

**MINUTES 16<sup>th</sup> MEETING**  
**IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE**  
**OF THE**  
**MAHÉ PLATEAU TRAP AND LINE FISHERY CO-MANAGEMENT PLAN**

Seychelles International Conference Centre (ICCS), Victoria, Mahé

Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2022

10:00 A.M.

**Introduction**

The 16<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Implementation Committee for the Co-Management Plan (ICCP) of the Mahé Plateau demersal trap and line fishery was held at the Seychelles International Conference Centre Conference Room 2, Victoria, on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of September 2022.

**Opening to the meeting**

Mr. Roy Clarisse, Principal Secretary (PS), Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, and the Blue Economy (MFBE) opened the meeting, welcomed the participants and asked for introductions from attendees. He recognised several new participants including Mr David Welch, who had been involved in the development of the Co-management Plan in 2015 and was currently in Seychelles.

**Adoption of the Agenda**

The meeting proceeded with the chairperson, Mr Roy Clarisse, PS, Department of Fisheries, MFBE. The agenda included an interchange of Agenda items 5 and 6 of the provisional agenda. The approved agenda is presented in **Appendix 1**. The list of documents circulated in advance of the meeting is in **Appendix 2**. The Chairperson expressed his disappointment with the lateness of some of the documents for this meeting and urged that documents should be circulated well in advance of the meeting.

The meeting had an attendance of 12 ICCP members and five other stakeholders or observers. The meeting incorporated the sanitary measures required for all government Agency meetings. Participants were at liberty to use whichever of the three national languages they preferred. The list of participants is presented in **Appendix 3**.

**Developments since the last meeting**

Ms Elisa Socrates, Assistant-Manager, Resource Management (SFA) informed the meeting of the developments since the last meeting of 7 July based on working paper ICCP16-WD-2.

*Fisheries Liaison Officer*

The Fisheries Liaison Officer had been visiting landings sites and fish vending outlets on Mahe, Praslin and La Digue. He had also been following the development of the Aux Cap fishers association. Mr Volcere informed that trap fishers had concerns that they are the most affected by minimum fish size measures and that they were protecting bourzwa for boats linefishing further offshore. Line fishers were concerned that sea-cucumber vessels were also line fishing. This could be addressed through the seacucumber licencing conditions.

*Communication*

SFA's communication taskforce had been working with service providers to develop material for strategic public awareness of the Mahe Plateau Line and Trap Fishery Co- Management Plan. An ad-

hoc meeting was held on Monday 12 September 2022 to have the endorsement of the committee on the advertising materials developed. Mr Ameer Ebrahim, Head, Fisheries Resource Management & Technical Fisheries Coordination, SFA, gave an account of that meeting and an update of the latest versions of the advertising materials. These included, three (3) out of the eight (8) 30-second Spot videos for broadcasting at STC Hypermarket and Bus designs for the SPTC fleet. *The meeting endorsed the work of the SFA communication Task force and complimented it on the products that had been developed. It advised the Communication Task force to be constantly aware that the products should not be seen as targeting only the commercial fishers but directed across the broad range of relevant stakeholders (recreational, sports and commercial fishers, fish vending outlets, takeaways, restaurants, hotels and public).*

### *Legislation*

The draft new Fisheries Act and Regulations were next to proceed with stakeholder consultation. SFA would be liaising with the Ministry of Fisheries and Blue Economy to decide on the possible extension of the legal consultancy.

### *MCS*

The MCS Section will be presenting an update on their activities in Agenda item 4.

### *Fisher Associations and CEPs*

No further meetings had been held between SFA and CEPs. The CEPs project '*Peser an Mouvman*' was launched at Bel Ombre on 9<sup>th</sup> July. CEPs had started capacity building of associations and fishers on Mahe. The project intended to consult fisher stakeholders on the way forward for the creation of a fisher's federation.

### *The Socio-economic Impact Assessment (SEIA) of the trap and line fishery co-management plan*

Mr. Greg Burke, the consultant, is working closely with SFA to pilot a questionnaire for stakeholders in the fishing industry. Mr. Burke would be presenting an update on his work under agenda item 8 – AOB<sup>1</sup>.

### *Other follow up by the Secretariat*

The fourth meeting of the Subcommittee on stock assessment had taken place on Tuesday 20 September 2022 at the STC Conference Hall. The Chair of the subcommittee will be presenting feedback on the outcome of the meeting in Agenda item 5.

The Secretariat again reminded ICCP member representatives of associations to provide their registration papers, constitution, and member details. Only some of the stakeholders had submitted the requested documents.

### **MCS Monitoring and voluntary compliance to the Fisheries Regulations 2021**

Mr Ronny Malvina, Assistant-Manager, Enforcement, MCS, SFA, presented the MCS activities related to the Co-management Plan since the last ICCP meeting (ICCP16-WD-3).

He recalled that the 15<sup>th</sup> meeting of the ICCP had recommended that the MCS Section improve its patrol reports by providing objective and measurable indicators of inspection for each of their patrols, rather than just informing that no infringements had been detected. He informed that the current report would address this recommendation as well as reflect the level of preparedness for the commencement of full enforcement on the 1<sup>st</sup> of October 2022.

