GENERAL FISHERIES COMMISSION FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN

BLACK SEA STAKEHOLDERS CONFERENCE ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF BLUE ECONOMY OF THE BLACK SEA

Bucharest, Romania, 30 January 2014

The GFCM and the Black Sea

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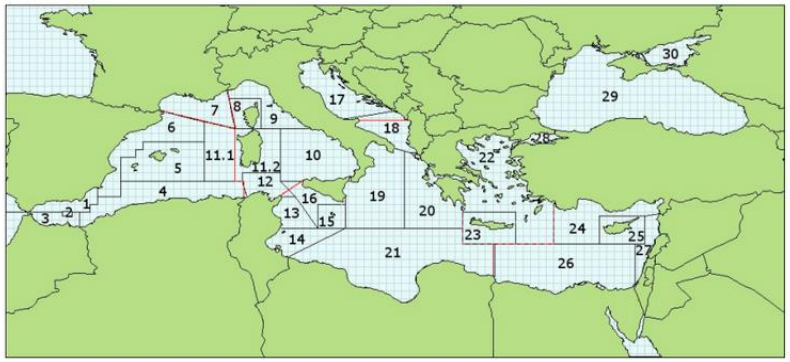
GFCM - factsheet

- 1949 Constitutive Agreement under FAO Article XIV endowing with competence on the Black Sea, Mediterranean Sea and connecting waters
- 24 Members: 3 BS, 19 Med, Japan and UE (open membership)
- Autonomous budget
- Power to adopt recommendations binding on Members
- Three amendments of the GFCM Agreement (1963, 1977, 1997)
- Ongoing amendment process (focus on sub-regional dimension, including Black Sea, intra-institution cooperation, better compliance and decision-making, etc.)

Objective:

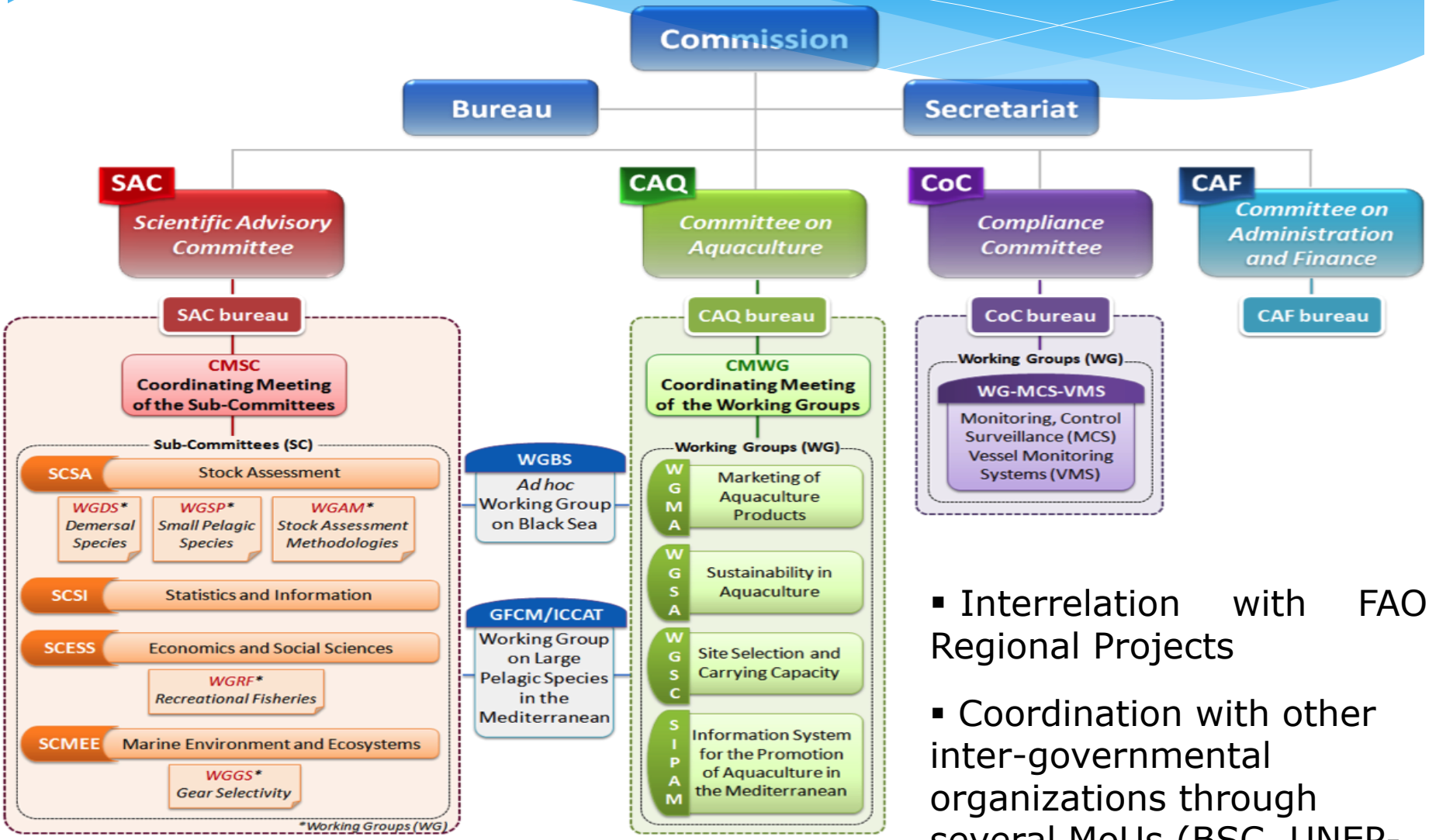
Ensure:

- long term sustainability of living marine resources,
- sustainable development of aquaculture
- protection of sensitive marine habitats and ecosystems



01 - Northern Alboran Sea	07 - Gulf of Lions	13 - Gulf of Hammamet	19 - Western Ionian Sea	25 - Cyprus Island
02 - Alboran Island	08 - Corsica Island	14 - Gulf of Gabes	20 - Eastern Ionian Sea	26 - South Levant
03 - Southern Alboran Sea	09 - Ligurian and North Tyrrhenian Sea	15 - Malta Island	21 - Southern Ionian Sea	27 - Levant
04 - Algeria	10 - South and Central Tyrrhenian Sea	16 - South of Sicily	22 - Aegean Sea	28 - Marmara Sea
05 - Balearic Island	11.1 - Sardinia (west) 11.2 - Sardinia (east)	17 - Northern Adriatic	23 - Crete Island	29 - Black Sea
06 - Northern Spain	12 - Northern Tunisia	18 - Southern Adriatic Sea	24 - North Levant	30 - Azov Sea

GFCM functioning

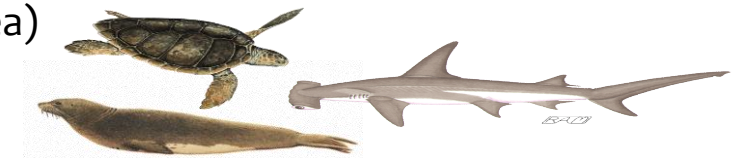


- Interrelation with FAO Regional Projects
- Coordination with other inter-governmental organizations through several MoUs (BSC, UNEP-MAP, Eurofish, ACCOBAMS)

What is that GFCM does?

- **Shares the overarching goals of FAO (food security, poverty alleviation, etc.)**
- **Promotes scientific research related activities to improve knowledge on the status of exploited fisheries, ecosystems and habitats and aquaculture**
- **Supports management and decision making processes through data regularly collected within several databases**
- **Underpins MCS efforts to fight IUU fishing**
- **Offers a common platforms for institutions, stakeholders and civil society**
- **Adopts several binding recommendations including the following:**

  Multiannual management plans (on going for Black Sea turbot)
  Protection of sensitive habitats and resources (monk seal red coral, sharks and rays, fishing restricted areas, etc.)
  Control of fishing effort and capacity
  Reduction of by-catch of threatened species (seabirds, sea turtles, etc.)
  Fight against IUU fishing (first roadmap for the Black Sea)
  Development of aquaculture (AZAs)
  Gear Selectivity (RES. GFCM/37/2007/3)



- **Upholds environmental, social and economic pillars of sustainable development according to the outcomes of the "Rio +20" Conference**
- **Organizes various meetings for Black Sea in addition to the WGBS (3rd meeting <u>26-28/2, Turkey</u>) to boost blue growth and integrated management**

Thank you for your attention!