

## **Recommendation GFCM/44/2021/8**

### **on a multiannual management plan for sustainable trawl fisheries targeting giant red shrimp and blue and red shrimp in the Ionian Sea (geographical subareas 19 to 21), amending Recommendation GFCM/42/2018/4**

The General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM),

*CONSIDERING* 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* Recommendation GFCM/42/2018/4 on a multiannual management plan for sustainable trawl fisheries targeting giant red shrimp and blue and red shrimp in the Ionian Sea (geographical subareas 19, 20 and 21);

*RECALLING* Recommendation GFCM/42/2018/3 on a multiannual management plan for sustainable trawl fisheries targeting giant red shrimp and blue and red shrimp in the Levant Sea (geographical subareas 24, 25, 26 and 27);

*RECALLING* Recommendation GFCM/43/2019/6 on management measures for sustainable trawl fisheries targeting giant red shrimp and blue and red shrimp in the Strait of Sicily (geographical subareas 12, 13, 14, 15 and 16);

*NOTING* that for deep-water red shrimp in the eastern-central Mediterranean Sea, the joint MedSudMed/EastMed/GFCM data preparation meeting held in October 2019 noted numerous technical issues that need to be resolved and further explored prior to the provision of scientific advice and the forthcoming benchmark in 2022, namely in relation to data quality, misreporting of the geographical subarea of origin, identification of fishing grounds, and stock assessment methodologies;

*CONSIDERING* that it is appropriate to align measures for deep-water red shrimp in the Levant Sea and the Ionian Sea to those adopted in the Strait of Sicily;

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

#### **Amendment of Recommendation GFCM/42/2018/4**

1. Paragraph 12 of Recommendation GFCM/42/2018/4 shall be amended as follows:

A GFCM working group shall be established in 2022, 30 calendar days following the twenty-third session of the SAC, in order to develop measures for the management of the key species listed in Annex 1, taking into consideration the efforts made by CPCs to manage relevant fisheries as well as the amount of historical catches, towards the identification and application, in some cases, of stricter rules than those defined in this recommendation, also based on socio-economic considerations.

2. Paragraph 16 of Recommendation GFCM/42/2018/4 shall be amended as follows:

At its forty-fifth session in 2022, the GFCM shall adopt long-term management measures allowing for the achievement of the objectives set out in paragraph 1, in complement to or in replacement of the measures referred to in Part IV.