

14 LIFE BELOW WATER



# Trade-related aspects of SDG 14: IPWG-4 Outcomes

OCEANS FORUM

UNCTAD, FAO, UNEP, Commonwealth, ACP and IOI

Geneva, 21 March 2017

David Vivas Eugui UNCTAD - Marcio Castro de Souza FAO - Lucas Assunção UNCTAD



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



# Informal Preparatory Working Group - 4



THE  
**OCEAN  
CONFERENCE**  
UNITED NATIONS, NEW YORK, 5-9 JUNE 2017

IPWG 4: Sustainable management of fisheries  
(SDG 14 Targets 14.4, 14.6 and 14.b)

Outcome report **launched today** provides:

- \* Main trends
- \* Challenges, gaps & opportunities
- \* Proposals on new partnerships
- \* Recommendations
- \* Future actions to accelerate the implementation of relevant targets of SDG 14



# Key Messages on Target 14.4



## Trends:

- \* Overfishing persists: 31.4 per cent of all stocks are below sustainable levels
- \* IUU estimated to range between US dollars 10 and 23.5 billion (estimated global fisheries exports of USD 146 billion)
- \* Fish capture is becoming increasingly regulated at all levels
  - \* Management measures: total allowable quotas; limited fishing days & periods; number of vessels; selective gear and practices and bycatch regulation
  - \* Emergence of verification measures: catch certificates, traceability requirements, and IUU vessel listing and port measures introduced by several States

## Challenges:

- \* Need to better value ecosystems and their services
- \* Low (still limited) monitoring and compliance by flagship States
- \* Low capacity in science-based fish stock management
- \* Existence of **distorting / harmful** subsidies
- \* Need to better regulate fisheries tenure (specially by small-scale and artisanal fishers)

# Recommendations for the Ocean Conference on **Target 14.4**



- \* Ratify, implement and apply relevant international law (UN and FAO treaties, soft law & UNGA Resolutions) (partially in the zero draft)
- \* Reduce the size and capacity of **existing** fishing fleets to levels commensurate with the sustainability of fish stocks found within their own Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZs) and in Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (ABNJ)
- \* Introduce and apply science-based fish management and traceability systems and increase capacity-building efforts (in zero draft – **Para 8 (o)**)
- \* Promote an effective global partnership to share fisheries management knowledge for developing countries (partially in the zero draft)
- \* When developing policies to combat IUU fishing, States should:
  - \* Promote increased transparency and implement flag state obligations (**zero draft – 8(n)**)
  - \* Quickly exchange information on any suspected violation
  - \* Avoid unilateral action or restrictions to trade

# Key Messages on Target 14.6



## Trends:

- \* Certain subsidies are perceived as a **direct contributor** to depletion
- \* **High level of sensitivity** in certain areas
- \* **Increased engagement** by WTO Members in terms of proposals
- \* **Data (on specific fish subsidy estimates) remains controversial:** different estimates over the last 10 years

## Challenges:

- \* **There is still significant** lack of :
  - \* consensus on basic concepts, definitions and prohibitions
  - \* official and reliable data (fragmented and non comparable information)
  - \* incentives for all nations to cooperate regardless of levels of depletion
- \* Limited knowledge in the trade community on international fisheries instruments
- \* Lack of coordination between trade and fisheries authorities (**internally in countries**)

# Recommendations for the Ocean Conference on **Target 14.6**



- \* Call for WTO Members
  - \* to reach an outcome on fisheries subsidies disciplines by the 11th WTO Ministerial Conference in December 2017 (**already in the zero draft – Para 8 q**)
  - \* to join the UNCTAD/FAO/UNEP fish subsidies road map and use it as tool for consensus building
- \* Creation of a multi-agency task force to gather and analyse data on fisheries subsidies/public support measures (FAO, UNCTAD, UNEP & OECD)
- \* Deepen the understanding of national fish subsidization practices and/or other policies affecting fuel for marine harvesting
- \* States should be encouraged to deposit commitments to reform and phase out harmful subsidies at the UN Ocean Conference 2017
- \* Develop a more accurate, comprehensive, target-oriented indicator on SDG Target 14.6

