



CARIBBEAN REGIONAL FISHERIES MECHANISM SECRETARIAT

Towards Sustainable Development of Fisheries for the People of the Caribbean

Fish - E- Bulletin – Issue Number 2: April, 2007

CRFM Secretariat Assists St. Kitts and Nevis to Finalize Proposal for Conducting an Assessment of the Queen Conch in St. Kitts and Nevis Project.

During October 2006- March 2007, Secretariat staff collaborated with staff of the Fisheries Department in St. Kitts and Nevis to finalize a proposal for conducting an underwater visual survey of the national resource of queen conch, aimed at providing information for improving management of queen conch in the twin-island State.

The CRFM Secretariat has been working expeditiously to seek funding to undertake this crucial assessment.

CRFM Secretariat Provides Technical Assistance to Observe the Process for the Allocation of Quotas in the Jamaica Queen Conch Fishery and to Provide an Independent Evaluation, 4-6 March, and 11- 18 March, 2007.

In March 2007, at the request of the Government of Jamaica, a team comprising of the Programme Manager, Fisheries Management and Development, CRFM Secretariat, and the Assistant General Counsel, CARICOM Secretariat, conducted a Mission to Jamaica to review and assess the system for the allocation of quotas in the Jamaican Queen Conch Fishery. During the Mission, the team members, *inter alia*, interviewed private and public sector stakeholders in the queen conch fishery and observed meetings of the conch quota committee. The team is in the process of preparing a draft Report that would contain an independent evaluation of the system for the allocation of quotas in the Jamaica queen conch fishery, with recommendations for improvements, if needed.

CRFM Secretariat Conducts Mission to the Turks and Caicos Islands to Review the Management of Protected Areas within the Turks and Caicos Islands (T.C.I).

Following a decision of the Government of the T.C.I for a complete review of all the protected areas, including the review of the boundaries and management effectiveness, Mr. Wesley Clerveaux, Director (Ag.), Department of Environment and Coastal Resources (DECR), T.C.I, requested the CRFM Secretariat to assist in facilitating a review of Management of Protected Areas within the T.C.I.

The CRFM Secretariat team, consisting of Mr. Milton Haughton, Deputy Executive Director; and Ms. Maren Headley, Research Graduate, Research and Resource Assessment visited the Turks and Caicos Islands 10 – 14 April, 2007, where they conducted a comprehensive review of the entire system of protected areas in the T.C.I. The team met with Ms. Michelle Garner, Deputy Director of the DECR for a briefing session and interviewed a wide cross section of stakeholders including government officials, representatives of fishermen, dive operators and senior prosecutors. The Report of the Review is currently being prepared.

2007 International Ocean Institute Training Programme on Ocean Governance: Policy, Law and Management, 23 May to 20 July, 2007, Canada.

The International Ocean Institute (IOI) and the CRFM Secretariat signed a Memorandum of Understanding on 15 July 2004, to facilitate the participation of individuals from the Caribbean Region in the IOI's Training and Capacity Building activities, particularly the IOI Training Programme in Ocean Governance.

In its ongoing commitment to develop the human resource base in fisheries and fisheries related disciplines in the region, the CRFM Secretariat and the IOI are providing three scholarships, two to persons selected from fisheries departments in the Member States, namely, Ms. Sarita Williams- Peter, Department of Fisheries, St. Lucia and Mr. Phillip Jackman, Principal Fisheries Assistant, Fisheries Division, Barbados; and also to Mr. Michael Salton, CRFM Secretariat, Belize, to attend the 2007 International Ocean Institute Training Programme on Ocean Governance: Policy, Law and Management in Canada, from 23 May to 20 July, 2007. Additionally, one other person, Ms. Lisa Grant, Jamaica National Heritage Trust, Jamaica, has been tentatively identified to receive an award of a scholarship to attend the programme in 2007. Since 2004, twelve persons from the CARICOM region have benefited from the training programme.

United Nations University - Fisheries Training Programme (UNU- FTP), Iceland, and the CRFM Secretariat Come Together to Build National and Regional Capacity for Fisheries Development and Management in the Region.

During programme year 2006/ 07 The CRFM Secretariat initiated discussions with the United Nations University, Iceland to train fisheries personnel from the region for the academic year 2007/ 08. The United Nations University - Fisheries Training Programme (UNU- FTP) is a postgraduate training programme that offers training in various areas of the fisheries sector for practicing professionals in the less developed countries. The programme is led by the Marine Research Institute in a formal cooperation with the Icelandic Fisheries Laboratories, University of Iceland, and the University of Akureyri.

Mr. Thor Asgiarsson, Deputy Programme Manager, UNU- FTP visited the region during the month of April, 2007 and conducted interviews with potential candidates for the programme from Guyana and St. Vincent and the Grenadines. Offers were made to two candidates from the Fisheries Departments in Guyana and Belize, and one from the CRFM Secretariat. It is expected that training would be in the areas of stock assessment/ statistics and policy/ planning.

