- Increase joint capacity building, patrolling and training.
7.0 Cooperating and Coordinating Agencies

- BOBP should coordinate regionally.
- Cooperating Agencies:
  - Ministry/Department of Fisheries.
  - Ministry of Defence (Coast Guard, Navy).
  - Port Authority/ Customs.
  - Ministry/Department Environment.
  - Ministry/Department Foreign Affairs.
  - Immigration.

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## Requirements for Preparation of RPOA-IUU (Human Capacity Enhancement, Research, Development, Enforcement)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Areas identified for RPOA-IUU (based on GD-1)</th>
<th>Requirements (Example guiding question: If a regional vessel registry is to be set up, what additional requirements need to be met?)</th>
<th>National Cooperating Agencies</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Human Capacity Enhancement</strong></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vessel Registry</td>
<td>Train officers from relevant agencies through a common training module. To develop and maintain a vessel registry (FAO Vessel Classification Guide).</td>
<td>BGD  MLD  SRL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coordinating body to assess any further developments</td>
<td>Enforced according to national protocols and shared regionally through the IUU Information Sharing Centre.</td>
<td>MMD  MMD  MoFMRA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fishing License</td>
<td>Enforced according to national protocols and shared regionally through the IUU Information Sharing Centre.</td>
<td>DoF  DoF  MoFMRA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stock Assessment</td>
<td>Continuous data collection and research nationally and reported regionally.</td>
<td>DoF  CMFRI and FSI will conduct the research; reporting by the DoF.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monitoring of shared stocks</td>
<td>Continuous data collection and information sharing. Development of management measures in response to findings.</td>
<td>DoF  MMRI will conduct the research; reporting by MMRI and MoFMRA.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Development of joint working groups (scientific). This group should be specifically trained to work on shared stocks.</td>
<td>Working group should report to the regional body (BOBP).</td>
<td>CMFRI and FSI, through the Ministry.</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Same as Tuna Group as No Sri Lankan participant in the Group.
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<td>Development of joint working group on IUU activities. Training of fishermen and law enforcement agencies to identify IUU fishing activities, and on reporting mechanisms.</td>
<td>Training capsule development. User-friendly mobile application. Communication mechanisms. Working group should report to the regional body (BOBP).</td>
<td>Coast Guard and Navy through the Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock. Coast Guard/ Wildlife Crime Control Bureau/ Customs/ Port Authority/ MPEDA/ Fisheries Department. Coast Guard/ Maldives Customs Service/ MoFMRA.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To develop interoperability through training on communication system and information sharing mechanism.</td>
<td>Identify patrol areas and develop protocols for patrolling to avoid duplication. Coordination and development of mutually agreeable communication codes.</td>
<td>Coordinated through BOBP. Coast Guard.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Training for all cooperating agencies on regional and international policies &amp; agreements through BOBP. Sensitization on fisheries regulations across the region.</td>
<td>Harmonisation of national legislation with international and regional agreements. Nationally enforced. Regionally coordinated.</td>
<td>All concerned ministries and agencies. All concerned ministries and agencies.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Development of capacity through training of enumerators, surveyors, inspectors and on-board observers on identification and quantification. Development of data processors and data processing centres uniformly across the member States.</td>
<td>Nationally enforced. Regionally coordinated.</td>
<td>MOFMRA, AG Office, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Development of Sampling modules and designs. Data analysis. Uniform format for data reporting. VMS data collection.</td>
<td>DOF, BFRI and BFDC</td>
<td>Fisheries Department, CMFRI, FSI and Customs.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Human Capacity Enhancement</td>
<td>R&amp;D</td>
<td>Enforcement</td>
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<td>Taxonomy</td>
<td>Different levels of capacity development: scientific, observers, surveyors, enforcers, fishers and traders. Developing training capsules. Customizing training materials.</td>
<td>Nationally and Regionally coordinated.</td>
</tr>
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<td>Fisheries investigation (infringement, crime, etc.)</td>
<td>Capacity for this component will be developed through the other components. This is accounted for within preceding components.</td>
<td>Nationally enforced. Regionally coordinated.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Acronyms used:

- **BGD:** Bangladesh
- **CG:** Coast Guard (generic)
- **CMFRI:** Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute, Indian Council of Agricultural Research, India
- **DoF:** Department of Fisheries (generic)
- **FSI:** Fishery Survey of India
- **IND:** India
- **MLD:** Maldives
- **MMD:** Marine Mercantile Department
- **MMRI:** Maldives Marine Research Institute
- **MoFL:** Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock, Government of Bangladesh
- **MoFMRA:** Ministry of Fisheries, Marine Resources and Agriculture, Government of Maldives
- **MoT:** Ministry of Transport, Maldives
- **MPEDA:** Marine Product Export Development Authority, India
- **NARA:** National Aquatic Resources Research and Development Agency, Sri Lanka
- **NBR:** National Board of Revenue, Bangladesh
- **R&D:** Research and Development
- **SCMFP:** Sustainable Coastal and Marine Fisheries Project, Bangladesh
- **SRL:** Sri Lanka
- **ToT:** Training of Trainers
### Requirements for Preparation of RPOA-IUU (Human Capacity Enhancement, Research, Development, Enforcement)

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| **Vessel Registry**                         | a. ToT for officials  
b. ToT for Fisher Leader/CBOs.  
  
