



**5th GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE WORLD FORUM OF FISH
WORKERS AND FISH HARVESTERS (WFF) 2017**

***NATIONAL FEDERATION OF FISHERIES COOPERATIVES OF
ECUADOR (FENACOPEC)***

Host Organization



**26- 29 January 2017
SALINAS-EQUADOR**

Program of the Assembly

Tuesday, January 24, 2017

06:00	Reception of the international delegations at the José Joaquín de Olmedo Airport and transfer to the Presidente Hotel
13:00	Lunch for international delegates
20:00 - 22:00	Dinner for international delegates

Wednesday, January 25, 2017

6:00	Reception of the international delegations at the José Joaquín de Olmedo Airport and transfer to the city of Salinas
7:00 - 8:00	Breakfast for the Executive Committee
8:30 - 10:00	Meeting of the Executive Committee of Coordination of the WFF in the Building of the Zonal Government of Guayaquil
10:00	Press conference of the Executive Committee of WFF with the presence of Marine Biologist Victor Alcivar, Under Secretary of Fisheries resource of the MAGAP.
11:00- 13:00	Meeting of the Executive Committee of the WFF in the Building of the Zonal Government of Guayaquil
13:00 - 14:00	Lunch at Arrecife Restaurant
14:30 - 17:00	Meeting of the Executive Committee of the WFF in the Building of the Zonal Government of Guayaquil
17:00 -19:00	Visit to Caraguay Market, Malecón 2000 and Fenacopec facilities
19:00	Dinner
20:00	Transfer to Salinas city
22:00	Accommodation of the delegates at the Hotel Marvento - Chichipe

Thursday, January 26, 2017

7:00 -8:00	Breakfast
8:00 -8:30	Registration of participants Hotel Marvento - Chichipe
8:30-9:00	Press Conference of the WFF Executive Committee in Salinas
9:00 -9:30	Transfer of the international delegates to the Chambers of the Armed Forces School for the inauguration
10:00 -11:00	Opening National Anthem of Ecuador

	<p>Welcoming remarks by the Mayor of Salinas, Eng. Daniel Cisneros Intervention of the President of FENACOPEC, Lcd. Gabriela Cruz S. Opening remarks by the Minister of MAGAP, Soc. Javier Ponce Intervention of the FAO representative Welcome Remarks of the WFF Co- Presidents Present SSF graphic video of the SSF guidelines Speech of the Minister of Defense, Econ. Ricardo Patiño Presentation of cultural shows</p>
11:00-11:30	COFFEE BREAK
11:30- 11:40	Transfer of WFF International delegates to the Auditorium of the Riviera de Mar Building
11:40- 11:55	Intervention of DIRNEA Director, Calmte. Amilcar Vilavic (Maritime safety in Ecuador)
11:55-12:10	Presentation by the Deputy Minister of Aquaculture and Fisheries, Lyr. Pilar Proaño (Current situation of fisheries and aquaculture in Ecuador)
12:10-12:20	Present and adopt the Agenda
12:20-12:40	Report of activities of the WFF by the Co-Presidents to the General Assembly
12:40-12:50	Video SSF Guidelines by FAO
12:50-14:00	Lunch
14:00-14:20	Presentation by the President of FENACOPEC, Lcd. Gabriela Cruz S. (Management of implemented activities in Ecuador)
14:20- 14:40	Current status of the WFF by the WFF Secretariat Discuss issues that arise
14:40- 17:00	Review of WFF Constitution
17:00	Coffee Break
17:30	Educational videos Role and place of women in fisheries value chain Challenges that women face and efforts in place to improve the situation
20:00	Welcome dinner for the 70 participants and authorities

