

**Resolution GFCM/41/2017/3**  
**on the reactivation of the Working Group on Fishing Technology**

*ACKNOWLEDGING* relevant activities of the Scientific Advisory Committee on Fisheries (SAC) and the Working Group on the Black Sea (WGBS) carried out in response to requests by contracting parties and cooperating non-contracting parties (CPCs) aiming to improve fishing technology in the Mediterranean and the Black Sea;

*NOTING* the decision by the Commission at its thirtieth session (Turkey, January 2006) to establish the TechnoMed network as a transversal working group of the SAC;

*RECALLING* the objective of the TechnoMed network which is to assist the GFCM in facilitating the exchange of information between scientists involved in research on fishing technology;

*ALSO RECALLING* the outcomes of the GFCM Transversal Working Group on Selectivity, which met within the framework of the TechnoMed network, *inter alia*, in 2008 and 2009 to address terms and concepts of relevance to fishing technology;

*TAKING INTO ACCOUNT* the ongoing work of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) on fishing technology;

*NOTING* the mid-term strategy (2017-2020) towards the sustainability of Mediterranean and Black Sea fisheries as well as the need to reverse the current trend in the exploitation of Mediterranean and Black Sea stocks, including through the monitoring and mitigation of unwanted interactions between fisheries and marine ecosystems;

*CONSIDERING* the necessity to reactivate the Working Group on Fishing Technology (WGFiT);

*ADOPTS*, in conformity with Articles 5 and 8 of the Agreement for the establishment of the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean, the following resolution:

1. The WGFiT and its activities shall be included on a permanent basis in the GFCM work programme.
2. The terms of reference of the WGFiT shall include the following objectives:
  - assist the SAC and the WGBS in formulating scientific advice on fishing technology aspects;
  - promote cooperation between Mediterranean and Black Sea scientists involved in fishing technology and selectivity studies;
  - assure a permanent watch on fishing technology issues in the Mediterranean and the Black Sea; and
  - monitor issues relating to the typology of fishing fleet.
3. The WGFiT shall primarily rely on networking through the exchange of field experience and information and shall organize meetings on fishing technology issues, in particular fishing gear selectivity, at the request of the SAC and WGBS, as appropriate.

4. The WGFIT shall continue to review and examine the technical elements brought to its attention by the SAC and the WGBS and report accordingly.

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