# Key Messages on Target 14.b



## Trends:

- \* Small-scale and artisanal fisheries are **key to food security and livelihoods**
  - \* 90 per cent of all employed in the capture fisheries are engaged in the small-scale sector
  - \* 50 per cent of the workforce in small-scale fisheries are women
- \* The produce of small-scale fisheries (SSFs) increasingly faces significant **non tariff barriers**
  - \* There are 2.5 times more NTMs applicable to fish products than to manufactures
- \* Seafood production certified under global sustainability initiatives grew 40-fold from 2003 to 2015, representing more than 14 per cent of global production.

## Challenges:

- \* Lack of clarity on fisheries tenure
- \* Lack of funding and support to improve practices and engage in management
- \* Knowledge asymmetries and low organizational structures
- \* Limited access to services & infrastructure
- \* Lack of trade facilitation schemes

# Recommendations for the Ocean Conference on **Target 14.b**



- \* Develop capacities on the implementation of FAO's Voluntary Guidelines for:
  - \* Securing Sustainable SSFs small-scale fishermen
  - \* Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries & Forests
- \* Explore options for increased participation of Small-Scale Fishers in seafood value chains and explore options to address fish-related NTMs.
- \* Support efforts by UNCTAD, FAO and partners in developing National Oceans & Trade Strategies that support Sustainable SSFs. **(partially in the zero draft – Para 8 r)**
- \* Involve SSFs in fish management efforts.
- \* Develop a multilaterally recognized, multipurpose, and low cost traceability systems for fish, and specially the produce of SSFs. **(partially in the zero draft – 8 (o)) ???**
- \* Facilitate the use of certification schemes by allowing clustering requests by SSFs.
- \* Develop a system for transparency on fisheries access agreements, so SSFs are not displaced.



# IPWG-4 Membership

- \* **Members:** Francella Strickland, Senior Adviser on Sustainable Development Goals Team Office of the Presidency of the UNPGA; Dmitry Gonchar, Principal Legal Officer, OLA/DOALOS; Takehiro Nakamura, Coordinator, Marine and Coastal Ecosystems Unit, Division of Environmental Policy Implementation, UNEP; Andrew Hudson, Head, Water and Ocean Governance Programme, UNDP; Clarisse Morgan, Rules Division Counsellor, WTO; John M. Tanzer, Director, Global Marine Program, WWF International; Ndiaga Gueye, Senior Fishery Officer, CECAF; Guillermo Compeán, IATTC; Abdellah Srouf, GFCM; Fred Kingston, NAFO; Roger Martini, Fisheries Division, OECD; Heidi Huusko, United Nations Global Compact; Callie Stinson, Project Lead, Environmental Initiatives, WEF; Rashid Sumaila, Professor of Fisheries Economics, Institute for the Oceans and Fisheries of the University of British Columbia; Eric A. Bilsky, Assistant General Counsel, Oceana; Joan Yang, Senior Office, International Ocean Policy, The Pew Charitable Trusts; Ratana Chuenpagdee, Professor of Geography, Project Director - Too Big To Ignore, Memorial University of Newfoundland; Ingrid Giskes, Global Head of Sea, World Animal Protection; and Pablo Obregon, Fisheries Manager, Ocean Center, Conservation International.
  
- \* **Co- Conveners:**
  - \* From UNCTAD, David Vivas Eugui, Legal Officer, Trade, Environment, Climate Change and Sustainable Development and Graham Mott, Associate Economic Affairs Officer
  - \* From FAO, Rebecca Metzner, Chief - Policy, Economics and Institutions Branch Fisheries and Aquaculture Department and Marcio Castro de Souza, Senior Fishery Officer (Trade Issues), FAO