Friday, January 27, 2017

7:00 -8:00	Breakfast
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8:00 – 10:59	Building of capacities for the implementation of guidelines for small-scale fisheries Tribute to Chandrika Sharma Presentation of the SSF Guidelines FAO Voluntary Guidelines for Small-Scale Fisheries Discussion and questions
11:00	COFFEE BREAK
11:30	Presentations on possible strategies (with a view to developing an FMM strategy on the implementation of the SSF)
13:00-14:00	Lunch
14:00- 14:30	<i>Presentation on Individual Transferable Quotas (ITQ)</i> <i>Questions and discussion.</i>
14:30 -15:30	Session on the implementation of voluntary guidelines for responsible tenure of land and forest fisheries (VGTT) Land grabbing Access to fishing areas
15:30- 17:00	EVALUATION OF WFF ACTIVITIES Results of the presentation and evaluation of the regional workshops on the implementation of the SSF guidelines in Asia and Latin America, funded by FPH. Outcome of the presentation and evaluation of the national and regional workshops on the implementation of the FSF Guidelines facilitated by WFF members financed by FIDA
17:00	COFFEE BREAK
17:30	Explore strategic partnerships (Duke University and UITC)

Saturday, January 28, 2017

7:00-8:00	Breakfast
8:00-11:00	Election of Office Bearers Confirmation of the Election Committee Coordination Committee Executive Committee
11:00- 11:30	COFFEE BREAK
11:30	WFF work plan for the next four years WFF SWOT Analysis Strategy to mobilize and strengthen the participation of members from all continents
13:30	Lunch
14:30	Working table of the WFF delegations of fishermen to reach a declaration from our perspective of artisanal fisheries and small-scale aquaculture towards a vision

	of the future to make fishing visible and strengthen in FAO
16:30	COFFE BREAK
17:00	Meeting of the new Coordination Committee
19:0	Closing of the 5th General Assembly of the World Forum of Fish Harvesters and Fish workers "WFF"
20:30	Reception of international delegations at the solemn ceremony organized by the Santa Rosa de Salinas Artisanal Fisheries Production Cooperative, on the occasion of its 30th anniversary

Sunday, January 29, 2017

6:00-7:00	Breakfast
7:00	Field departure, there will be a bus to transfer the delegates.
7:30 - 15:30	<p>Visit to Morro where they will be received by the officials of the Environment Ministry (1st stop)</p> <p>Visit to the Chocolatera (2nd stop)</p> <p>Visit to the Anconcito fishing cove where they will be welcomed by artisanal fishermen, representatives of INMOBILIAR and the Vice Ministry of Aquaculture and Fisheries (3rd stop)</p> <p>Visit to the fishing port of Santa Rosa of Salinas and to the Macro algae project where they will be welcomed by artisanal fishermen (4th stop)</p> <p>Visit to the Maritime Aquarium in Valdivia (5th stop)</p> <p>Lunch at the Ayangué Fishing Cove Almuerzo</p>
20:00	Farewell dinner

Monday, January 30, 2017

00:00	Transfer of international delegates to Guayaquil City
03:00	Arrival at the airport José Joaquín de Olmedo de Guayaquil

List of Participants

N°	Continent	PARTICIPANTS	First name	Surname	Country
1	Africa	International	Margaret	Nakato	Uganda
2	Africa	International	Editrudith	Lukanga	Tanzania
3	Africa	International	Yassine	Skandrani	Tunisia
4	Africa	International	El Blihi	Abdallah	Maroc
5	Africa	International	Alieu	Sowe	Gambia
6	Africa	International	Hamdani	Hacene	Algeria
7	Africa	International	Ssenyonga	Godfrey	Uganda
8	Africa	International	Esperance	Ntimpirangeza	Burundi
9	South America	International	Cairo Roberto	Laguna	Nicaragua
10	South America	International	Marta Emelda	Machazek de Serrutt	Panama
11	South America	International	Nestor Edgardo	Roche	Argentina
12	South America	International	Lorena	Ortiz Marinez	Mexico
13	South America	International	Eusebio	Melo	Rep Dominicana
14	South America	International	Reina Leticia	Sarceño Salinas de Marroquin	Guatemala
15	South America	International	Moises	Osorto C.	Honduras
16	South America	International	Felix Dolores	Paz Garcia	Honduras
17	South America	International	Ana Ruth	Esquivel Medrano	Costa Rica
18	South America	International	Joel Luis	Vargas Carreño	Venezuela
19	South America	International	Leonardo	Pineda Diaz	Salvador
20	Asia	International	Nasmin	Akhatar Choudhury	India
21	Europa	International	Arthur	Bogason	Iceland
22	Norte America	International	Pierre	Verreault	Canada
23	Self Funded Participants	International	Pierre	Vuarin	Francia
24	Self Funded Participants	International	Xavier	Basurto Guillermo	Mexico/USA
25	Self Funded Participants	International	Hillary	Smith	USA
26	South America	International	Carlos	Requena	Peru