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<sup>1</sup> This did not take place and will be postponed to the next meeting.

### *Inspections*

A summary of inspections undertaken including photos of one done at La Retraite on 6th September were presented (see **Appendix 4**). Land-based surveillance only had been undertaken and primarily in July (46 operational actions) and August (59 operational actions). Results for September remained to be compiled. Over 36 inspections undertaken, there had been seven infringements of undersized fish detected (six during vessel inspections, one during market inspection) which was presented as a level of non-compliance of 19.4% (7/36) or of 80.6% (29/36) compliance.

### *Preparedness for full enforcement*

Preparations were:

- A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between SFA and the Police was being drafted to formalise areas of collaboration and cooperation in coastal patrols, support for land operations and seizure, and dealing with cases.
- A notification for infringement to be issued to offenders had been reviewed and finalised by legal section and a request had been sent for procurement of printing services as triplicate books. (Appendix 4 - Annex 2)
- After some unforeseen delays on fish trap tagging, one contract had been signed for the supply of buoys. The contract for laser engraving was under negotiation with the supplier.
- The MCS unit was still awaiting the procurement of measuring devices an overseas supplier.

### *Praslin and La Digue coastal patrols*

A team had been despatched for a mission to Praslin and La Digue. As the MOU with the Seychelles Police progresses, the MCS section is expected to also have coastal patrols on Praslin and La Digue.

### *Covert operations*

Resources for covert operations were still being negotiated. The MCS section had been conducting hybrid operations which had resulted in the recent success. Patrols had been made more risk-assessment based and an improvement in the results had been noted.

### *Alerts/reports received from the public*

No reports in relation to the Co-management plan had been received from the public on the hotline.

In the discussions that followed, some of the previous concerns of the members about the effectiveness of patrols had been appeased by the incidences of infringements detected and the photos shown. However, there were still insufficient inspections and more should be done over the weekends when recreational and sports fishers operated. SWIOFish3 was supporting the SFA with a patrol vessel which was soon due for delivery, but it still required to see proper risk-based patrol plans that it expected to be effectively implemented.

Discussion arose on the warning letter presented in Appendix 4 – Annex 2. The general view from ICCP member interventions was that as of 1<sup>st</sup> October there should be full enforcement and less warnings. It was noted that a system of graded sanctions would greatly assist enforcement.

*The Chair reminded the SFA that over several previous meetings the ICCP had been discussing these MCS issues and making recommendations that should be taken more seriously and acted on.* He raised again, for example, the issue of the inclusion of SFA within an MOU between Eden Island, the Seychelles Port Authority (SPA) and Seychelles Maritime Safety Authority (SMSA) to facilitate fisheries inspection of recreational and sports fishers when they leave or return to the island.<sup>2</sup>

The sufficiency of human resources in the MCS unit was raised. The MCS section responded that they have many other responsibilities for inspection other than the ICCP, that they have been under pressure to accomplish these, and so have risk-based trade-offs between their activities.

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<sup>2</sup> This had been raised at the 10<sup>th</sup> ICCP in August 2021. It was also raised at the 11<sup>th</sup> ICCP (September 2021), and the 14<sup>th</sup> ICCP (May 2022).

*The ICCP expressed an understanding of the enforcement constraints of the MCS section. However, it asked that SFA MCS:*

- *Puts into action greater collaboration with the Coastguard, Police, SMSA, SPA and fisher associations.*
- *More precisely and frankly explain its limitations to the ICCP regarding the Co-management Plan*

*During this agenda item, the ICCP noted that the SFA Fisheries Management Section was, at the time, severely constrained by human resources, and likely to become more so.*

## **Tourism and fisheries**

The chairman of the Seychelles Hospitality and Tourism Association (SHTA), Mr. Martin Kennedy, presented some perspectives of the tourism industry regarding the Co-management Plan (see **ICCP16/WD/5** and **Appendix 5**).

He provided a brief introduction and informed that the SHTA fully supports the work of the SFA and other partners in protecting and enhancing stocks of fish at risk of overfishing. He followed up with some of the feedback that he had received from some tourism professionals. Points of inspection and intervention should start at sea, and at landings and processing outlets. Tourism professionals felt that inspection of accommodation establishments and restaurants (with the threat of penalties for possession of under-sized fish) is too far down the supply chain. Inspections of hotels, guest houses and restaurants could be incorporated with tourism department inspections thus freeing SFA officers to focus on intervention earlier in the supply chain.

