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

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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 Srour, 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