BACKGROUND

The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), in cooperation with the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea of the Office of Legal Affairs of the United Nations (DOALOS), is executing the project "Evidence-based and policy coherent Oceans Economy and Trade Strategies" (OETS project) which started in January 2018 and is expected to be completed by June 2022; the project is within the framework of the eleventh tranche of the United Nations Development Account. The beneficiary countries of the project are Barbados, Belize, and Costa Rica.

In the context of the OETS implementation action plan, the study "Swordfish Market Analysis Report for Barbados " has been commissioned to explore the market potential for both local and export of Swordfish (Xiphias gladius). In addition, the project is conducting an experimental fishing exercise to identify best fishing techniques and costs for Swordfish harvesting. The fishing exercise will also investigate the impact of circle hooks on catch composition and the rates of live vs. dead capture of all species at haul-back taken by local longline gear.

This concept note outlines the logistical notes and the objectives for the UNCTAD-DOALOS OETS Project Combined Hybrid Workshop to present the findings of the project and facilitate discussions on several issues including input cost and marketing strategies.

The draft report is available for comment in the workshop website – see below. The website also provides access to other relevant material and to the workshop agenda.

Registration to the workshop is only mandatory for the webinar participants. For all others registration is highly recommended. Please register through the workshop website.

The workshop is scheduled for Wednesday, 22 July 2022 from 09:00 – 12:15 hrs AST | 15:00 – 18:15 hrs CET at the Fisheries Division, Bridgetown, Barbados. Online participation will be facilitated via Zoom.

Workshop Website

Workshop on the implementation of priority actions on sustainable trade of swordfish and other longline fisheries under Barbados Oceans Economy and Trade Strategies | UNCTAD
WORKSHOP OBJECTIVES

- To provide an overview of the final activities under the UNCTAD-DOALOS OETS project and its contribution in promoting sustainable trade of products and services in ocean-based economic sectors within the UNCLOS framework.

- To present and discuss the findings of the Swordfish Market analysis and discuss recommendations for marketing and selling Swordfish locally and abroad.

- To present the preliminary findings from the Swordfish experimental fishing exercise and discuss the most efficient and cost-effective harvesting techniques.

- To discuss the impact of circle hooks on catch composition captured during the experimental fishing exercise.