He noted that in the context of tourism establishments adequate training will need to be provided to all employees who are involved with procurement of Food and Beverage supplies. He drew attention that smaller tourism establishments might experience problems with less experienced staff, or substitute staff, making errors when purchasing or processing fish. Establishments need to be supported in the instance that they are offered under-sized fish with 'whistleblower' protocols and a reporting 'hotline' at the SFA. Establishment employees also must know why these measures have been taken to best support their implementation. There should be much sensitization and awareness. Starting young through schools and the public across the Seychelles would provide long term benefits. He informed that SHTA's experience with two national awareness campaigns was to keep the message light rather than hectoring or lecturing. SFA could consider providing stickers that could be displayed by tourism establishments in support of the programme. Other suggestions from the SHTA included considering a maximum fish size for some fish species as done elsewhere; the 'ghost fishing' impact of metal fish traps and the need for insertion of some biodegradable device; and that the bag limits for recreational and sports fishing (tourism) appear too generous. There was perhaps a need to protect the local market of iconic fish (such as bourzwa) much valued by our tourists and visitors through restricting the exports of such species. Whatever regulations are in place, these must be effectively, consistently, and fairly enforced. SHTA members wondered if the human (and other) resources for enforcement are sufficient. Finally, Mr Kennedy affirmed SHTA's continued support of SFA's approach to ensuring sustainable fisheries resources and offered to help in anyway reasonably possible.

*Members expressed appreciation for this presentation and supported SFA assisting every hotel having a sticker at its landing bay regarding the regulations. Mr Kennedy's attention was drawn to the behaviour of some tourists who release fish from traps while snorkelling, thinking that they are assisting conservation. Traps are the property of fishers upon which their livelihoods depend, and the action is inconsistent with previous fisheries regulations that are still in force<sup>3</sup>. Mr Kennedy undertook to convey this message to the Association members.*

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<sup>3</sup> No person shall remove, damage, disturb or remove any fish or other aquatic organism from, any net, trap, line, fish aggregating device or other fishing gear found in Seychelles waters, except for the purpose of restoring lost gear to its rightful owner.

*The ICCP Chair warmly thanked Mr Kennedy for his contribution and the useful advice that had been provided. The ICCP was much encouraged with SHTA's support and hoped that the partnership with the SHTA would continue.*

### **Report of the Stock Assessment Sub-Committee.**

The Chairperson of the ICCP Stock Assessment Subcommittee, Mr Darell Green, provided a report of the Subcommittee's work and its recommendations). A detailed account of the four meetings of the SAS was circulated in advance of the meeting to all participants as an information document (**ICCP16/ID/3**).

Mr Green outlined the objectives of the SAS meetings in 2022 (see **Appendix 6**). Reflecting on the attendance of the four SAS meetings, the Chairperson thanked fisher and recreational members of the ICCP as well as the SFA Research section for their high level of attendance. He expressed disappointment at some of the fisheries management support to the SAS meetings, though he also recognized that this section of SFA was going through a difficult period.

Initially an overview of the stock assessment process and its general results was made. The SAS was at times not entirely satisfied with some of the explanations of the results and considered that there were likely some targeting issues that were not sufficiently taken into consideration in the stock assessment analyses. Subsequent stock assessments should engage with the SAS in the early phase of the assessment to better understand some of the fishery issues <sup>4</sup>

The information for the Co-management Plan Performance Monitoring System (PMS) was provided over several meetings and sometimes not complete. For example, length frequencies of bourzwa were not available from fish traps making it difficult to assess the impact of minimum size limits of this species. SAS recommended that SFA collect length frequencies of bourzwa, zob gri and kordonnyen from the trap fishery so that the fishing mortality impact across the entire trap and line fishery could be assessed, next year. The PMS needs to be better populated and revisited next year.

At its third meeting SAS invited the Green Island Foundation to present its work for consideration of species that should be recommended for further management measures. There was a consensus that the impact on many of the species that were presented by the Green Island representative arose from illegal fishing with nets and that if actual net fishing regulations were enforced, protection would be provided to many of these species. Nevertheless, it proposed that 4 species should be recommended for release on capture based on considerations discussed, their rarity in Seychelles, and their minor contribution to food security. These were Lare Dore, Swarko (2 species) and Pantouf (**Appendix 6 – slide no 10**).

Examination of the existing PMS information for bourzwa and zob gris had further justified the application of the existing minimum size limit (MSL) and bag limits in place through the Co-management Plan Fisheries Regulations 2021, and due for full enforcement as from 1 October 2022.

SAS recommended that there is a need for a review of recreational and sports fisher bag limits (downwards)<sup>5</sup> and possibly MSLs (upwards) in 2023 with better PMS data and after the current regulations have been fully enforced for one year. There may also be need to set bag limits and MSLs for other fish species next year – after 1 October 2023.

On the use of degradable devices to be placed on fish traps to prevent ghost fishing, SAS's preference was for a degradable wire to be used to attach the fish trap mouth to the trap body. On the trap and line fisheries in general, SAS considered that that there are too many registered fishers

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<sup>4</sup> The SAS meeting was informed that such exchange had been planned but was rendered impossible because of the travel and other Covid19 meeting restrictions in 2020 and 2021.

<sup>5</sup> Note that earlier in this meeting, this was a proposal also suggested by the SHTA.

and registered fishing vessels that are not fishing. This creates confusion, difficulty in enforcement of regulations, and mismanagement of fuel subsidies. There needs to be a correct and regularly updated list of registered fishers, permits, fishing licences and fishing vessels that is publicly available on the SFA website. The full details of the SAS observations and recommendations are in working document **ICCP16-WD-4**.

Finally, the SAS Chairperson expressed his extreme disappointment and concern with the judgement on illegal fishing by a foreign fishing vessel rendered by the Appeals Court 19 August 2022 and reported in the Nation of 20 August 2022.

