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Newsletter of the Documentation Centre (DC) of the International Collective in Support of Fishworkers

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Greetings!

In this issue, the section on 'Resources' focuses on Policy, Legislation and Agreements. We list interesting websites providing information on international and regional agreements, and also those that provide information (in English) on national fisheries legislation for countries in the Indian Ocean region. These provide information on management issues like closed seasons, gear restrictions, fishing zones, foreign fishing vessels, marine protected areas, welfare of fishworkers. On the last page, we carry an update on the activities of the DC and on documents we have recently received.

The collection, classification and cataloguing of information, on themes of relevance to fishworkers, continues, and we encourage you to make use of the resources available with us.

Please do send us your comments and suggestions.

Best Wishes

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World News



Fishworkers protest against increase in unemployment rates in Chile.

The southern fishworkers in region VIII, protested against the increase in unemployment rates, caused by reduction in catch quotas of horse mackerel and other species. Direct allotment of jack mackerel quota to them rather than to companies would reduce the problem, claimed the workers. For further details, visit: www.finningnews.cl.

India and Sri Lanka to set up fisheries committee

A special committee is to be set up, to look into the problems of fishworkers who are currently in custody in India and Sri Lanka. The committee to comprise of fisheries officials from Chennai and Colombo, would ensure that the cases of detained fishworkers are dealt with swiftly. For details, visit; www.fis.com

Pirate fishing of patagonian toothfish off South African Coast

Two unauthorized fishing boats, were caught fishing for patagonian toothfish, a highly endangered species and rock lobsters, in the South African waters, off Marion Island. The government claims that the catch would be worth US\$ 3 million in the international market. For details, <http://allafrica.com/stories/200106040090.html>

Nigeria acquires clearance to export shrimps to U.S

The United States Government endorsed Nigeria alongside 42 other countries to export shrimps into U.S. next year. Nigeria's interest in the protection and management of the environment and protection of Sea Turtles in particular, led to the certification under American Public Law section 609. For details, look up; <http://allafrica.com/stories/200105310248.html>

Policy, Legislation And Agreements



Policies, legislation and agreements in the fisheries sector are implemented, for conservation and management fisheries resources, protection of the marine environment and for regulating the fishing activity. These could be implemented within or between countries or regions.

Websites

Listed below are a few active websites providing information (in English) on the existing fisheries policy and fishing access agreements of few countries.

Historical Developments

If you are interested in the evolution of international fisheries law, then visit; <http://streamer.rug.ac.be/cdlaw/chap2/index.htm>. A brief overview on the historical development of fisheries law until the 20 th. century (starting from the Roman law), and developments in the 20 th. century (UNCLOS) can be accessed at the above site. Other features provided include historical maps showing maritime boundaries.

International

United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, a comprehensive regime of law and order, establishing rules governing

all uses of the oceans and their resources, entered into force in 1994. An update of the overview, text and status of the law, can be accessed at www.un.org/depts/los/index.htm

Regional

Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC)-an intergovernmental organization established under Article XIV of the Food and Agricultural Organisation of the United Nations (FAO) constitution in 1996, was setup to manage the tuna and tuna-like species in the Indian Ocean and adjacent seas. The objective of the commission is to promote cooperation among the 18 members, through appropriate management measures, the conservation optimum utilization of stocks under the agreement. The texts of the agreements, meeting schedule and stock details can be accessed at: www.seychelles.net/iotc/. This site also provides statistical data on the production of Tuna in this region from 1950's.

Agreements

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) provides vital information on the existing fisheries legislation and agreements, on a country basis in the form of a document titled "Coastal State Requirements for foreign fishing, by Daniele Mangatalle". This document provides the limits of territorial seas, fishing zones and Exclusive Economic Zones and penalties for

unauthorized foreign fishing. An online version of the document is available at: www.fao.org/docrep/V9982E/v9982e00.htm. An online database of the same can be accessed at; www.faolex3.fao.org/fishery/. Where different countries or regions could be used in the query option.

Policy

Common Fisheries Policy - a policy developed by the European Union, to manage and conserve fisheries resource, taking into account the biological, economic and social dimensions of fishing. The legislation and fact sheets of the policy can be accessed at: http://europa.eu.int/comm/fisheries/doc_et_publ/cfp_en.htm. The document could also be accessed in other languages. The site also provides the *Green paper on the Common Fisheries Policy after 2002*, which is aimed at initiating a public debate.