27	South America	National	Jorge	Espinoza	Ecuador
28	South America	National	Pablo	Velez	Ecuador
29	South America	National	Gerardo	Quijije	Ecuador
30	South America	National	Jhonny	Chancay	Ecuador
31	South America	National	Luis	Bonilla	Ecuador
32	South America	National	Eduardo	Abudeye	Ecuador
33	South America	National	Jose	Chunga	Ecuador
34	South America	National	Eduardo	Macias	Ecuador
35	South America	National	Julio	Muñoz	Ecuador
36	South America	National	Elias	Orrala	Ecuador
37	South America	National	Carlos	Muñoz	Ecuador
38	South America	National	Geovanny	Guale	Ecuador
39	South America	National	Raul	Guale	Ecuador
40	South America	National	Carlos	Ricaurte	Ecuador
41	South America	National	Maria	Calle	Ecuador
42	South America	National	Jacinto	Rodriguez	Ecuador
43	South America	National	Julio	Bailon	Ecuador
44	South America	National	Alcides	Solorzano	Ecuador
45	South America	National	Freddy	Mateo	Ecuador
46	South America	National	Joffre	Sanchez	Ecuador
47	South America	National	Cesar	Garcia	Ecuador
48	South America	National	Yolanda	Ponce	Ecuador
49	South America	National	Evelyn	Borbor	Ecuador
50	South America	National	Cesar	Jouvin	Ecuador
51	South America	National	Gonzalo	Tamayo	Ecuador
52	South America	National	Patricia	Santos	Ecuador
53	South America	National	Gabriela	Cruz	Ecuador
54	South America	National	Ricardo	Molina	Ecuador
55	South America	National	Jhonny	Pozo	Ecuador
56	South America	National	Liliana	Gruezo	Ecuador
57	South America	National	Gina	Montenegro	Ecuador
58	South America	National	Andres	Lcivar	Ecuador
59	South America	National	Nemin	Espin	Ecuador
60	South America	National	Cristhofer	Pozo	Ecuador

Press briefing on small scale fisheries and WFF General Assembly



Inauguration Ceremony

On January 26th, 2016, The General Assembly of the World Forum of Fish Harvesters & Fish Workers (WFF) was inaugurated in the Cámara de Grumetes de las Fuerzas Armadas, with the presence of the Executive Committee of the WFF, Ecuadorian authorities, delegates from member countries of the WFF and Ecuadorian artisanal fisher folks.

In his welcoming remarks, Eng. Daniel Cisneros, Mayor of Salinas, expressed his delight at the fact that Salinas was hosting such an important forum, and he declared that the city gate was open to the international delegates and all the members of the audience.

Mr. Erick Lopez, Governor of the Province of Santa Elena, delivered a speech in which he pointed out that the forum would disseminate the importance of National and International Small-scale Fisheries, and he noted that the government was working to cover the needs of artisanal fisheries, as they are well aware of the risks fisher folk are exposed to in their daily activities and of the importance of the fisheries sector in the economy of the country.

