



The 1st Meeting of IORA Core Group on Fisheries Management (CGFM)

Wednesday, 3 November 2021

14:00 to 17:00 Western Indonesia Time (GMT +7)

DRAFT REPORT

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I. OPENING SESSION

1. Introduction:

that Indonesia hosted the 1st Meeting of IORA Core Group on Fisheries Management (CGFM) in a virtual platform, on Wednesday, 3rd November 2021. The Meeting was the first meeting of the CGFM as a functional body of IORA since its establishment was endorsed by the COM in November 2020. It mainly aimed to identify and discuss the implementation of the CGFM Work Plan that will be carried out by the Member States, as well as, to update on the progress of programs in the Work Plan. It is hoped that all Member States would propose tangible programs or capacity-building assistance that is in line and aligned with the CGFM Work Plan during the meeting.

2. Remarks by Mr. Witjaksono Adjie, Director for Intra and Inter Regional Cooperation of Asia, Pacific, and Africa, Ministry of Foreign Affairs – Indonesia (Co-Chairs)

Mr Adjie welcomed all participants to the First Meeting of the Cluster Group on Fisheries Management. He informed the meeting that despite of the COVID-19 pandemic, IORA cooperation is progressing and highlighted the importance of the meeting. He mentioned that this is the first meeting of the CGFM as functional body of IORA since its establishment was endorsed by the COM in November 2020 and it the first opportunity where all member states are present to craft the way in advancing fisheries management cooperation in IORA. The meeting aimed at identifying and discussing the implementation of the CGFM Work Plan that will be carried out by the Member States, as well as, to update on the progress of program in the Work Plan. Member States were encouraged to propose tangible programs or capacity building assistance that is in line and aligned with the CGFM Work Plan. He conveyed the apologies of Indonesia's Senior Official, H.E. Abdul Kadir Jailani, the Director General for Asia Pacific and Africa of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, for not being able to attend the meeting. The full speech of Mr Adjie is annexed as [Annexure A](#).

3. Remarks by Mr. Agung Tri Prasetyo, Head of Bureau for Public Relation and International Cooperation, Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries – Indonesia (Co-Chairs)

Mr Agung started his speech by mentioned that we should not let the COVID pandemic hinder our effort for advancing fisheries management but we should rather further be emboldened in our action as a sustainable management of fisheries and to maintain food security which could potentially provide relieves from this pandemic. He highlighted the importance of the fisheries sector and made reference to the statement on the UN website mentioned that this pandemic offers an opportunity to revive the ocean and lays a foundation to build a sustainable ocean economy. The full speech is annexed as [Annexure B](#).

4. Welcoming Remarks by Mr. Muhammad Zaini, Director General of Capture Fisheries, Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries – Indonesia

Me Agung delivered the speech of Mr. Muhammad Zaini, Director General of Capture Fisheries, Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries, Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries of the Republic of Indonesia. Mr Zaini welcomed all participants and apologised for not being able to attend the meeting. He mentioned that the impacts of COVID-19, are laying bare the need to enhance the resilience and sustainability of our marine and fisheries sectors. As the world begins to focus on recovering from those unprecedented challenges, fisheries and aquaculture sectors have been seen as a potential sector for that recovery. He further emphasised on the need to turn the COVID-19 recovery into an opportunity to set fisheries sectors on a more sustainable footing, turning them into catalysts for long-term and inclusive sustainable development and enhancing systemic resilience. He believed that only collective actions will assist us in our recovery from the pandemic through its contribution to livelihood, job creation, food security, and poverty alleviations. He stated that a single country's effort would not significantly impact an ocean as vast as the Indian Ocean but instead requires concerted efforts, including through the collaboration among IORA members and dialogue partners, to make a greater impact on the ocean. To conclude his remarks, he thanked all participants for their relentless support and contribution. The full speech of Mr Zaini is annexed as [Annexure C](#).

5. Outline of Arrangements and Adoption of the Agenda (Co-Chairs)

The draft agenda was adopted without any revision. The Chair informed the meeting that the Report of this meeting will be prepared by the IORA Secretariat and circulated to all Member States. Indonesia, as the Chair of the CGFM, will report to the CSO Meeting on 15 – 16 November 2021 regarding the outcomes of this meeting.

A copy of the agenda is annexed as [Annexure D](#).

6. Report on the Decision Making to the Establishment of Core Group on Fisheries Management/CGFM (IORA Secretariat)

The Secretariat provided a brief on the establishment of the Core Group on Fisheries Management (CGFM) and its role in initiating, developing, discussing, coordinating and monitoring fisheries management cooperation in the IORA region. He mentioned that the CGFM and its Work Plan were adopted in November 2020. He also highlighted the aims of the CGFM in strengthening regional cooperation in the fisheries management sector in the Indian Ocean.

II. REPORT OF THE TRILATERAL MEETING OF CGFM – WGBE – FSU

The Co-Chairs briefed the Member States on the recommendations report of the Trilateral Meeting of CGFM – WGBE – FSU, which was held on 25 May 2021 as recommended by the Committee of Senior Officials. In fact, the CSO meeting in November 2020 mandated the Chair of CGFM, the Chair of WGBE, and the FSU to have a coordination meeting to settle on the overlapping programs among the three bodies to ensure that there is no duplication of projects. During the meeting, the three IORA bodies identified at least six overlapping areas of cooperation among the different work plans, namely IUU Fishing, Fisheries Resources, Aquaculture, Trade Market, Climate Change and the Environment, and Marine Debris.

It was agreed that the overlapping programs will not become a hindrance in our common objective to strengthen IORA cooperation in the fisheries sector, but to make these programs as a means to synergize and complement our efforts. It was also agreed that the CGFM will focus on the biological and ecological aspects of fisheries management, while the WGBE will focus on the cross-cutting issues, particularly those that deal more with social and economic aspects. As importantly, the FSU, with its commitment and expertise on a more specified, technical and research activities, will act as the scientific and technical arm in supporting the programs of CGFM and WGBE. We believe that these scientific data and technical work are crucial in strengthening fisheries management cooperation in our region, and we believe the FSU will be able to play an important role in this area. The 3 bodies are also committed to actively participate in each other's regular meetings. To this end, the three functional bodies will continue to reinforce each other's Work Plans, as well as continue to strengthen coordination in aligning the overlapping programs.