*The ICCP Chairperson thanked the SAS for its work. Limitations of time precluded the examination of the SAS recommendations, and this would be dealt with in the next ICCP meeting.*

### **Peer-to-peer visit to examine fisheries management in a relevant country**

Dr Jan Robinson, SWIOFish3 Coordinator and Mrs Thessia Labonte, Monitoring and Evaluation and Communication Specialist, SWIOFish3 project, presented the latest updates on the peer-to-peer visit (ICCP16-WD-6). The SWIOFish3 project is facilitating an exchange visit to examine fisheries management in Shetland islands, United Kingdom and Sete, France. The exchange is aimed at providing ICCP stakeholders with the opportunity to learn from the experiences of peers who have been impacted (positively or negatively) by change or performance in how fisheries are managed, and to appreciate the challenges and opportunities of co-management from contexts where such governance systems have operated for longer periods than Seychelles.

From discussions in preceding ICCP meetings, it was agreed that given budgetary constraints, twelve ICCP members would participate based on based on ICCP meeting attendance. Six primary and six secondary members were each asked to nominate one representative to participate in the exchange programme. Seychelles Fishing Authority (SFA) received two nominations, one from the ICCP Secretariat and the other as a member of the ICCP committee. The delegation would be led by Minister Jean Francois Ferrari, the Minister for Fisheries and the Blue Economy on the Shetland Island leg and Mr Philippe Michaud, representing the Fisheries Department on the Sete leg. The full list of participants, the organisation/association they were representing, and their role is in **Appendix 7**. The facilitator for Shetland visit would be Mr. John Goodlad and for Sete Mr. Bertrand Wendling. With the support of the Project Implementation Unit (PIU), the facilitators had finalised the draft Agenda and travel plan for both visits which can be found in **Appendix 7 – Annexes 1, 2, 3 and 4**.

Ms Thessia Labonte proceeded to explain the costs and administrative requirements for the trip, some information about Shetland and Sete, advice on keeping warm, and dress code (see **ICCP16-WD-6** for details). She had previously distributed a kit with a SWIOFish sweater, plane tickets, information links and programme printouts. The SWIOFish3 organisers wished the participants a fruitful and informative trip.

*The ICCP members and participants thanked the SWIOFish3 organisers for well-prepared and thoughtful arrangements for the trip. On a request for why Dr Ameer Ebrahim had not been included in the list of participants, the SWIOFish3 coordinator clarified that the actual nominations of Government Agency members of the ICCP were provided by the Government Agencies themselves (such as SFA for instance).*

### **Other matters**

The Praslin Fishers Representative raised that all Government Ministries should be aware that the ICCP is responsible for overseeing the implementation of the Co-management Plan which safeguards the trap and line fisheries on the Mahe Plateau. As such the marina developments in Baie St Anne Bay, Praslin, and its possible impact on a fish reserve should be brought to this platform as Baie St

Anne Bay is on the Mahe Plateau.

In view that the meeting had extended past 1400hrs, the Chairperson closed by thanking all the participants for an active and productive meeting.

**Date and Place of the next meeting**

The 17<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the ICCP will be held on Thursday 15 December 2022, at a location to be decided by the Secretariat.

# Appendix 1

## Agenda

### PROVISIONAL AGENDA

**1. Opening to the Meeting**

*Remarks by the Ministry of Fisheries and Blue Economy (MFBE)/Seychelles Fishing Authority (SFA)*

**2. Adoption of the agenda**

*To be moved by the Chairperson.*

**3. Developments since the last meeting**

*The ICCP will be briefed on the developments since the 15<sup>th</sup> ICCP meeting (7<sup>th</sup> July 2022) including continuing SFA fisher communications and other relevant matters from SFA and from the Secretariat.*

**4. MCS monitoring and voluntary compliance to the Fisheries Regulations 2021.**

*The MCS unit will update the meeting of the improvements in its patrols and its assessment of the level of voluntary compliance and of soft enforcement. It will also brief the meeting on its preparations for full enforcement of the 2021 Fisheries Regulations starting 1<sup>st</sup> October 2022.*

**5. Tourism and fisheries.**

*At the last ICCP members sought greater involvement of the tourism association regarding mutual exchange and on sensitizing its stakeholders on the fisheries regulations about to come into force. A member of the Seychelles Hotel and Tourism Association (SHTA) will present some of its perspectives and suggestions.*

**6. Feedback of the Stock assessment Sub-Committee.**

*The Stock assessment Sub-Committee held three meetings since the last ICCP. It will provide a report of the outcomes of these meetings and its recommendations for stock assessment and management in 2023 for the ICCP's consideration.*

**7. Peer-to-peer visit to examine fisheries management in a relevant country**

*This will be the last ICCP before members proceed on a peer-to-peer visit of the Shetlands (UK) and Sete (France). SWIOFish3 will brief the meeting of the final preparations before departure on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> October 2022.*

**8. Other matters**

**9. Date and place of the next meeting**



## Appendix 2

### List of Documents circulated in advance of the meeting

#### **Working documents**

ICCP16/WD/1. Agenda

ICCP16/WD/2. Developments since the last meeting

ICCP16/WD/3. MCS Monitoring and voluntary compliance to the Fisheries Regulations 2021

ICCP16/WD/4. Feedback of the Stock Assessment Sub-Committee

ICCP16/WD/5. Tourism and fisheries

ICCP16/WD/6. Peer-to-peer exchange visits for ICCP Members to Shetland and Sete

#### **Information documents**

ICCP16/ID/1. List of Documents

ICCP16/ID/2. Minutes of the 15<sup>th</sup> ICCP meeting of 7 July 2022.