Ms. Gabriela Cruz, President of Federacion Nacional De Cooperativeas Pesqueras Del Ecuador (FENACOPEC), declared that every effort had been made to ensure that all national and international delegates felt at ease during the forum, so that they are able to understand and follow up on implementation of new international fisheries policies, which would be applied in the next 5 years of WFF strategic programs. In addition to this, the meeting was an opportunity to share national experiences and promote the replication of these experiences in other countries.

Mr. Cairo Laguna, Co-President of the WFF, stated that the forum intended to define the work, struggle and excellence strategies that had to be implemented to make sure that small-scale fisheries remain on the national and international public agendas and become a priority for our governments. It should be said that some progressive governments have allowed for the gradual advancement of the fisheries sector by providing them with much needed fishing facilities and services. Ecuador is an example of this, through the development of fishing facilities, which have allowed fisher folk to be seen as a productive force.

Atty. Pilar Proaño, Deputy Minister of Aquaculture and Fisheries, thanked the artisanal fishermen from the various provinces of Ecuador for their presence, as she was aware of the effort they had made to attend this meeting in order to contribute to developing what is needed in small-scale fisheries. She said that the representatives of the Ministry had been at the regional FAO meeting in Mexico, and that the ministers and deputy ministers of fisheries of Latin America and the Caribbean often expect the FAO to strive to increase the visibility of fisheries much more. They had recently been focusing on agriculture, but they are now going to work to declare this year, the year of fisheries, so that they receive the attention they deserve for their permanent contribution to nutrition, the general economy, and the regeneration of our countries'

and our coastal communities' economies. The Ministry would therefore present this meeting as an activity that deserves international recognition. The Deputy Minister of Aquaculture and Fisheries thus officially inaugurated the 5th General Assembly of the WFF.



R. Adm. Amilcar Villavicencio, Director of Dirnea; Lic. Gabriela Cruz, President of FENACOPEC; Arch. Patricia Dávila, Deputy Secretary of de MIDENA Ministerial Cabinet; Eng. Daniel Cisneros, Mayor of Salinas; Atty. Pilar Proaño, Deputy Minister of Aquaculture and Fisheries; Mr. Cairo Laguna, Co-President of WFF; Editrudith Lukanga, Co-President of WFF; Margaret Nakato, Executive Director of WFF; Erick Lopez, Governor of Santa Elena; Pamela Rosero, FAO delegate in Ecuador.

5th General Assembly of the World Forum of Fish Harvesters and Fish Workers (WFF)

The agenda of the General Assembly was submitted for consideration to the assembly and unanimously approved.

The sessions on 1st day of the 5th General Assembly of the WFF commenced at 12:00 PM. The Deputy Minister of Aquaculture and Fisheries made presentation on the situation of fisheries in Ecuador. She spoke about the history of fishing since the 40s, when the first foreign (North-American) pole-and-line vessels of naval steel arrived in Ecuador first to fish live bait and then to fish tuna; and about the establishment, in 1949, of the first tuna processing company in Manta: INEPACA SA. The fishing sector has been growing decade after decade and, nowadays, it comprises 295 fishing coves, 25,000 artisanal vessels, and 60,000 artisanal fisher folks¹. She gave a detailed explanation of the types of fishing activities that are carried out in coastal, inland and ocean waters, and she talked about the future of fishing.



¹ According to the latest census of the Deputy Secretary of Fishing Resources carried out in the year 2012.

This was followed by the presentation of the Co-President of the WFF Ms. Editrudith Lukanga, who declared that WFF is an international organization of small-scale fisheries organizations that works to defend the interests of artisanal fishing communities. It was established in November 1997 with the aim of bringing together small-scale fishing organizations for the establishment and upholding of fundamental human rights, social justice and culture. It declares the sea as the source of all life and commits itself to sustaining fisheries and aquatic resources to protect the livelihoods of present and future generations.

The current membership of the WFF comprises 42 organizations from 5 continents, 6 more than in the last General Assembly. These members are distributed as follows: 15 in Africa, 3 in Asia, 7 in Europe, 13 in Latin America and 4 in North America.