Indonesia as the Chair of the CGFM, is optimistic that the future cooperation on fisheries management issue will be more coordinated and integrated. The Member States' further support and guidance were sought to ensure the continuity of the work being done.

III. THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CGFM WORK PLAN AND WAY FORWARD

The Chair informed the meeting that the CGFM work plan, that was adopted in November 2020 by the COM, is encompassing 13 Strategic Objectives. The Work Plan is in line with the commitment given by IORA Leaders through Jakarta Concord which aims to "Promote sustainable and responsible fisheries management and development". The CGFM Work Plan was developed to strengthen regional cooperation in the fisheries and aquaculture management sector in the Indian Ocean. Aside to achieve the main objective of IORA cooperation on sustainable fisheries management in Jakarta Concord, the work plan of IORA CGFM will have some main activities that also can collaborate with national priorities of member states as follows:

1. Promote fisheries and aquaculture database management in the IORA Region;
2. Encourage close cooperation among IORA members and dialogue partners with participation of their respective public and private sectors partners;
3. Enhance cooperation and collaboration with the IORA Fisheries Support Unit (FSU) for knowledge sharing, capacity building and addressing the strategic issues of the fisheries and aquaculture in the region.

The CGFM Work Plan is annexed as [Annexure E](#).

In recognizing IORA CGFM position within the IORA body, the Work Plan welcomes other IORA Members and IORA Dialogue Partners to collaborate on specific projects and activities.

The Chair informed the meeting about the following:

- the first kick-off project under the CGFM Work Plan has been carried out recently by Indonesia through “IORA Webinar on Regional Measures in Combating IUU Fishing”, which lies under Strategic Objective No. 3 “To promote responsible fishing practices, including to deter and prevent Illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing”.
- Indonesia will also implement the Strategic Objective No.6 of the CGFM Work Plan. Indonesia is planning to host an “IORA Webinar on Developing Awareness Program and Mitigation Against Marine Debris Impacts Towards Sustainable Fisheries in IORA”

He hoped that these initiatives is one of many projects or activities that will be implemented under the CGFM Work Plan with strong support by all IORA member states and dialogue partners.

Member States are invited to propose tangible programs or capacity building assistance that is in line and aligned with the strategic objectives on the CGFM Work Plan.

Indonesia briefed the meeting about the 2 activities being undertaken:

1. Report on the Webinar on Regional Measures in Combating IUU Fishing, 26 October 2021 (Indonesia).

In order to promote responsible fisheries including to deter and prevent IUU fishing as mandated by Objective 3 of the CGFM Work Plan, Indonesia conducted the ‘Webinar on Regional Measures in Combating IUU Fishing’ on October 26th, 2021. The objective of the webinar was to enable Member States to identify and exchange of views on the opportunities and challenges in combating IUU Fishing, based on the existing regional mechanism, as an initial input for our further collaboration for combatting IUU fishing.

Based on the experience of existing regional mechanism i.e. RPOA-IUU and AN-IUU shared by the RPOA-IUU Secretariat, and Mr. Gatot Hari Gunawan, Acting Secretary General of the IORA Secretariat, the webinar recommended IORA and its member to:

- Continue to address challenges related to IUU Fishing i.e.:
 - Strengthening the implementation responsible fisheries practices
 - Strengthening the implementation of fisheries product traceability
 - Strengthening Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS) of fishing activities by flag states, coastal states and port states
 - Strengthening the implementation of Port State Measures.
- Strengthening collaboration related to data sharing i.e. vessel data, vessel tracking system, VMS data.
- Strengthening collaboration related to the process of trans-organized fisheries crime and fisheries related crime.
- Intensify participation in existing global and regional IUUF mechanism/network i.e. PSMA, RPOA-IUU, RFMO.
- Developing IORA mechanism/platform for exchange information, best practices and expert, and also strengthening collaboration with all relevant stakeholder within the Region

It is hoped that this recommendation could be served as an initial input for our further collaboration for combatting IUU fishing, including for the developing of IORA guidelines in combating IUU fishing.

2. Report on the preparation of the Webinar on Developing Awareness Program and Mitigation Against Marine Debris Impacts Towards Sustainable Fisheries in IORA to be held on 10 November 2021 (Indonesia).

As an implementation of Objective 6 of the CGFM Work Plan, Indonesia will host the 'Webinar on Developing Awareness Program and Mitigation Against Marine Debris Impacts Towards Sustainable Fisheries in IORA' on November 10, 2021.

The aim of this webinar is to exchange information on best knowledges and practices on developing marine debris awareness and mitigation program from all related stakeholder (policy maker, academic, international organization, private sector and NGO) as an initial input for future IORA's cooperation on marine debris issue.

Details of the webinar will be circulated and posted on IORA website and social media in due course.

3. Inputs by Member States:

Iran thanked the IORA Secretariat and the chair of the IORA CGFM. This is a useful roadmap for the next five years. Iran enquired about the activities that need to be implemented by Member States. What is the guarantee of Member States implementing these activities and the roles of the Secretariat in this regard. Regarding the database on fisheries and aquaculture, Iran enquired if a new database for the IORA because MS has sent data to FAO and RECOFI. Iran suggested IORA to use the data from FAO. Making a new database requires new data sets and is difficult for the countries to send different data or the same data to different fisheries organisations. Iran suggest IORA Secretariat to consult with the FAO to use the information from FAO.

Regarding the strategy 3, related to IUU, collaboration among all Member States to combat IUU in the region is required but activity number 6 is not related to IUU fishing and should be removed from there and moved to Strategy number 11 related to port and fishing vessels.

