

FINANCIAL REPORT AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2014 ON THE STATUS OF THE ASSISTANCE FUND

UNDER PART VII OF THE AGREEMENT FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROVISIONS OF

THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION ON THE LAW OF THE SEA OF 10 DECEMBER 1982

RELATING TO THE CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF STRADDLING FISH STOCKS AND

HIGHLY MIGRATORY FISH STOCKS

September 2015

1. Introduction

Assistance Fund under Part VII of the Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks (1995 UN Fish Stocks Agreement), to assist developing States Parties in the implementation of the Agreement. It also decided that the Fund would be administered by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United

Fund's Terms of Reference and FAO's Financial Regulations as well as other applicable Rules

2. Contributions to the Assistance Fund

The United Nations and FAO have continued to call for contributions to the Assistance Fund at

and

Norway and the United States of America, all States Parties to the 1995 UN Fish Stocks Agreement

had made financial contributions to the Assistance Fund totalling USD 1 467 455. Table 1 shows

contributions to the Fund together with accrued interests of USD 49 542, as at 31 December 2014 and

USD 1 516 997, as at 31 December 2014.

the near depletion of the fund, States Parties were informed in October 2014 that the fund was temporarily being suspended and applications for assistance were not being accepted until its replenishment.

non-governmental organizations, as well as natural and juridical persons wishing to make contributions to the Assistance Fund are encouraged to do so and they should direct their payments to the following FAO bank account:

Bank: HSBC New York
Address: 452 Fifth Ave, New York, NY, USA, 10018
Account No: 000156426
Swift/BIC: MRMDUS33
ABA/Bank Code: 021001088
Citing project MTF/GLO/127/MUL

¹ This report is prepared in accordance with paragraph 22 of the Terms of Reference for Assistance Fund under Part VII of the Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks.

² Account MTF/GLO/127/MUL - 1995 UN Fish Stocks Agreement - Part VII - Trust Fund

³ www.un.org/Depts/los/convention_agreements/fishstocktrustfund/fishstocktrustfund.htm. Contributions to the Fund should be made in the form of bank transfers established by FAO in accordance with paragraph 7 of the

information about the existence and purpose of

this total, 24 were considered favourably, processed and funded. Two applications were not funded because the one-month advance notice rule was not respected. The total number of favor requests in 2014 was lower than in 2013 (36 requests) since the use of the fund was suspended in November 2014 due to lack of funds available.

Expenditure is categorized according to the purposes for which assistance is committed and administrative expenses as reflected respectively in paragraphs 14 and 21 of the Fund's Terms of Reference

In 2014 total expenditure from the Fund was USD 119,147 of which:

- 72 percent supported participation in technical and annual sessions of national and subregional fisheries management organizations and arrangements (Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR), Commission for the Conservation of the Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR), Commission (IOTC), International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tuna (ICCAT), Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA), South-East Atlantic Fisheries Organization (SEAFO), South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation (SPRFMO), and the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC)) (paragraph 14 (a) of the Terms of Reference);

- 10 percent supported participation in sessions of global (BAGC Agreement; Global Oceans Action Summit) (paragraph 14 (b) of the Terms of Reference);

- 6 percent supported participation in meetings in connection with building capacity in relation to flag State responsibility, MCS data collection and scientific research at national and/or regional level (paragraph 14 (d) of the Terms of Reference);

- 2 percent supported attendance at meetings related to the settlement of disputes between States Parties to the Agreement on the High Seas (paragraph 14 (e) of the Terms of Reference);

4. Panel of Experts

The Panel of Experts was constituted in 2014

5. Assistance Fund Travel Allocations by State Party

Table 2 provides an allocation of travel expenditures by State Parties in 2014. In accordance with paragraph 14 of the terms of reference for the period 2016 to 2017, twelve Parties benefited from funding in 2014

6. Assistance Fund Balance

7. Conclusion

Over the duration of the Fund's operation from 2006 to 2014, 71 percent of expenditures was devoted to supporting Parties to the Agreement, participants in RFMO and global meetings. 21 percent was directed to capacity development, a very small percentage supported issues related to dispute settlement and 2 percent was for administrative and associated costs (Table 2).

The Assistance Fund was established and is being managed in accordance with its Terms of Reference and FAO's Financial Regulations and other applicable rules. The United Nations and FAO encourage States, intergovernmental organizations, international financial institutions, national institutions and non-governmental organizations, as well as individuals, to make voluntary contributions to the Fund. The United Nations and FAO seek to ensure that the Assistance Fund maintains a healthy funding level so that support for the implementation of the 1005

Table 1: 1995 United Fish Stock Agreement - Account Part VII Trust Fund - Income Account (USD) as of December 31, 2014

Year	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Total	Remarks
US	200,000	0	15,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	215,000	Received in June 2004 and September 2007, respectively
Canada	0	5,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	50,000	Received in April 2005
Portugal	0	9,177	0	0	0	0	96,798	0	0	0	0	194,977	Received in May 2005 and August 2010, respectively
Spain	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	454,178	Received in March 2006 and May 2007, respectively
United States	0	0	0	0	0	2,000	0	0	0	0	0	2,000	Received in July 2009
Other	0	0	0	0	0	19,500	0	0	0	0	0	19,500	Received in July 2009
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5,180	0	0	0	531,800	Received in July 2011
Total	200,000	9,177	15,000	0	0	21,500	96,798	5,180	0	0	0	1,467,455	
Total	0	24,177	24,177	4,102	4,102	1,485	262	5,180	457	457	0	49,342	
Total	200,000	48,354	48,354	8,204	8,204	22,985	97,060	5,180	457	457	0	1,516,797	

2012		Cook Islands	20,040	0,430				20,470
			20,107	0,400				20,507
Kiribati			7,679				312	7,991
Micronesia							5,707	5,707
Namibia			13,685					13,685
Nauru				8,639				8,639
Niue							0,000	0,000
Senegal			11,305					11,305
South Africa							0,147	0,147
Sri Lanka			8,749					8,749
Tonga			25,977	8,657	5,166			39,800
Tuvalu			10,048					10,048
Uruguay			9,452					9,452
2012 Total			145,408	40,000	5,166	0	0	190,574

2013		Cook Islands	15,560	4,210				19,770
			15,560	4,210				19,770
Iran (Islamic)							10,279	10,279
Kiribati			6,598					6,598
Maldives			5,969					5,969
Micronesia			7,015	6,837				13,852
Namibia			1,606					1,606
Nauru				5,709				5,709
Niue				6,062				6,062
Somalia			12,526					12,526
South Africa			349					349
Sri Lanka			11,040					11,040
Tonga			19,808	7,803				27,611
Tuvalu				8,172				8,172
Uruguay			15,049					15,049
2013 Total			80,342	62,286	0	15,459	10,279	168,366

2014		Cook Islands	13,817					13,817
			13,817					13,817
Guinea							4,499	4,499
Korea			4,104					4,104
Mozambique			3,728					3,728
Namibia			1,007					1,007
Tonga			28,519	4,115	8,562			41,195
Tuvalu			25,034	8,973				34,007
Uruguay			15,049					15,049
2014 Total			80,342	62,286	0	15,459	10,279	168,366