Over the past four years, WFF's work has focused on:

- strengthening the capacity of the members of the organizations;
- influencing policies at international, regional and national levels; and
- action research and networking to promote strategic partnerships.



The presentation on the current situation of WFF was done by the WFF's Executive Director Ms. Margaret Nakato, who then introduced the report of the Secretariat on the efforts they are making and the techniques they are analysing to improve the communication with the national fisheries organizations, as some of them lack the necessary technology, such as access to emails, and it is therefore difficult to inform them about the activities that they have to carry out as members of the WFF.



The President of FENACOPEC Ms. Gabriela Cruz then made a presentation about their organization and the artisanal fisheries sector. FENACOPEC was created on 30th August 1986, with 20 organizations, and it currently comprises around 500 organizations from the different fishing coves of the provinces of Manabi, Esmeraldas, El Oro, Guayas, Santa Elena, Galapagos and Los Rios. The purpose of the organisation is to improve the quality of life of small-scale fish workers and their families, by the implementation of projects that benefit the artisanal fisheries sector.





Lastly, Mr. Pierre Verreault, the outgoing General Secretary of WWF handed out the statutes of WWF in 3 languages (English, French and Spanish) to the members of the General Assembly, in order to allow them to examine the document before discussing it on the second day of the assembly.



The presentations of the first day are attached.

Day Two

Building capacities for the implementation of Voluntary Guidelines for securing sustainable small scale fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication (the SSF Guidelines)

On 27th January 2017 at 9:00 am, the 2nd day of the General Assembly of WFF was opened by Mr. Pierre Verreault, welcomed participants and passed the floor over to Ms. Targelia Nicolta, artisanal fisherwoman from the province of Esmeraldas. Ms Nicolta read a poem about the life of fishermen and their everyday activities.



Immediately after that, Mr. Arthur Bogason, a member of the Executive Committee paid a tribute to Chandrika Sharma, a dear colleague who disappeared along with the Malaysian flight of 8th March 2014. Chandrika was a cheerful, intelligent and hardworking person, who, despite her busy schedule, was always willing to help the members of her organization. She is remembered with great affection. To honour her memory, 10 delegates proceeded to light candles at the foot of her photograph.



Then Mr. Jorge Samaniego, FAO Representative in Ecuador, made a presentation on the Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication. He pointed out that the Voluntary Guidelines not only focus on the improvement of fishing activities but also on issues such as the improvement of the quality of life of fisher folks and their families and the elimination of gender discrimination in fishing activities, among other problems that need to be addressed.

WFF Co-president and delegate of Tanzania, Ms. Editrudith Lukanga, made a presentation on the perspective of civil society with regard to the implementation of the SSF Guidelines. She noted that the Voluntary Guidelines have been designed to address the various social, economic and political problems and the needs of small-scale fisher folk.

The floor was open for the audience to ask questions or comment on Ms. Lukanga's presentation. The following is a summary of the interventions of delegates and/or representatives of other institutions:

Mr. El Blihi Abdallah, delegate of Morocco:

- The content of the presentation was very interesting and enriching.
- The presentation did not explain in detail the implementation of the Guidelines.
- We must work jointly with local governments to implement the Guidelines in communities.
- We must be aware of the fact that one thing is accepting the Guidelines and something quite different is actually implementing them in the development of a productive activity.

Ms Gabriela Cruz, delegate of Ecuador:

- The work of the World Forum of Fish Harvesters & Fish Workers must be solid and constant.
- The content of the Guidelines has not been sufficiently disseminated in all countries of the WFF.
- There should be an appropriation of the Guidelines by the member countries of the WFF.
- Guidelines are useless unless there is adequate funding for their dissemination and implementation.
- Unfortunately, Ecuador has a very old Law on Fisheries and Aquaculture which is out of step with the way fishing activities are currently performed.