Regarding the strategy 10, the last part of the activity is related to IUU fishing and should be moved to item 3. Under the activity 1, this is repetitive in item 2 and one of them should be removed.

Bangladesh thanked the Chair of the CGFM for organising this meeting. In strategy 3 on IUU fishing, BD mentioned that the webinar on 26 October 2021 was very fruitful. Activities number 4 should be done by the Secretariat because this issue is not for only one country. Proposed that the IORA Secretariat to organise an event on this topic. Also agreed with Iran to move activity on port to other section

Thailand informed the meeting that they send all data to FAO and other region and requested that these data be gathered. For IUU fishing, Thailand has cooperation with other organisations

and suggested to organise a workshop to better understand and share experience. Thailand also enquired about the host of these activities and about the funding of these activities.

Maldives: On IUU matters, one of the major challenges is about vessel information sharing. For collaborative maritime mechanism, it is important to have the vessel information shared among the Member States to increase surveillance in the region. On database, the fisheries data is there but how the database will be developed is not clear. Instead of developing a separate database, the focus should be more on Member States who does not have the capacity to generate their own data. Therefore, it is recommended to develop national system in line with international data system.

India: The IUU fishing is a very serious issue and concern of all. India agrees to working together on IUU fishing. On Capacity building and data management, India suggested that there should be clear understanding of the issues and suggested to have capacity building on how to address IUU fishing.

IORA Fisheries Support Unit (FSU): We need to evaluate the activities that have already been carried out to ensure that there is no duplication. I agree with the comments of Iran on the data management. All countries send their data to FAO and this should be taken under consideration. Regarding the minimum requirement, we can use what has already been done by FAO instead of creating a new data set by the Member States. Many of the idea, such as the experts' database, could be done by the Secretariat and request Member States to provide the list. To coordinate the inputs could also be done by the Secretariat. All Member States are members of FAO commission such as SWIOFC, RECOFI, etc and there are many works being done by these commissions, which we can benefit from. On strategy 7, this should be modified for fish farmers.

Iran suggested to develop 2 coregroups: one on fisheries and one on aquaculture. In terms of database all countries send their data to FAO, the IORA could link with the FAO

France: Within this objective, France will host the meeting on IUU fishing in December 2021.

IORA Secretariat thanked Member States for their comments on the Work Plan. Secretariat requests Member States to express interest in hosting activities of the Work Plan. The comments from Iran, Bangladesh and Thailand, Maldives and India were noted. Dr Gatot informed the meeting that the IORA has started in 2017 to work with FAO on data sharing and they have already expressed interest in assisting IORA in this regard. We are also engaging with the FAO in preparing the Work Plan. IORA has the IORA Special Fund (cover up to 50% of the total cost of projects) and the IORA Sustainable Development Programme (ISDP; for LDCs; and could cover up to 90% of the total cost of the project). France, with the French Development Agency (AFD), would also provide fund for projects. On IUU fishing, IORA and France is preparing a workshop on IUU fishing in December 2021.

The Secretariat also highlighted the need to involve the Dialogue Partners in future CGFM Meetings. Dialogue Partners could be invited in dedicated sessions and requested to express interest in hosting activities of the CGFM Work Plan. The need to appoint focal points for the CGFM was also emphasised.

Indonesia thanked Member States for their inputs and commitments in advancing the CGFM Work Plan and highlighted the need to collaborate stronger in realizing the Work Plan into tangible activities. He stressed that the CGFM Work Plan can only bring tangible benefit to our

people only with strong support from all IORA member states and dialogue partners. As a way forward, Indonesia, hoped that Member States could share their proposal on projects or activities through intersessional channel. The Secretariat will re circulate the updated CGFM Work Plan and Member States as well as Dialogue Partner are kindly requested to propose any activities under 13 strategic objectives. Indonesia encouraged all Member States and Dialogue Partners to take the leading role on the implementation of the Work Plan.

Main outcomes:

The meeting agreed to:

- Invite Dialogue Partners in future CGFM meetings;
- Appoint Focal Points for the CGFM.

Member States are encouraged to express interest in hosting the activities of the CGFM Work Plan.

IV. REPORT ON THE CLUSTER GROUP ON FISHERIES MANAGEMENT STRATEGIC TEXT FOR IORA ACTION PLAN 2022 – 2026

Co-Chairs briefed Member States on the strategic text of the cluster group on fisheries management Strategic Text for IORA Action Plan 2022 – 2026 based on meeting on 21 September 2021. He mentioned that the 1st IORA Action Plan 2017 – 2021 is due by the end of this year and Bangladesh, as the next Chair of IORA, has been coordinating the process to develop the 2nd IORA Action Plan of 2022 – 2026 through several special meetings.

The 3rd Session of the Workshop of the Second IORA Action Plan held on 23 August 2021 has finalized the format of the Draft Zero of the Action Plan. However, much work remained to be done to fully populate and refine the Draft 'Zero' of the IORA Action Plan. In this regard, the cluster groups under all IORA's priorities, including fisheries management, are requested to submit their substantial inputs for the 2nd IORA Action Plan based on the format of the Draft Zero that has been developed.

To this end, Indonesia as Chair of CGFM voluntarily host the cluster meeting of fisheries management for IORA action plan 2022 – 2026 on 21 September 2021. The aims of this meeting is to discuss and finalize the inputs from the Member States on Zero Draft of the IORA Action Plan under Fisheries Management for IORA Action Plan 2022 – 2026. As per Bangladesh guidelines, the IORA Action Plan under Fisheries Management should consider following points:

- a) First, the nature of our substantial proposal should be strategic, non-technical, and aligned with the Jakarta Concord.
- b) Second, it is also not the repetition of the Core Group of Fisheries Management Work Plan, yet it is summarizing its principal elements,
- c) And finally, it should be visionary, inclusive, comprehensive.