Mr. Asgiarsson's visit to the region ended in Belize on 17 April, 2007, where he met with CRFM Secretariat Management and staff to give a brief Mission Report on the visits to CRFM Member States, interviews he conducted, and to discuss the potential for the UNU- FTP collaboration with the CRFM Secretariat to conduct short courses in the region. Representatives from the UNU- FTP, Iceland are expected to participate as Observers in the Third Annual Scientific Meeting of the CRFM.

This is an opportunity to establish a long- term institutional relationship between the UNU and the CRFM for the purpose of building national and regional capacity for fisheries development and management in the region.

JICA Preliminary Survey Team visit regarding project: *Formulation of Master Plan on Sustainable Use of Fisheries Resources for Coastal Community Development in the Caribbean*, 6- 11 March, 2007.

A JICA technical Team visited selected Member States and the CRFM Secretariat Headquarters, Belize, 26 February -9 March 2007, as part of the Preliminary Survey for the project: *Fisheries Masterplan on Sustainable Use of Fisheries for Coastal Community Development in the Caribbean* under the rubric of the CARICOM- Japan Cooperation Agreement. Discussions at the meeting included a review of the results of the last survey; the five components of the project; roles of the CARICOM Secretariat, CRFM Secretariat and JICA; the draft scope of work; financial and logistical arrangements for the project; and the draft criteria for the placement of pilot projects. Member States visited were Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago, and St. Vincent and the Grenadines. The draft Scope of Work has now reached an advanced state of development and will be further refined in Japan before being sent to the CARICOM Secretariat to facilitate finalisation.

CRFM Secretariat to Coordinate and Chair Fisheries Session at the International Agro-Economic Conference, Scheduled for 23 – 27 July, 2007, Belize.

The 27th West Indies Agricultural Economics Conference of the Caribbean Agro Economic Society (CAES), will be held jointly with the 8th Conference of the Asociacion De Latino America y Del Caribe De Economistas Agricolas (ALACEA) in Belize City, Belize from July 23 to 27 2007. Following a request made by the Local Organizing Committee, it was agreed that the CRFM will chair the Fisheries Session of the Conference. A paper on the Common Fisheries Policy and Regime for CARICOM will be presented by the CRFM Secretariat's Deputy Executive Director, Mr. Milton Haughton, at the Conference.

IICA Meeting on the Common Fund for Commodities, 27- 28 March, 2007, San Jose, Costa Rica.

The CRFM Secretariat's Deputy Executive Director, Mr. Milton Haughton, participated in the IICA Meeting on the Common Fund for Commodities (CFC), 27- 28 March, Costa Rica. The two day Workshop was held to facilitate assistance to the region and commodity associations to identify specific priority intervention areas in which the CFC support would be required. Two project proposals that focus on safety at sea and the use of economic indicators in fisheries management were prepared by the CRFM Secretariat for funding under the CFC.

Release of CRFM / FAO Project Report on Collection of Demographic Information on Coastal Fishing Communities and its use in Community Based Fisheries and Integrated Coastal Zone Management.

Through FAO's assistance a comparative study was undertaken on the use of socio-economic and demographic indicators in coastal area and fisheries management in countries in Southeast Asia (Malaysia and the Philippines). It was accompanied by country specific case studies undertaken in selected CRFM Member States i.e. Belize, Dominica, Jamaica, St. Lucia, Barbados, Trinidad & Tobago and the Turks & Caicos Islands, which identified ways and means to determine how demographic concerns can be incorporated in the on-going coastal zone management programmes. The Report titled *Socio-economic Indicators in Integrated Coastal Zone and Community-based Fisheries Management – Case Studies from the Caribbean* contains the Country Case Studies, the Comparative Study Tour to the Malaysia and the Philippines, and the Report of the *CRFM/FAO/MALMR Integrated Fisheries Management Workshop (June 13 – 17, 2005, Trinidad & Tobago) on the Collection and Use of Demographic and Socio-economic Information in Integrated Coastal and Fisheries Management*, has now been published.

CRFM Secretariat Participates in Sustainable Management of the Shared Living Marine Resources of the Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystem (CLME) and Adjacent Regions Casual Chain Analysis Workshop for the Technical Task Team (TTT), 27 Feb., 2007, Jamaica.

The CRFM Secretariat, represented by Mr. Terrence Phillips, Programme Manager Fisheries Management and Development, participated in the one day workshop to expose members of the CLME TTT to the casual chain analysis methodology and its application in the analysis of transboundary issues. During the one- day session, the Consultant addressed the following topics: (1) *Casual Chain Analysis (CCA) (What is the purpose? How is it applied)*, (2) *Casual Chain Analysis and Casual Loop Diagrams*, and (3) *Development of CCA for Priority Transboundary Issues*.