ICCP16/ID/3. Report on the meetings of the ICCP Stock Assessment Committee, June to September 2022

ICCP16/ID/4. Proposal for management measures on four IUCN-listed Threatened Species

ICCP16/ID/5. Peer-to-Peer Exchange visits for ICCP Members to Shetland (UK) and Sete (France) from the 3rd to 12th October 2022

## Appendix 3

### List of Participants

#### Members, other Stakeholders and Secretariat

<b>Members</b>	
Rodney Nicole	Bel Ombre Fishers Association
Philippe Michaud	Department of Blue Economy, MFBE
Roy Clarisse	Department of Fisheries, MFBE
Jean-Claude Hoarau	Fish Tech
Wilna Accouche	Green Island Foundation
Ray Payet	La Digue Fishers Association
Kevin Moumou	Ministry of Agriculture, Climate Change and Environment (MACCE)
Darrel Green	Praslin Fishers Association
Faizal Suleman	Recreational Fisher representative
Therence Labrosse, Neddy Labrosse	Roche Caiman Fishers Association
Ameer Ebrahim	Seychelles Fishing Authority
Damien Berlouis, Mervin Dugasse	Seychelles Sports Fishers Club (SSFC)
<b>Other Stakeholders / Observers</b>	
David Welch	C2O Fisheries, Australia
Nancy Onginyo	Grand Anse Praslin FBOA
Carlo Ceglia	PhD student, University of East Anglia
Martin Kennedy	Seychelles Hospitality and Tourism Association (SHTA)
Gregory Berke	Socio-economic Assessment, Consultant
<b>Secretariat</b>	
Ronny Malvina	Assistant-Manager, Enforcement, MCS (SFA)
Karyss Auguste	Assistant-Manager, License and Permit (SFA)
Darrel Antat	Assistant-Manager, PR and Communications (SFA)
Elisa Socrates	Assistant-Manager, Resource Management (SFA)
Aubrey Harris	Consultant (SFA)
Estelle Barreau	Fisheries Analyst, Resource Management (SFA)
Sharif Antoine	Fisheries Economist, Statistics and Economics (SFA)
Joanne Lucas	Fisheries Officer, Resource Management (SFA)
Yannick Roucou	Legal Adviser (SFA)
Frank Volcere	Liaison Officer (SFA)
Jan Robinson, Thessia Labonte	SWIOFish3 Project (MFBE)

## Appendix 4

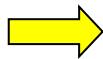
### Enforcement report of activities since the last ICCP meeting

Operational actions	July	August	September	Infringements detected / information/warnings provided/remarks
<b>Near shore/coastal on water surveillance</b>				
Coastal surveillance patrols-day patrols	N/a	N/a	N/a	Pending
Coastal surveillance patrols-evening/night patrols	N/a	N/a	N/a	Pending
<b>Offshore/outer Mahe plateau-on water surveillance</b>				
Offshore/outer Mahe plateau patrols	N/a	N/a	N/a	Pending
<b>Land-based surveillance</b>				
Land patrols	7	10	4	
Inspections of Vessels at Landing sites	5	6	2	6 infringements
Market inspections	19	30	Pending	1 infringement
Tourism establishments	5	3	Pending	
Fish processing plants	3	6	Pending	
Fish outlets	2	2	Pending	
Take aways/Restaurants	5	2	Pending	

**Inspection at La Retraite, 6 September 2022**



*The following catch was concealed onboard*





**Annex 2 (original is landscape)**

**Official Warning Notice**

**Fisheries Act**

**Fisheries (Mahe Plateau Trap and Line Fishery) Regulations, 2021**

To ..... (insert full name of offender)....., bearing NIN No: ..... or the owner of vessel no:.....

I have reason to believe that on ..... (insert date) ..... at ..... (insert time) .... a.m. / p.m. at .....(insert location)..... you committed the offence of:

- a) Catching any fish listed in the First Schedule that is less than the minimum fork length required for the fish in the Schedule, which constitutes Regulation 6 of the above-named Regulations.
- b) Exceeding the bag limits in the Second Schedule or retaining onboard, transship or landing of fish that exceed such bag limits or attempts such activities, which constitutes Regulation 7 of the above-named Regulations. State how many bags found in excess:.....
- c) Deploying, maintaining, recovering or using or attempt to use a trap which is unregistered or exceeding the trap limits listed in Schedule 3, which constitutes Regulation 8 of the above-named Regulations. Please specify:.....
- d) Non-compliance by vessel operators to abiding to monitoring and surveillance conditions, including vessel monitoring systems as issued by the Authority, which constitutes Regulation 11 of the above-named Regulations.
- e) Purchasing or selling fish that was caught in any recreational fishing, competition sports fishing or sports fishing activity, which constitutes Regulation 12 of the above-named Regulations.
- f) Purchasing fish from an unlicensed person, which constitutes Regulation 13 of the above-named Regulations.