To this end, the cluster group has finalized an overarching vision on fisheries management as follow:

“Enhancing protection, conservation and sustainable management of fisheries resources in the Indian Ocean region.”

This is the continuation of the first IORA Action Plan 2017-2021, where we should aim for higher achievement for the next Action Plan. The meeting agreed to the elements of protection, conservation, and sustainable management as the principal elements that also align with the CGFM Work Plan.

Under this overarching time, the meeting identified several strategic activities, as follow:

- a) In the short term:
 - “Implementing integrated and ecosystem-based approaches and environmentally sustainable practices in the management of fisheries resources”
 - “Enhancing science-based management and conservation of marine living resources and enhancing regional and international mechanisms to combat IUU fishing”
- b) In mid-term:
 - “Improving fisheries and aquaculture productivity through technical assistance and capacity building across the value chain.”
- c) In long-term:
 - “Facilitating fish trade and market-oriented intensification along the fisheries value chain.”

They are indeed based on the summary of the CGFM Work Plan, which encompasses 13 strategic objectives. The draft has been successfully submitted to Bangladesh on 23rd September 2021.

Indonesia seeks Member States’ support and guidance to further advance our work as reflected in the IORA Action Plan 2022 – 2026 under fisheries management.

V. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Report on Draft Work Plan FAO – IORA on Fisheries Management (Secretariat)

IORA has started to collaborate with the FAO since 2017, Ambassador K.V. Bhagirath attended the 40th Session of the FAO Conference at the FAO Headquarters in Rome, Italy on 3-8 July 2017, during the possibility of the establishment of an institutional mechanism of collaboration between FAO and IORA in sectors of common interest was explored. The draft Work Plan and Memorandum of Understanding were prepared and submitted to FAO.

The IORA and FAO hosted the AIMS-SIDS Workshop on Effective Fish Trade on 27 – 29 August 2018, Seychelles. FAO also collaborated with the IORA Secretariat for the Workshop on Biennial Review of IORA Fisheries & Aquaculture Sector - “Harmonization of Fisheries and Aquaculture Information System in the IORA Member States”, 29 - 30 October 2019, Muscat,

Sultanate of Oman, whereby the FAO provided two experts (from Southwest Indian Ocean Fisheries Commission (SWIOFC) and FAO Statistical Office).

The Secretariat is working closely with FAO to pursue this collaboration.

VI. CLOSING SESSION

1. Summary on the outcomes of the meeting and adoption of the Decisions Report (Co-Chairs)

The Chair briefed the meeting about the main outcomes. The meeting agreed to:

- Invite Dialogue Partners in future CGFM meetings;
- Appoint Focal Points for the CGFM.

Member States are encouraged to express interest in hosting the activities of the CGFM Work Plan.

2. Closing Remarks (Co-Chairs)

The Chair thanked the meeting for their deliberations and for the productive discussion on the plan to implement the CGFM Work Plan. There has been the identification of possible, feasible, potential programs and activities of the CGFM, ranging from improving our database, promoting sustainable fishing practices, developing our aquaculture sector, to increasing fish trade amongst ourselves, and everything else in between.

As mentioned earlier, the Secretariat will draft and circulate the draft of decisions report for your inputs, which will also be presented at the upcoming CSO meeting on 15-16 November 2021. The Work Plan will also be circulated to IORA Member States for their interest in leading concrete and tangible projects under the strategic objectives.

The Chair reminded the meeting that the Work Plan is a living document. Member States' support is sought to enrich the Work Plan with tangible activities and projects. He also mentioned that there is always room for improvement for our Work Plan and the Dialogue Partners' support is also warranted for our programs and activities. The Chair highlighted the importance of the fisheries sector and stated that this meeting signifies a milestone in IORA cooperation and could be the start of another concrete IORA cooperation which benefits our peoples, particularly those who reside in our coasts. He extended his appreciation to his colleagues from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and to the Co-Chair and his colleagues from the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries, for the excellent arrangements, coordination, and cooperation in preparing this meeting. He also expressed his appreciation to the Secretariat, which have helped in enabling and facilitating the meeting. The full speech of the closing remark is annexed as [Annexure F](#).

VII. ANNEXURES

Annexure A: Speech by Mr. Witjaksono Adjie, Director for Intra and Inter Regional Cooperation of Asia, Pacific, and Africa, Ministry of Foreign Affairs – Indonesia

Excellencies,
Distinguished delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

A very good afternoon from Jakarta... and good morning as well as good afternoon for all delegates from different time zones... I hope we are all in good health.

Allow me to welcome you all to the First Meeting of the Cluster Group on Fisheries Management.
Thank you for being with us today.

We are here today, in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, to show to ourselves, our peoples, and the rest of the world, that IORA cooperation is progressing.

Today's meeting is pivotal.

This is the first meeting of the CGFM as functional body of IORA since its establishment was endorsed by the COM in November 2020.

This is the first opportunity where all member states are present to craft the way in advancing fisheries management cooperation in IORA.

First, let me convey my thanks to my colleagues at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as well as the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries of the Republic of Indonesia for their hard work in preparing this meeting. I would also thank the IORA Secretariat for their assistance in convening this meeting.

Excellencies,
Distinguished delegates,

In this meeting, we aim to identify and discuss the implementation of the CGFM Work Plan that will be carried out by the Member States, as well as, to update on the progress of program in the Work Plan.

We truly hope that the Member States could propose tangible programs or capacity building assistance that is in line and aligned with the CGFM Work Plan.

Therefore, I am counting on your active participation and consideration to ensure the success of our meeting today.

Distinguished delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Before we continue allow me to introduce myself and my Co-Chair.

My name is Witjaksono Adji, Director for Intra and Inter Regional Cooperation of Asia, Pacific, and Africa, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia.

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Today, I am chairing this meeting together with my esteemed colleague, Mr. Agung Tri Prasetyo. He is the Head of Bureau for Public Relations and Foreign Cooperation in the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries of the Republic of Indonesia, and I am sure his expertise will help us in ensuring the success of our meeting today.