Tanzania with a coastline

on which small scale fishworkers are dependent has a The National Fisheries Policy is to help conserve, promote, develop and manage the fisheries resources for present and future generations. The Policy focuses on resource management, improved knowledge, community participation, gender issues, marketing and regional cooperation besides others. The complete text of the policy can be accessed at www.tanzaniafish.org (Fisheries Department, Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism), the site also provides information on fisheries regulations, the Fisheries Act No.6 of 1970 and also provides an overview of the fisheries sector.

Daily News

If you are interested in daily news on fisheries-related aspects in **Chile**, here is a website that provides information on fisheries policy and activities in Chile; www.finningnews.cl.

The site features daily news on marine sector in Spanish and English, which could also be subscribed as e-mail news. Besides this news and events calendar for the mining, construction and forestry sector are also provided.

Legislation

Listed below are websites providing legislations (in English) of a few countries in the Indian Ocean region.

Kenya with a coastline of 1,586 km, has 5000 coastal fishers, of which 4000 are artisanal fishers. **The Fisheries Act, 1991** provides for the development, management (*closed seasons, limitation of fishing, prohibited fishing methods*), exploitation, general licensing provisions (both local and foreign fishing vessels), utilization and conservation of resources. *This act also provides schemes of loans to fishermen.* The complete text of the act is available at; www.kenyafish.org (Kenya Fisheries Department).

Mauritius, with a coastline of 322.5 km, has 2700 artisanal (coastal) fishermen dependent on its resources. **The Fisheries Act, 1998**, enacted by the Parliament of Mauritius provides for the conservation, management, protection of fisheries and marine resources, and protection of the marine ecosystems. The part IV, of the act provides information on control of fishing activities (*closed seasons, prohibited fishing methods, gear restrictions*) and also looks into aspects of *license issued for foreign fishing vessels* (the license application forms are available online) and import and export restrictions. This act also provides for the *limitations in the number of license to be issued*. The complete text of the act can be accessed from <http://ncb.intnet.mu/fish/>.

South Africa- Marine Living Resources Act, 1998, provides for the establishment of two institutional structures, the Consultative Advisory Forum and the Fisheries Transformation Council. The forum would focus on the management and

development of the sector including allotment of Total Allowable Catches (subsistence, commercial, recreational and foreign vessels), management of living resources, besides others. The Council is responsible for allocation of lease rights to historically disadvantaged sectors of the society. The complete text of the act can be accessed at www.polity.org.za/govdocs/legislation/1998/Act18.pdf

Seychelles has 1000 artisanal fishers, catching 70 different species, while the industrial vessels of EEC target swordfish and tuna. **The Fisheries Act, 1986**, was enacted for the management of fisheries, provides management measures and development plans, including information on fishery agreements, conditions for issue of license for fishing (both by local and foreign vessels) and regulations that need to be followed. A complete text of the same with the amendments (Fisheries (Amendments) Act, 1997), can be accessed at; http://streamer.rug.ac.be/cdlaw/library/articles/se_97a.htm. The other legislations which could be accessed include Fisheries regulations, 1987 with amendments and Fishery limits ordinance, 1971.

Malaysia occupies the 15th position among the fish producing countries (FAO). Their **Fisheries Act, 1985 (Act 317)**, relates to fisheries, including the conservation, management and development of maritime and estuarine fishing and fisheries, in Malaysian fisheries waters, to turtles and riverine fishing in Malaysia and to matters connected therewith or incidental thereto. The act, can be downloaded from Malaysian Department of Fisheries; <http://agrolink.moa.my/dof/>. This act provides for the establishment of

marine parks and reserves and the regulations for the zoning, development and management of these parks and reserves.

