

Recommendation GFCM/30/2006/1
on the management of certain fisheries exploiting demersal and small pelagic species

The General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM),

RECALLING that the objective of the Agreement for the establishment of the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM Agreement) is to ensure the conservation and sustainable use, at the biological, social, economic and environmental level, of marine living resources in the GFCM area of application;

RECALLING the 2003 Declaration of the Ministerial Conference on the Sustainable Development of Fisheries in the Mediterranean (2003 Venice Declaration);

CONSIDERING that, in the advice for 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004 and 2005, the Scientific Advisory Committee on Fisheries (SAC) considered that certain stocks were overexploited, some with a high risk of recruitment overfishing, and that sustainable management required measures aimed at controlling or reducing the fishing effort;

RECALLING Recommendation GFCM/27/2002/1 on the management of selected demersal and small pelagic species, which urges the control of fishing effort and the improvement of the exploitation pattern of demersal fisheries, as well as limiting catches of juveniles of small pelagic species;

ADOPTS, in conformity with Articles 5 b), 8 b) and 13 of the GFCM Agreement, the following recommendation:

Management of fishing effort for certain demersal fisheries

1. The GFCM shall develop a management programme of the fishing effort concerning demersal trawling fisheries exploiting, *inter alia*, the following species: European hake (*Merluccius merluccius*), blue and red shrimp (*Aristeus antennatus*), red mullet (*Mullus barbatus*), striped mullet (*Mullus surmuletus*), giant red shrimp (*Aristaeomorpha foliacea*) and Norway lobster (*Nephrops norvegicus*) in the following geographical subareas (GSAs): northern and southern Alboran Sea (GSA 1 and GSA 3), northern Spain (GSA 6), Balearic Islands (GSA 5), Gulf of Lion (GSA 7), Corsica (GSA 8), Ligurian Sea and northern Tyrrhenian Sea (GSA 9), southern and central Tyrrhenian Sea (GSA 10), Sardinia (GSA 11), southern Sicily (GSA 16), northern Adriatic Sea (GSA 17), southern Adriatic Sea (GSA 18), western Ionian Sea (GSA 19), eastern Ionian Sea (GSA 20), Aegean Sea (GSA 22), as well as in the adjacent subareas, if relevant.

Management of fishing effort for certain small pelagic fisheries

2. The GFCM shall develop a management programme of the fishing effort concerning pelagic trawling and purse seines in the pelagic fisheries exploiting, *inter alia*, the following species: anchovy (*Engraulis encrasicolus*), sardine (*Sardina pilchardus*) and sprat (*Sprattus sprattus*) in particular in the following GSAs: Northern and Southern Alboran Sea (GSAs 1 et 3), Northern Spain (GSA 6), Gulf of Lion (GSA 7), northern Adriatic Sea (GSA 17), southern Sicily (GSA 16) and Aegean Sea (GSA 22), as well as in the adjacent subareas, if relevant.

Recommendation GFCM/30/2006/1

3. In order to develop the management programmes of the fishing effort referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2, the SAC shall identify in 2006:

- The reference year;
- The operational units;
- The parameters to measure the fishing effort both in terms of capacity and fishing activity and, if relevant, number and dimension of fishing gear.

The SAC shall transmit to the Commission in 2006 the results of this identification.