Regretfully, I have to inform you that Indonesia Senior Official, H.E. Abdul Kadir Jailani, the Director General for Asia Pacific and Africa of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, is unable to be here with us today due to attending the G20 Meeting.

Our Director General of Capture Fisheries, Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries, Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries, who is scheduled to deliver his remarks in our meeting today, also has other unforeseen engagement with the minister. However, Mr. Agung will deliver the remarks on his behalf

Thank you.

Annexure B: Speech by Mr. Agung Tri Prasetyo, Head of Bureau for Public Relation and International Cooperation, Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries – Indonesia (Co-Chairs)

Excellencies,
Distinguished delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

As my Co-Chair has conveyed, due to this turbulent time, it is very unfortunate that we are not able to meet face to face.

However, we should not let it hinder our effort for advancing fisheries management. In fact, we should further be emboldened in our action as a sustainable management of fisheries and to maintain our food security which could potentially provide relieves from this pandemic.

Fisheries sector is not just a source of income. Fish is also an important source of food and nutrition for millions of people around the world. Proponents of fish consumption argue that there is no other food that could substitute the unique combination of nutrients in fish.

According to FAO, fish account for about 17 percent of animal protein consumed by the global population and overall provide about 3.2 billion people on the planet with nearly 20 percent of their animal protein. And fish represents a highly nutritious food especially helpful in counteracting micronutrient deficiencies. And for those living in developing countries, fish is often the most accessible and economic source of animal protein.

Furthermore, as the UN website on SDG 14 – Life Below Water has said on COVID-19 response, this pandemic offers an opportunity to revive the ocean and lays a foundation to build a sustainable ocean economy. Let us realize that in our Indian Ocean, through sustainable fisheries management.

Now, allow me to deliver the welcoming remarks on behalf of Mr. Muhammad Zaini, Director General of Capture Fisheries, Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries, Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries of the Republic of Indonesia.

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**Annexure C: Welcome remarks by Mr. Muhammad Zaini, Director General of Capture Fisheries,
Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries – Indonesia**

Bismillahirrahmanirrahim,
Assalamualaikum Warahmatulahi Wabarokatuh
Good Afternoon and best wishes to all of us

Excellencies, Ambassadors, Heads of Delegation,

Dr. Gatot Hari Gunawan, Executive Director of the IORA Secretariat,

Distinguished delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

First of all, on behalf of the Government of the Republic of Indonesia, allow me to express our warmest welcome and appreciation for the Member States attending the First CGFM Meeting. It is indeed our honor and pleasure to host this meeting.

However, with due respect, please accept my apologies that I could not attend the meeting due to an urgent agenda with my Minister.

Distinguished Delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

We are all aware that everyone, including our fishers, fish farmers, and fish processors, remains vulnerable due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The impacts from COVID-19, however, are laying bare the need for us to enhance the resilience and sustainability of our marine and fisheries sectors.

As the world begins to focus on recovering from that unprecedented challenges, fisheries and aquaculture sectors have been seen as a potential sector for that recovery. Therefore, it is critical to turn the COVID-19 recovery into an opportunity to set fisheries sectors on a more sustainable footing, turning them into catalysts for long-term and inclusive sustainable development and enhancing systemic resilience. We believe that only collective actions will assist us in our recovery from the pandemic through its contribution to livelihood, job creation, food security, and poverty alleviations.

Distinguished Delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

A single country's effort would not significantly impact an ocean as vast as the Indian Ocean. It is only with our concerted efforts that we can have a greater impact on the ocean. IORA members and dialogue partners could foster collaboration on these matters.

Hence, I am sincerely honored by your commitment to IORA CGFM. I look forward to your further guidance regarding tangible programs that we could propose to implement the CGFM Work Plan.

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To conclude my remarks, once again, I would like to thank you for your relentless support and contribution. I wish you have a fruitful meeting today, and IORA CGFM will enrich our effort to promote sustainable and responsible fisheries.

Finally, I hope you have a pleasant day and may you always be in the best of health.

Thank you.

Wassalamualaikum Wr. Wb.

Annexure D: Agenda



AGENDA

The 1st Meeting of IORA Core Group on Fisheries Management (CGFM)

Wednesday, 3 November 2021

14:00 to 17:00 Western Indonesia Time (GMT +7)

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89458128182?pwd=WIN0dmdEaWFIOFIVNXFEUUdndIFyUT09>

Meeting ID: 894 5812 8182

Passcode: ioracgfm

I. OPENING SESSION

1. Introduction:

- Mr. Witjaksono Adjie, Director for Intra and Inter Regional Cooperation of Asia, Pacific, and Africa, Ministry of Foreign Affairs – Indonesia (Co-Chairs)
- Mr. Agung Tri Prasetyo, Head of Bureau for Public Relation and International Cooperation, Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries – Indonesia (Co-Chairs)

2. Welcoming Remarks

Mr. Muhammad Zaini, Director General of Capture Fisheries, Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries – Indonesia (TBA)

4. Virtual Photo Session

5. Outline of Arrangements and Adoption of the Agenda (Co-Chairs)

6. Report on the Decision Making to the Establishment of Core Group on Fisheries Management/CGFM (IORA Secretariat)

II. REPORT OF THE TRILATERAL MEETING OF CGFM – WGBE – FSU

Co-Chairs will brief Member States on the recommendations report of the Trilateral Meeting of CGFM – WGBE – FSU on 25 May 2021.

Desired Outcome:

Member States to acknowledge the Trilateral Meeting Report by Co-Chairs.

III. THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CGFM WORK PLAN AND WAY FORWARD

Annexures

Member States are invited to propose tangible programs or capacity building assistance that is in line and aligned with the strategic objectives on the CGFM Work Plan.

- Report on the Webinar on Regional Measures in Combating IUU Fishing, 26 October 2021 (Indonesia).
- Report on the preparation of the Webinar on Developing Awareness Program and Mitigation Against Marine Debris Impacts Towards Sustainable Fisheries in IORA to be held on 10 November 2021 (Indonesia).