Additional remarks by authorised fishery officer:

.....  
.....

**Please be advised that the Authority will issue you with a maximum of two (2) warning notices. In the event that you are issued an Official Warning Notice a third time, the Seychelles Fishing Authority (SFA) will be initiating legal proceedings against you and if found guilty of an offence, you shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding SCR 20,000.**

Date .....

Signature of Authorised Fishery Officer .....  
SEYCHELLES FISHING AUTHORITY  
P.O. BOX 449, VICTORIA, TEL: 4670300

# Appendix 5

## Presentation made by the Seychelles Hotels and Tourism Association (SHTA)

 SHTA 

16 th IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE  
OF THE  
MAHE PLATEAU TRAP AND LINE FISHERY CO-MANAGEMENT PLAN

**'THE BOTTOM LINE'**

*The Seychelles Hospitality and Tourism Association fully supports the work of the SFA and other partners in protecting and enhancing stocks of identified fish species at risk of over-fishing. This work is both ethically sound and in the interests of both the environment and the profitability of the tourism sector.*

### POINTS OF INSPECTION AND INTERVENTION

- By the time an under-sized fish is offered to a hotel or restaurant it is already dead. Regardless of whether the fish is purchased or not the principal damage has been done and cannot be undone.
- Inspection at sea offers opportunities to mitigate the loss of immature fish, a loss which lies at the heart of the strategy.
- Ramped up inspections of vessels docking will also be valuable interventions.
- Inspections of hotels, guest houses and restaurants could be incorporated with tourism department inspections thus freeing SFA officers to focus on earlier intervention.

### PERSONNEL & HR ISSUES WITHIN TOURISM

- Adequate training will need to be provided to all employees who are involved with procurement of F&B supplies.
- This needs to include steps to be taken if offered under-sized fish. 'Whistleblower' protocols might need to be put in place, with a reporting 'hot line' at the SFA.
- This can also include the scientific, environmental and 'balance sheet' rationale for the legislation. Employees need to know why these measures have been taken in order to best support their implementation.

Ideally this issue should be presented in schools, state and private, across Seychelles



## RAISING PUBLIC AWARENESS

- SHTA has delivered two national awareness campaigns – 'We Are Tourism' and 'Tourism – OUI!'
- We found that these campaigns were impactful, reaching the majority of our target audience through television infomercials, radio 'skits', social and print media.
- We found that keeping the message 'light' but serious worked better than a hectoring/lecturing style.
- SFA might also consider stickers which can be displayed by establishments in support of the programme.

## CONSOLIDATION



## AREAS FOR REVIEW?

- Has consideration been given to restricting the catching and retention of larger specimens which are already mature and breeding? Many immature fish will never make it to maturity. This would deliver a catch size restriction whereby no catch can be retained if the fish is above a certain fork length, rather than below. Members state that this option is already in play in other waters.
  - Fish traps with metal frames. These are rust-resistant and, if they break free of mooring, can become 'self-baiting death traps on our reefs' (SHTA member).
  - The catch allowances for, say, tourism fishing, appear to be too generous.
- These are not criticisms of the work, merely observations from SHTA members for possible future consideration/action.*

## S/D/P

- WHEN **DEMAND EXCEEDS SUPPLY - PRICE NORMALLY RISES**
  - IS THERE ANYTHING WE MIGHT DO TO PROTECT OUR LOCAL MARKET AND – AS PART OF THIS – AFFORDABLE ICONIC TOURISM DISHES?
- 
- MIGHT IT BE NECESSARY TO CONSIDER RESTRICTING THE QUANTITY OF IDENTIFIED FISH EXPORTED IN ORDER TO PROTECT THE LOCAL MARKET?



## ENFORCEMENT

- It would be hoped that SFA's comprehensive awareness campaign would reduce the number and frequency of offences.
- Regardless, when people are caught deliberately and cynically breaking the law the punishments should be genuine deterrents.
- Further reviews of fines and other penalties should, SHTA feels, lead to increases.

**SHTA will continue to support the SFA strategy in any way possible**

# Appendix 6

## Report of the Stock Assessment Sub-committee



### Meetings of the SAS and their objectives

- Four meetings since June 2022
- These meetings had as objective to:
  1. To undertake an overview of the stock assessment process and its general results.
  2. To examine the stock assessment results of 3 species (Bourzwa, Zob gris, Kordonyen) to determine whether their management should remain the same or be changed.
  3. To consider whether other species apart from those 3 should be regulated.
  4. To provide recommendations to the ICCP on the management of the Mahe Plateau trap and the line fishery.