  **Human Capacity Enhancement**  
  1. Formulation of regional database/Real-time Data.  
  2. Dissemination of data.  
  3. Documentation of reports.  
  4. Development of online database.  
  5. Size, type and nationality and ownership  
  **R&D**  
  1. Full-scale implementation of existing rules and regulations.  
  2. Introduce new rules and regulations according to requirements.  
  3. Joint Coastguard committee.  
  **Enforcement**  
  1. MoFL  
  2. DoF  
  3. SCMFP  
  4. MMD  
  5. NBR.  
  **BDG**  
  **IND**  
  **MLD**  
  **SRL**  | **BDG**  
  **IND**  
  **MLD**  
  **SRL**  |
| **Stock Assessment**                        | Training for Scientist and fishers.  
  Participatory stock assessment.  
  **R&D**  
  1. Stock assessment of untapped fishing resources.  
  2. Make available historical data.  
  **Enforcement**  
  1. Regional multi-disciplinary forum.  
  2. Regional forum with representatives of scientific community, fishers and DoF  
  **BDG**  
  **IND**  
  **MLD**  
  **SRL**  | **BDG**  
  **IND**  
  **MLD**  
  **SRL**  |
| **Monitoring of shared stocks**             | Training of focal points  
  Organize regional conference for policy makers, officials.  
  **R&D**  
  1. Uniform format to share data.  
  2. Regional management body of related ministries in the region.  
  **Enforcement**  
  1. MoFL  
  2. DoF  
  3. MoFMRA  
  **BDG**  
  **IND**  
  **MLD**  
  **SRL**  | **BDG**  
  **IND**  
  **MLD**  
  **SRL**  |
| **Reporting of IUU activity**              | ToT for CG Officers, fishers.  
  Awareness to the traders, exporters and processors.  
  **R&D**  
  1. Catch certification schemes Traceability.  
  2. Regional body  
  **Enforcement**  
  1. MoFL  
  2. DoF  
  3. MoFMRA  
  **BDG**  
  **IND**  
  **MLD**  
  **SRL**  | **BDG**  
  **IND**  
  **MLD**  
  **SRL**  |
| **Joint Patrolling**                        | Training of CG personal.  
  **R&D**  
  1. Development of common observer schemes.  
  2. Regional mechanism for joint patrolling  
  **Enforcement**  
  1. CG  
  2. CG  
  **BDG**  
  **IND**  
  **MLD**  
  **SRL**  | **BDG**  
  **IND**  
  **MLD**  
  **SRL**  |
| **Understanding and adoption of regional and international policies & agreement** | Training and awareness for policy and decision makers.  
  **R&D**  
  1. Checklist of Policies and legislation at national level.  
  2. Regional body  
  **Enforcement**  
  1. MoFL  
  2. DoF  
  3. MoFMRA  
  **BDG**  
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  **MLD**  
  **SRL**  | **BDG**  
  **IND**  
  **MLD**  
  **SRL**  |
### Areas identified for RPOA-IUU (based on GD-1)

#### Collection of catch & landing data
- **ToT for fishers and officers.**
  - **Data to be made public.**
  - **Regional body**

#### Taxonomy
- **ToT for taxonomist**
  - **Research on migratory species**
  - **Preparation of catalogue of fish species.**
  - **Regional body**

#### Fisheries investigation (infringement, crime, etc.)
- **Training of Inspector**
- **Training of scientist and technician regarding DNA marking.**
- **Training for Lawyers.**
  - **Guidelines for fishermen, wherever required.**
  - **Regional body**

#### Others
- **List of priorities at national level.**
- **Strengthening of information sharing.**
  - **Regional body**

### National Cooperating Agencies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>R&amp;D</th>
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<td>Collection of catch &amp; landing data</td>
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### Acronyms used

- **BFRI:** Bangladesh Fisheries Research Institute
- **BD:** Bangladesh
- **BORD:** Bangladesh Oceanographic Research Institute
- **CG:** Coast Guard (generic)
- **CMFRI:** Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute, Indian Council of Agricultural Research, India
- **DFAR:** Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources, Government of Sri Lanka
- **DoF:** Department of Fisheries (generic)
- **IND:** India
- **MLD:** Maldives
- **MMD:** Marine Mercantile Department
- **MMRI:** Maldives Marine Research Institute
- **MoFL:** Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock, Government of Bangladesh
- **MoFMRA:** Ministry of Fisheries, Marine Resources and Agriculture, Government of Maldives
- **NARA:** National Aquatic Resources Research and Development Agency, Sri Lanka
- **NBR:** National Board of Revenue, Bangladesh
- **R&D:** Research and Development
- **SCMFP:** Sustainable Coastal and Marine Fisheries Project, Bangladesh
- **SRL:** Sri Lanka
- **ToT:** Training of Trainers

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Report of the Regional Consultation on the Development of a Regional Plan of Action to Combat Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing

14 - 15 October 2019
Chennai, India