Desired Outcome:

- Member States to take lead on project and initiatives to be implemented within the CGFM Workplan
- Member States agreed on the way forward to implement the CGFM Work Plan

IV. REPORT ON THE CLUSTER GROUP ON FISHERIES MANAGEMENT STRATEGIC TEXT FOR IORA ACTION PLAN 2022 – 2026

Co-Chairs will brief Member States on the strategic text of the cluster group on fisheries management Strategic Text for IORA Action Plan 2022 – 2026 based on meeting on 21 September 2021.

Desired Outcome:

Member States to acknowledge the Report by Co-Chairs.

V. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Co-Chairs will invite Member States or the Secretariat if there are any other business to discuss that relevant with CGFM.

- Report on Draft Work Plan FAO – IORA on Fisheries Management (Secretariat)

Desired Outcome:

Member States to note the outcome of discussions/report.

VI. CLOSING SESSION

Summary on the outcomes of the meeting and adoption of the Decisions Report (Co-Chairs)

Closing Remarks (Co-Chairs)

Annexure E: CGFM Work Plan

Draft Work Plan for Indian Ocean Rim Association Core Group on Fisheries Management (IORA CGFM)

Background:

The Work Plan for Indian Ocean Rim Association Core Group on Fisheries Management (IORA CGFM) was endorsed by the IORA CGFM on 23 June 2020 and welcomed by Senior Officials at the CSO Meeting on 30 June 2020.

In accordance to the commitment given by IORA Leaders through Jakarta Concord which aims to “Promote sustainable and responsible fisheries management and development” and the IORA Action Plan, the IORA CGFM was proposed to strengthen regional cooperation in the fisheries and aquaculture management sector in the Indian Ocean.

The IORA CGFM will be a platform where fisheries management stakeholders from Member States would be grouped together to identify the priorities, opportunities and challenges and advise on the way forward to sustainably develop and manage this important sector in the IORA region. It will also explore ways and create synergies with other existing IORA Working groups to share information, exchange experience and explore collaboration and cooperation opportunities with existing international/regional fisheries organisation in the Indian Ocean region.

Purpose of the Work Plan:

The Work Plan for IORA CGFM is a guiding document on fisheries-related topics of common interest to all Member States, as well as areas that require attention and focus of the whole IORA region. The Work Plan identifies possible work streams in achieving main objectives of IORA CGFM to enhance sustainable fisheries management, development, fisheries practices, and cooperation in the region and to ensure protection and conservation of fisheries resources in the IORA Region.

Aside to achieve the main objective of IORA cooperation on sustainable fisheries management in Jakarta Concord, the work plan of IORA CGFM will have some main activities that also can collaborate with national priorities of member states as follows:

1. Promote fisheries and aquaculture database management in the IORA Region;
2. Encourage close cooperation among IORA members and dialogue partners with participation of their respective public and private sectors partners;
3. Enhance cooperation and collaboration with the IORA Fisheries Support Unit (FSU) for knowledge sharing, capacity building and addressing the strategic issues of the fisheries and aquaculture in the region;

In recognizing IORA CGFM position within the IORA body, the Work Plan welcomes other IORA Members and IORA Dialogue Partners to collaborate on specific projects and activities.

Monitoring and Evaluation:

Annexures

Review of the work plan will be undertaken in CGFM meeting every year, including sharing information on related activities by group members as well as discussing and addressing related challenges.

Draft Work Plan for Indian Ocean Rim Association Core Group on Fisheries Management (IORA CGFM)

	Strategic Objective	Development of the Fisheries Management sector in the IORA region				
No	Objective	Activity	Implementing Organisation/ Country	Time Frame	Resource Mobilisation	Comments
1.	To improve Fisheries and Aquaculture data management in the IORA Member States	I. Develop a central digital IORA database for fisheries and aquaculture statistics for the IORA Member States				
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Study on the status of data collection in IORA Members States 	Consultant/ assisted by other IO (as appropriate)	Short term (year one)		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional workshop on Minimum Data Requirements for fisheries and Aquaculture statistics, with a focus on harmonization of fisheries and Aquaculture classifications, including data sharing protocol 	IORA secretariat members countries	(year two)		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create a database of experts, expertise and institutions in the Indian Ocean Region 	IORA secretariat, members countries	(year two)		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct a regional workshop for reviewing a Fisheries Data Collection Regional Framework, and promoting its adoption at national level 	IORA secretariat members countries	(Year three)		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a new and harmonized multispecies web-based database for 	IORA secretariat, members countries	(Year three)		

Annexures

		processing and analysis of statistical data (a Fisheries Information System);				
		II. Capacity building program for fisheries managers on ecosystem-based approaches to fisheries management, including data management.	members countries			
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capacity building program for fisheries managers on ecosystem-based approaches to fisheries and aquaculture management, including data management. 	IORA secretariat, members countries	(year four-five)		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carry out capacity building and increase in trained human resources for fisheries and aquaculture data collection and analysis 	IORA secretariat, members countries	(year four-five)		
2.	To improve mapping of fisheries resources in the IORA region	I. Carry out development of mapping exercise to assess their needs in terms of fisheries management	members countries			
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carry out a survey on the mapping of fisheries resources 	members countries	<u>(year two)</u>		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional workshop on mapping the fisheries, including data sharing protocol 	members countries	<u>(year two-three)</u>		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create a database of experts, expertise and institutions in the Indian Ocean Region 	members countries	<u>(year three)</u>		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National stock assessment in the Indian Ocean rim region in place 	members countries	<u>(year three-four)</u>		