Mr. Alieu Sowe, delegate of Gambia:

- A process of training on the content of the Guidelines has to be carried out in the member countries of the WFF.
- In Gambia, they have had meetings with parliamentarians to raise awareness on the Guidelines.
- The governments have the obligation of disseminating the content of the Guidelines.
- Often there is no record of the dissemination of the Guidelines in the fishing communities.
- The aspect of sustainability included in the Guidelines is essential for the development of fishing activities.

Mr. Pierre Vuarin, representative of UITC:

- Some countries of the WFF do not have information on the implementation of the various guidelines.
- There are no academic studies on the implementation of the SSF Guidelines.

Mr. Yassine Skandrani, delegate of Tunisia:

- The Tunisian Government has not been involved in the implementation of the Guidelines.
- By grouping the artisanal fisheries sector in Tunisia, they have managed to establish and formalize the productive sector (125,000 people directly and indirectly involved)

Mr. Filiberto Sanchez, delegate of Peru:

- The mechanism for the inclusion of the Guidelines in the legal frameworks of the production regulations of the countries is not clear.
- In certain areas of Peru there is a high rate of child malnutrition, which could be remedied by fishery.

Mr. Alcide Solorzano, participant from Ecuador:

- Regional governments should be involved in the dissemination and empowerment of the Guidelines.
- People are the 5th power

Ms. Margaret Nakato, Executive Director:

- For the Guidelines to be implemented, the governments need to be involved in their dissemination.
- A gender guide towards implementation of the guidelines is under development by FAO to guide implementation of the SSF Guidelines with gender lenses.

Ms. Editrudith Lukanga, delegate of Tanzania:

- The implementation of the Guidelines not only depends on the actions of governments but also on the involvement of civil society.
- The Guidelines must be turned into legislation in order to work.
- The artisanal fisheries sector should empower itself and set an example of the implementation of the guidelines.
- The relationship between civil society and the State is essential.
- The artisanal fisheries sector should be a part of the process for strengthening the Guidelines.
- We must avoid conflicts and articulate joint actions between governments and civil society instead.

Mr. Jorge Samaniego, FAO Representative (Ecuador)

- At the organizational level, we should be capable of both internal and external dialogue.
- We must be strategic in the appointment of representatives (as this sometimes can hamper the normal development of processes).
- FAO is working on various statistical, technical and economic documents, which will explain the need to integrate the Guidelines in government regulations.
- FAO representatives must have knowledge of the content of the SSF Guidelines.

Ms. Marta Machazek, delegate of Panama:

- In the specific case of her country, the content of the Guidelines is relevant with regard to climate change, land tenure and fishing quotas.
- At a global level, obsolete fishing regulations must be amended.
- Often artisanal fisher folk are displaced from fishing areas for the development of tourism projects.

Ms. Nasmin Akhtar, delegate of India:

- Unfortunately, the vast majority of WFF member countries do not have a Ministry of the Sea and therefore lack a specific budget to implement the initiatives and needs of this productive sector.

- In most cases, when they attempt to incorporate government agencies, fisheries organizations lack the financial resources to carry out the required processes.

Ms. Ana Esquivel, delegate of Costa Rica:

- In her country, the national Government favours the industrial fishing sector at the expense of the artisanal fisheries sector.
- She suggested that the FAO representatives had to emphasize the importance of the artisanal fisheries sector for food sovereignty and job creation.

Mr. Cairo Laguna, delegate of Nicaragua:

- He declared that the WFF delegates should be trained so they have good knowledge of the content of the SSF Guidelines.
- The WFF is currently working with FAO on mechanisms for the implementation of the Guidelines.

The follow up discussion also shared efforts to implement the SSF Guidelines through various national and regional workshops that were held by WFF members. At the end of the discussion, an infographic video on SSF Guidelines was viewed with the purpose of enhancing the WFF members' understanding on the guidelines in terms of the process for their development, the contents and roles of different actors to ensure its implementation.