Myanmar, has 4 percent of total fisher population in the Indian Ocean region and contributes 0.8 million tons to the world fish production. The Marine fisheries law, Myanmar (law No.9/90, 1990) - Provides for the registration and licensing of fishing vessels, determines the fishing grounds and also provides rules and regulations that are to be followed by foreign fishing vessels fishing in Myanmar waters. The complete text of the act is accessible at, <http://sunsite.nus.edu.sg/apcel/dbase/myanmar/primary.html>, with the amendments. There are other related acts, Freshwater Fisheries Law (Law No. 1/91, 1991), Fishing rights to foreign vessels, law relating to (Law No. 11/89, 1989) with amendments, which can also be accessed at the same site.

Besides these, there are others like Thailand Fisheries Department, www.fisheries.go.th, which provides information in Thai, and www.indoocean.com/fishery/DELP/About.htm, Department of Sea Exploration and Fishery, Indonesia, provides brief information (in Bahasa) on the existing legislation in Indonesia. The Ministry of Fisheries, Mozambique, www.mozpesca.org provides the marine fisheries regulations, in Portuguese.

Downloads

If you want to download a complete website, so that it can be viewed offline at a later stage, here is one 'Website downloader' that can download upto 100 files simultaneously, visit www.esalesbiz.com/extra/download.htm, to download the program.

New Arrivals at DC



1. Japan's National Plan of Action for Reducing Incidental Catch of Seabirds in Longline Fisheries, Government of Japan, 2001. Reviews the trend in seabird population associated with Japanese longline fishing and provides guidance to Japanese longline fishers regarding specific measures to minimize incidental catch as well as the action plan to promote research and development.

2. **The End of the Line? Global Threats to Sharks, WildAid, 2001.** A report, providing a broad overview in lay terms of the factors likely to affect the survival of Sharks and calls for action to protect and conserve them. Also contains the status reports of Sharks in different countries.

3. Biodiversity and Intellectual Property Rights: Reviewing Intellectual Property Rights in Light of the Objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity-Joint discussion paper March, WWF, CIEL, 2001. Reviews the relevant provisions of the CBD and TRIPS Agreement, highlights the IPR related aspects of the CBD, and the biodiversity related aspects of TRIPS and summarizes the issues arising from the substantive linkages between the CBD's objectives, IPRs and the TRIPS agreement.

4. **Marine Resources Management- Conflict and Regulation in the Fisheries of the Coromandel Coast-Livelihood and Environment, Maarten Bavinck, Sage Publications, 2000.** A detailed study of marine fisheries along the Coromandel Coast, to understand how conflicts over natural resources develop and how they are resolved or perpetuated.

5. Environment and Trade - A handbook, UNEP, IISD, 2000. The handbook highlights the relationship between environment and trade, and aims to foster

a broader understanding of these interlinkages to enable governments to develop practical approaches to integrating these policies.

6. A Survey of the Conservation Status of Cetaceans in Senegal- The Gambia and Guinea-Bissau, UNEP, CMS, 2000. Reviews the status, distribution, biological characteristics and fisheries interaction of 24 species of dolphins and whales confirmed to occur in West Africa.

7. Regional Workshop "In the Hands of the fishers", Community based Coastal Resources Management and Stopping Destructive Fishing Practices, Trang, Thailand, November 6 -9, 2000, Yadfon Association, Thailand, 2000. Reports the proceedings of a workshop, with case studies on co-management and community-based management of coastal resources and experiences of fisherfolk.

8. **Use of property rights in fisheries management.** Proceedings of the FishRights99 Conference. Fremantle, Western Australia, 11-19 November 1999, Shotton, R. (ed), FAO Fisheries Technical Paper. No. 404/2. Rome, FAO. 2000. The papers presented in this conference can also be accessed at

9. Marine Fisheries Research and Management, Pillai, V.N. and N.G. Menon (eds), Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute, Cochin, 2000. Reviews the state of marine capture and culture fisheries in India.

10. Conversion Factors Landed Weight to Live Weight, FAO Fisheries Circular No.847, Revision 1, FAO, Rome, 2000. A worldwide collection of data on conversion factors from landed product weight to live weight by species, by type of processing and by country, for a wide range of onboard processing methods.

DC News

Web Interface of the DC



The database of the DC has been recently updated on the ICSF website. A request form for the documents has been added to the database, for e-mail request of documents. The keyword list is now available in both English and Portuguese. The Portuguese database would be added shortly. If you have any difficulty in accessing the website or in using the search, please write to us.