Annexures

		II. Capacity building programme on the management of transboundary resources	members countries	(year <u>two-three</u>)		
3.	To promote responsible fishing practices, including to deter and prevent Illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing	I. Monitoring, Control and Surveillance fishing activities by flag states, coastal states and port states to ensure compliance with applicable conservation and management measures.	members countries	Long term, simultaneous		
		II. Capacity building for fisheries control and surveillance	members countries	(year <u>two-three</u>)		
		III. Promote collaboration with national, regional and international initiatives to combat IUU fishing and other crimes in fisheries sector	members countries	(year <u>three-four</u>)		
		IV. Experts' meetings on curbing IUU fishing and other crimes in fisheries sector	members countries	(year <u>two-three</u>)		
		V. Promote best practices and exchange of information on monitoring, control and surveillance, laws and regulations on sustainable fishing practices, including Illegal Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing, and crimes in fisheries sector	members countries	(year <u>two-three</u>)		
		VI. Promote collaboration with national, regional and international initiative to improve safe, healthy and fair working condition of fishing vessel personnel and crews in capture fisheries and aquaculture activities,		(year <u>two-three</u>)		

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4.	To improve seafood handling, processing and storage of fisheries product	I. Strengthen collaboration with regional and international organizations on capacity building program and skill-development on fishery sector including in handling, processing and storage	members countries			
		• Study on fish post-harvest loss of marine species	members countries	(year one-two)		
		• Organise practical study tours as showcase of the application of hygiene requirement of most developed markets	members countries	(year one-two)		
		• Promote transfer of fisheries technology and support projects to improve harvesting, processing and storage of fisheries and aquaculture-based products	members countries	(year two-three)		
		II. Capacity building programme on seafood handling, processing and storage of fisheries product	members countries			
		• Carry out capacity building programmes on processing, handling and preservation of fisheries and fisheries products	members countries	(year two-three)		
		• Demonstration of fish production, processing, value addition and conservation technologies	members countries	(year two-three)		
		• Training programme on good hygienic practices on seafood handling, post-harvest processing and storage of	members countries	(year two-three)		

Annexures

		fisheries and aquaculture products.				
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carry out capacity building programmes with technical laboratory personnel participants specially in the field of sensory assessment for backup and inspection activities; 	members countries	(<u>year two-three</u>)		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capacity building on value addition, post-harvest processing and market strategies 	members countries	(<u>year three-four</u>)		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information sharing/exchange on import procedures and requirements, including any fisheries product or company registration applied in each Member States 	Members countries	(<u>year three-four</u>)		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Training programmes on specific priority fields such as: Follow-up HACCP advanced course; HACCP Verification and Auditing; Hazards from aquaculture; In-depth practical training in establishments; and Coverage of Processed seafood products (value-added). 	members countries	(<u>year three-five</u>)		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional Workshop for information sharing in several fields of intervention (ex. Hazards testing). 	members countries	(<u>year three-four</u>)		
5.	To improve seafood safety and quality	I. Capacity building on biosecurity of inland aquaculture farms	members countries	(<u>year one-two</u>)		
		II. Capacity building on food safety and quality of aquaculture products	members countries	(<u>year one-two</u>)		

Annexures

		III. Capacity Building to evaluate levels of microplastics and heavy metals in fish	Member countries			
		IV. Share information on existing Quality Assurance regulation, safety standards and Certification systems in their respective countries	members countries	(year <u>three-five</u>)		
		V. Capacity building programmes on food safety and quality of aquaculture products to ensure that product quality meets regional and international standards	members countries	(year <u>three-four</u>)		
		VI. Workshop on “strengthening regional safety standards and quality assurance of aquaculture products in the IOR region”.	members countries	(year <u>four-five</u>)		
		VII. IORA guidelines on hygienic practices and safety and quality standards of aquaculture products in the IOR region.	members countries	(year <u>four-five</u>)		
6.	To adapt and mitigate the impacts of climate change and environmental impacts on the fisheries and aquaculture sector	I. Strengthen cooperation in mitigating climate change impacts on the marine environment in a holistic way by involving all relevant sectors and stakeholders	members countries			
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional workshop on ecological risk assessment of impacts of climate change on fisheries and aquaculture resources 	members countries	(year <u>two-four</u>)		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carry out awareness programmes on the effects of 	members countries	(year <u>three-four</u>)		

Annexures

		climate change on the fisheries and aquaculture sector; and				
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exchange information and best practices on marine conservation and management, climate change impacts and mitigation, and socio-economic factors on marine resources and aquaculture sites in the IOR region 	members countries	(<u>year three-four</u>)		
		II. Cooperate with existing regional organisation and other relevant stakeholders for better management and assessment of environmental impacts on marine resources	members countries			
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adopt spatial planning tools to support ecosystem approach for sustainable aquaculture development in the IOR region 	members countries	(<u>year five</u>)		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthen cooperation in research and development to improve monitoring and environmental assessment techniques, as well as promote the transfer of technology to reduce environmental impacts. 	members countries	(<u>year five</u>)		
		III. Develop awareness program and mitigation against marine debris impacts to the environment	members countries			
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop marine debris strategy framework directive 	members countries	(<u>year three-five</u>)		

Annexures

		that includes from land based and sea-base (rivers) and sea-based (fishing activities/ghost net)				
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exchange information and share knowledge to design and develop a tool to monitoring marine debris and its impact to the ocean 	members countries	<u>(Year four)</u>		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthening cooperation and community development in reuse-reduce-recycle initiative program 	members countries	<u>(year three-five)</u>		
		IV. Applying Precautionary Approach				
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applying the precautionary approach widely to conservation, management and exploitation of living aquatic resources in order to protect them and preserve the aquatic environment. 		<u>(year five-seven)</u>		
7.	To develop sustainable fish feed	I. Promote collaboration to identify suitable fish feeds and potential species suitable for aquaculture development and development of breeding techniques	members countries			
		II. Capacity building on fish feed production	members countries			
		III. Training programme on sustainable use of feed aquaculture waste management	members countries			
8.	To prevent, identify and monitor fish disease outbreaks	I. Regional Workshop on fish diseases and best management practices, including measures	members countries			