Pierre Verreault, delegate of Canada, took the floor in order to start the analysis of the WFF Constitution. He explained that no new modifications were going to be made to the document, but, instead, an analysis of the modifications that had been made in the previous assembly would be carried out to decide whether not to adopt or adopt the changes. He explained that they would proceed to read each article for its analysis.

Articles amended:

Art. 7 remains unchanged.

Art 18: It was decided that the General Assembly should be held every three years. If there is a lack of resources for the organization of the assembly, the time period may be extended to four years.

Art. 19: It was decided that the positions of Co-president should be assigned to one male and one female representative, and that Oceania should be included as a member of the WFF.

Art. 20: The two Co-presidents, a man and a woman, should be elected by the General Assembly from among the 12 or 14 members of the Coordinating Committee. The Secretary General and the Treasurer should be elected by the members of the Coordinating Committee at their first meeting.

Art. 21: It was decided that the name of Latin America should be changed to South America.

Art. 22: Section C remains unchanged.

Art. 32: The Coordination Committee will have the option of adding 1 or 2 members to the Executive Committee to ensure the representation of all continents.

Art. 38: The members of the different continents are represented before the Coordination Committee by their regional Co-president.

The presentations of the second day are attached.

Individual Transferable Quotas (ITQ)

Mr. Arthur Bogason from Iceland presented the case of individual transferable quotas; to demonstrate how management arrangements is moving fish rights from small scale fisher and the enforcement of ITQs based on scientific knowledge. Citing examples from Iceland, he highlighted the negative impact of ITQ to the small-scale fisheries.

Day three

Building strategic partnerships

On 28th January 2017 at 9:00 am, the 3rd day of the General Assembly of WWF commenced with the intervention of Mr. Pierre Vuarin, representative of 'Université Internationale Terre Citoyenne (UITC), who presented the strategies his university has for conducting studies or projects with all actors involved in fishing issues.

The floor was then passed over to Mr. Xavier Basurto, representative of Duke University, who declared that his institution was interested in developing research projects with fisheries organizations. However, he considered it is the fisher folk or fishing organizations who should submit applications to the university in order to request these studies. He said that more information about the university can be obtained from "The International Association for the Study of the Commons"².

The delegates present at the meeting declared that the following research proposals should be considered:

- Studies or debates on topics such as class and gender issues that are found worldwide in the fishing sector.
- Research should be conducted with fisher folk as they are the ones who know the current situation they are living in their different countries.
- A comprehensive analysis should be conducted on fishing activities and on how changes in the fishing gear are affecting fisher folk.

² <http://www.iasc-commons.org/>

Election of office bearers 2017 – 2020

After the interventions of the representatives of the UITC and Duke University, the election process for the new Coordination and Executive Committees of the WFF was started.

First of all, Mr. Pierre Vuarin and Mr. Xavier Basurto were elected as directors of the election committee. The electoral committee established the total number of delegates in the room to be 22, and then lead the delegates in a process that reached a decision that, the male president would be elected first followed by the female and that the voting will be done by the secret ballot.

Mr. Cairo Laguna was then proposed to occupy the position of the Co-president. The electoral committee asked if there were any other proposals or if anybody wanted to present their own candidacy. As no other proposals were presented the voting was conducted, with the result of 20 votes in favour of Cairo, 1 blank vote and 1 null vote.

Then proposals were presented for the other Co-president and the only candidacy that was presented was that of Editrudith Lukanga, so the voting was held, with the result of 21 votes in favour and 1 null vote.

The candidacies for the position of Secretary were then presented. The proposed candidates were Lorena Ortiz, Arthur Bogason and Nasmin Akhatar. The voting process was carried out, with the result of 12 votes for Lorena Ortiz, 5 votes for Arthur Bogason and 5 votes for Nasmin Akhatar. Lorena Ortiz was therefore elected as the new Secretary of the Executive Committee.