### Participants at meetings

Members	Affiliation	SAS 1	SAS 2	SAS 3	SAS 4
Rodney Nicole	Bel Ombre Fishers Association	✓	✓	✓	✓
Jean Claude Hénau	Fish Tech	✓	✓	✓	✓
Jan Robinson	Coordinator, SWOCHSIS	✓	✓		
Rodney Gwendes	Head, Research (SFA)	✓	✓	✓	✓
Stephanie Hollanda	Research Officer (SFA)	✓	✓	✓	✓
Darell Green (Chairperson)	Prada Fishers Association	✓	✓	✓	✓
Rosal Suleman	Recreational Fisher representative	✓	✓	✓	✓
Amner Ebahun	Head, Resource Management (SFA)	✓	✓		
Darrien Barfous	Seyðhall Sports Fishers Club (SFK)	✓		✓	
Emile Augustin	Senior Statistical Officer (SFA)	✓			
Clara Pierre Louis	Statistical Officer (SFA)	✓	✓		✓
<b>Other Invited Stakeholders</b>					
Walter Assouline	Green Island Foundation			✓	
Therence Labrosse	Roche Camon Fishers Association				✓
<b>Secretariat</b>					
Audrey Harris	Consultant (SFA)	✓	✓	✓	✓
Elsa Soerens	Assistant Manager, Resource Management (SFA)		✓		
Jocana Lucas	Fisheries Officer, Resource Management (SFA)	✓	✓	✓	
Angèle Jack	Resource Management (SFA)				✓

### Overview of the stock assessment process and its general results.

- We were presented the reports
- Considerable work undertaken, results analysed over a 20 year period
  1. Had questions on trap fishing catch rates, all species examined was decrease, yet the total catch was increasing
  2. There were likely some targeting issues that were not taken into consideration in the stock assessment analyses
  3. Subsequent stock assessments should engage with the SAS in the early phase of the assessment to better understand some of the fishery issues

Examine the stock assessment results of 3 species (Bourzwa, Zob gris, Kordonnyen)

- \* **Bourzwa**
- \* Overfished by smaller boats inshore (drop in CPUE)
- \* Results for schooners, lekonomi, whalers not much different to 1998-2000
- \* **Recommend:**
- \* Situation justifies the regulations
- \* Better information on the location and ecology of bourzwa nursery areas required
- \* May need to review bag limits next year (after Oct 2023)
- \* Need to collect information on the length caught by traps

Examine the stock assessment results of 3 species (Bourzwa, Zob gris, Kordonnyen)

- \* **Zob gri**
- \* Overfished by smaller boats inshore (drop in CPUE)
- \* Results for schooners, lekonomi, whalers not much different to 1998-2000
- \* **Recommend:**
- \* Zob gri must be kept separate from zob zon etc.
- \* Situation justifies the regulations
- \* May need to review bag limits next year

Examine the stock assessment results of 3 species (Bourzwa, Zob gris, Kordonnyen)

- \* **kordonnyen**
- \* Has been fished below MSY since 2000
- \* It is lightly fished – may be increased
- \* **Recommend:**
- \* Protection of spawning areas is a good measure
- \* Need to collect information on the length caught for each species so as to examine separately
- \* Noted that in old days 16cm minimum size, but this is not needed for the moment.

Examined other species

- \* **Vara vara** - CPUE not changed much since 2000
- \* **Bordmar** - CPUE has changed significantly. Must reconsider what to do next year
- \* **Kapten bian** - CPUE has changed significantly. Must reconsider what to do next year.
- \* **Other species presented by Green Island Foundation:**
- \* 4 fish (Aya zerar, Filanbaz, Vyey crab, Babonn zonn)
- \* 18 sharks and rays
- \* We agreed that if the net legislation is properly enforced, most of the sharks and rays that were shown would be largely protected.
- \* Proposed that 4 species should be released on capture

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## Four species for release

- Lare dore, Pantouf, Swarko (mobular), Swarko (kuhlii)



## More general recommendations

- The SAS considered the use of **degradable devices**. Preference was a degradable wire to attach the trap mouth
- Traps should be **marked with a number linked to a fisher** followed by another number for his actual trap.
- There are **too many registered fishers and registered fishing vessels that are not fishing**.
- SAS insists that there must be a correct and regularly updated **list of registered fishers, permits, fishing licences and fishing vessels** publicly available on the SFA website.
- The SFA should collect **regular monthly information on the price** of different species of fish.



I would now like to make a statement



## Appendix 7

### Peer-to-Peer country visit latest updates

#### List of peer-to-visit participants

Name of participants	Representative	Role
Minister Jean-Francois Ferrari	Ministry of Fisheries and Blue Economy	Head of Delegation
Rodney Nicole	Bel Ombre Fishers Association	Participant
Jean-Claude Hoareau	Fishtec	Participant
Nancy Onginjo	PFBOA	Participant
Ray Payet	La Digue Fishers Association	Participant
Darrel Green	Praslin Fishers Association	Participant
Neddy Labrosse	Roche caiman Fishers Association	Participant
Wilna Accouche	Green Island Foundation	Participant
Faizal Suleman	Recreational Fisher representative	Participant
Elna Etienne	Department of Blue Economy	Participant
Philippe Michaud	Department of Fisheries	Participant
Karyss Auguste	SFA (ICCP Member)	Participant
Elisa Socrate	SFA (ICCP Secretariat)	Participant
Aubrey Harris	Consultant	Facilitation
Jan Robinson	PIU, SWIOFish3	Coordinator
Meggy Tirant	PIU, SWIOFish3	Logistics, support & planning
Thessia Labonte	PIU, SWIOFish3	Communication & reporting