Annexures

		taken in cases of disease outbreaks;				
		II. Capacity building on good aquaculture practice: disease prevention and water quality management	members countries			
		III. Establish a database of regional laboratories and experts dealing with diseases; common pathogens; and aquaculture associated diseases, in the IOR region;	Consultant/ assisted by other IO (as appropriate) members countries			
		IV. Capacity building on sustainable off-shore mariculture practices including efficient management of toxins from Jellyfish and other poisonings.	Member countries	(year <u>one-three</u>)		
		V. Strengthen collaboration in research and skill development through existing research institutions in the IOR region for better understanding, identification and handling of common disease outbreaks in aquaculture systems;	members countries			
9.	To promote transfer of technology for sustainable fisheries management	I. Strengthen collaboration with regional, international organisations, and Dialogue Partners to promote technology transfer for sustainable fishery and fishery products development;	members countries	(year <u>three-four</u>)		
		II. Share information about the different technologies that are	members countries	(year <u>one-three</u>)		

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		currently being used in IORA region;				
		III. Promote innovative and simple technologies to improve fish production in the region; and	members countries	(year <u>three-four</u>)		
		IV. Students', Fishers, Fish Processor, Fish Trader and Aquaculturists (fisheries stakeholders) exchange programmes for transfer of technology	members countries	(year <u>two-four</u>)		
10.	To increase fish trade in the IORA region	I. Workshop on creating conditions to increase access to international markets	members countries			
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training programme on improving market access and food safety 	members countries	(year <u>two-three</u>)		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capacity building on the control and certification of fish products 	members countries	(year <u>four-five</u>)		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training programme in sanitary standards applied to the fish trade 	members countries	(year <u>two-three</u>)		
		II. Capacity Building Programme on increasing fish trade	members countries			
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training programme on improving market control and food safety 	members countries			
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capacity building on the control and certification of fish products 	members countries			
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training programme in sanitary standards applied to the fish trade 	members countries			

Annexures

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capacity building on importation and control measures in global market: what are the demands and recommendations in terms of safety 	members countries			
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inspector training for implementation of the Port State Measures Agreement 	members countries			
		III. Strengthening of trade relation inter IORA member countries	members countries			
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Business Matching to increase export market 	members countries			
11.	To promote and to improve safe, healthy and fair working conditions of fishing vessel personnel and crews in capture fisheries, aquaculture and fish processing activities	I. Capacity building on promoting safe, healthy, and fair employment working conditions in capture fisheries, aquaculture and fish processing activities	members countries	(<u>year two-five</u>)		<u>Agree</u>
		II. Training and capacity building on safe, healthy and fair environment for crews of fishing vessels.	members countries	(<u>year two-five</u>)		
		III. Training and capacity building on safe, healthy and fair environment for aquaculture and fish processing activities.	members countries	(<u>year two-three</u>)		
		IV. Develop minimum standards and IORA commitments on safe, healthy and fair working environment on capture fisheries, aquaculture and fish processing activities.	members countries	(<u>year three-four</u>)		

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		V. Preventing and combating forced labour and modern slavery in the fishing operations.	members countries	(year <u>four-six</u>)		
<u>12.</u>	<u>To synchronize fishing closures in region/sub-region for the sustainable management and conservation</u>	I. Regional Workshop for information sharing in fishing closures for proper fisheries management.	member countries	(year two-three)		
		II. Strengthen collaboration/networking among the member states to synchronize fishing closures in IOR region/sub-region for the sustainable management and conservation of fisheries resources	member countries	(year three-five)		
<u>13.</u>	<u>To improve cooperation on regional ocean governance related to fisheries management framework in line with International Instruments and Standards</u>	I. Capacity development programs on International laws of the sea and other related instruments.	members countries	(year two-five)		<hr style="border: 1px solid red; width: 100px; margin: 0 auto;"/>
		II. Training program on ocean governance for sustainable fisheries management.	members countries	(year two-five)		

Annexure F: Closing remarks by Indonesia

Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

We have come to the end of the meeting.

I am grateful that we have had a fruitful meeting.

We have also had a productive discussion on the plan to implement the CGFM Work Plan. We have identified possible, feasible, potential programs and activities of the CGFM, ranging from improving our database, promoting sustainable fishing practices, developing our aquaculture sector, to increasing fish trade amongst ourselves, and everything else in between.

As I have mentioned earlier, the Secretariat will circulate the draft of decisions report for your inputs. Once we finalized it we will report the outcomes of our meeting today at the CSO meeting on 15-16 November 2021.

We will also circulate the Work Plan to IORA Member States for their interest in leading concrete and tangible projects under the strategic objectives.

As the Work Plan is a living document we once again kindly seek member states support to enrich the Work Plan with tangible activities and projects

As extensive and ambitious as it is, there is always room for improvement for our Work Plan. And we will also court our Dialogue Partners to support our programs and activities.

Distinguished delegates,
Ladies and gentlemen

The fisheries sector is an important sector for our livelihoods and our food security, and our meeting today signifies a milestone in IORA cooperation. Our meeting can be the start of another concrete IORA cooperation which benefits our peoples, particularly those who reside in our coasts. Therefore, we need to keep our spirit and determination high to materialize this cooperation.

From only eight countries—and the FSU, now we have full IORA Member States sitting on the table. With these modalities, I am confident that the CGFM will play significant role in advancing fisheries cooperation in Indian Ocean region.

Finally, Excellencies, Delegates,

Let me extend my appreciation to your active participation in this meeting, which greatly contributes to its success.

I would also like to, once again, extend my appreciation to my colleagues here from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and to my Co-Chair and his colleagues from the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries, for the excellent arrangements, coordination, and cooperation in preparing this meeting.

Annexures

Last but not least, it would be remiss if I don't extend the same appreciation to the Secretariat, which have helped in enabling and facilitating the meeting.

I hope to see you all again next year, in our Second Meeting of the CGFM. Hopefully next time we can meet in person.

I bid you safety and health in this trying times.

I thank you.

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