#### Annex 1: Agenda for Shetland

##### Day 1: Scalloway Campus, University of Highlands and Islands

- 09.30 - Depart Glen Orchy
- 10.00 - Welcome and scene setting by John Goodlad
- 10.30 - Overview of Shetland seafood industry – Dr Ian Napier
- 11.15 - Coffee
- 11.45 - Overview of fisheries training and research at Scalloway Campus - Dr Beth Mouat and Dr Chevonne Angus
- 13.00 - Lunch
- 14.00 - The vision of a Centre for Sustainable Seafood – John Goodlad and Beth Mouat
- 16.00 - Return to Glen Orchy, Lerwick

##### Day 2: Electronic Fish Auction (Shetland Seafood Auctions), Lerwick and Lerwick Port Authority – Harbour Tour

- 07.00 - Depart Glen Orchy
- 07.30 - Visit to Lerwick fish market – hosted by Norma Williamson and Martin Leyland

- 09.30 - Depart fish market
- 10.00 - Arrive Lerwick Port Authority. Presentation by Captain Callum Grains and tour of harbour onboard pilot boats
- 12.00 - Walk to Dowry for lunch
- 14.00 – Visit to maritime Museum
- 19.30 - Civic reception in Lerwick Town Hall hosted by Andrea Manson, Convenor of the Shetland Islands Council (walk from Glen Orchy)

Day 3: Shetland Fishers’ Offices, Lerwick

- 09.30 - Depart Glen Orchy
- 10.00 - Discussion on the different roles of Shetland Fishers Association, Shetland Fish Producers Organisation and Shetland Shellfish Management Organisation – led by Brian Isbister and Team
- 12.45 - Depart Fishers’ Offices
- 13.00 - Lunch at Hays Dock.
- 14.15 – Return to Fishers’ Offices
- 14.30 - Visit on board various fishing vessels
- 16.30 – Return to Glen Orchy

Day 4: Visit a salmon fish farm (full day)

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**Annex 2: Agenda for Sete**

Day 1 (morning)

- Presentation of the French Mediterranean fisheries by OP SATHOAN (SATHOAN meeting room)
- Presentation of the Bluefin Tuna Management Plan by OP SATHOAN (SATHOAN meeting room)

Day 1 (afternoon)

- Meeting with Cepralmar (technical centre dedicated to fisheries and aquaculture)
- Visit to an experimental shellfish farm (experimental area)

Day 2

- Visit of a Halle à Marée - Criée d'Agde (30 minutes’ drive from Sete)

Day 3- Field trip

- Visit to the port of Gruissan
- Meeting with the prud'homie of Gruissan

### **Annex 3: Proposed Itinerary**

1	EK0708 Q 01OCT I SEZDXB HK9	2350	0420+1	(2pcs x 23 kgs)
2	EK0027 Q 02OCT 3 DXBGLA HK9	0750	1245	(2pcs x 23 kgs)
3	LM0439 Y 02OCT M GLALSI HK9	1530	1700	(2pcs x 23 kgs)
4	LM0025 V 07OCT LSIMAN HK9	0820	1125	(1pc x 15 kgs)
5	AF1669 F 08OCT 6 MANCDG HK9	1025	1300	(1pc x 23 kgs)
6	AF7704 F 08OCT 6 CDGNCE HK9	1355	1525	(1pc x 23 kgs)
7	EK0078 Q 13OCT 2 NCEDXB HK9	1555	0010+1	(2pcs x 23 kgs)
8	EK0705 Q 14OCT 3 DXBSEZ HK9	0215	0650	(2pcs x 23 kgs)

### **Annex 4: Travel Program**

Day 1 (Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> October): Travelling and arriving in Shetland in the afternoon

Day 2 (Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> October): Scalloway Campus, University of Highlands and Islands

Day 3 (Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> October): Visit Shetland Seafood Auctions, Lerwick and Lerwick Port Authority Harbour Tour

Day 4 (Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> October): Visit Shetland Fishers' Offices, Lerwick

Day 5 (Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> October): Full day visit at a salmon fish farm

Day 6 (Friday 7<sup>th</sup> October): Travelling from Shetland to Manchester

Day 7 (Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> October): Travelling to Nice.

Day 8 (Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> October): Rest

Day 9 (Monday 10<sup>th</sup> October):

- Presentation of the French Mediterranean fisheries and the Bluefin Tuna Management Plan by OP SATHOAN.
- Meeting with Cevalmar (technical centre dedicated to fisheries and aquaculture)
- Visit to an experimental shellfish farm (experimental area)

Day 10 (Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> October): Visit of a Halle à Marée - Criée d'Agde

Day 11 (Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> October): Visit to the port of Gruissan

Day 12 (Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> October): Travelling to Nice and flying to Dubai in the Afternoon

Day 13 (Friday 14<sup>th</sup> October): Arrival in Seychelles at 6.50am