Nasmin Akhatar was the only person proposed for the position of Treasurer. The voting was conducted, with the result of 15 votes in favour out of 22.

The remaining member of the Executive Committee was then elected, the only candidate being Arthur Bogason. The votes were cast, with the result of 12 votes in favour out of 22.

Once the election process was completed, the new Executive Committee of the WFF was officially presented.



WFF Executive Committee 2017 - 2020

WFF strategy for 2017 – 2020

Before breaking into working group to discuss WFF strategy for 2017 – 2020 and a SWOT analysis a presentation on the relevance of applying the Voluntary Guidelines for Responsible tenure of Land, fisheries and forests in complementary to the SSF Guidelines was made by Margaret Nakato. The presentation highlighted the clauses in the Tenure guidelines relevant to small scale fisheries.

The forum resumed and participants were divided by continent into break-out groups to discuss strategies to increase the mobilization of members and strengthen their participation in the WFF activities, and strategies for implementation of SSF Guidelines.

After the discussions, each group shared their continental strategies and proposals that would guide as terms of reference for the new Coordination Committee, which are presented below:

Recommendations for the Implementation of the SSF Guidelines

The Coordination Committee will guarantee the participation of all member countries of the WFF in the dissemination of the SSF Guidelines, and is committed to providing the necessary means and resources for this through the following actions:

1. Developing educational materials adapted to the different regions and customs.

2. Conducting training workshops to ensure the adequate dissemination of the SSF Guidelines.
3. Strengthening the capacity of local leaders for the dissemination of SSF Guidelines.
4. Coordinating with the countries' governments to make sure they understand that the fisher folk are the main stakeholders of the SSF Guidelines.
5. Prioritizing some urgent issues of the SSF Guidelines such as climate change, land tenure and security in the performance of fishing activities.

Below are the recommendations of the different continent groups:

Latin America

1. Seeking funding for the sustainability of the forum.
2. Submitting reports of activities and accounting reports.
3. Designing a website.

North America

1. Improving the information about the SSF Guidelines.
 1. Informing fish workers about the content of the SSF Guidelines.
 2. Sharing the experience of people who have been involved in the dissemination of the SSF Guidelines.
 3. The WFF needs to work with local FAO delegates to make the SSF Guidelines known and assist fisher folk in their efforts to implement them in productive activities.
 4. Developing and encouraging strategies that allow a reduction in the indiscriminate depreciation and generate environmentally-friendly fishing mechanisms (these should be implemented adapting them to the reality of each country).
 5. Working in coordination with the UITC and Duke University to establish a better management system.

Africa and Asia

1. Mobilizing regional members.
2. Enhancing communication and sharing of experiences between members of the WFF.
3. Creating a checklist for the presentation of country reports to the WFF.
4. Workshops on gender awareness (within the WFF, within our own countries).
5. Involving our national governments to raise awareness of the WFF and the FAO Guidelines.
6. Organizing roundtables with donors.
7. Organising practical study visits to countries.
8. Developing a market information system.
9. Increasing documentation and research.
10. Making a visual translation of the SSF Guidelines and translating them into the local languages of fisher folk.



Social media

A brief session on the use of social media to improve profile of issues small scale fisheries as addressed by WFF was made by Mr. Yassine Skandrani. He highlighted the need to observe objective, avoid use of offensive languages and guided delegates on how to link their individual struggles to the work of WFF through social media

The presentations of the third day are attached.

Day four

Field Visit

The field visit for the delegates included a visit to the Marine conservation area and a beach where the delegates continued to interact with local fisher folk of FENACOPEC

Vote of thanks

We thank our partner, The Government of Ecuador, Foundation Charles Leopold Mayer, Food and Agriculture Organisation- Rome, Food and Agriculture Organisation Ecuador, International Planning Committee on Food Sovereignty (IPC), Ministry of Environment, Ecuador, Mayor of Salinas, Governor of St. Elena, whose support contributed to the success of the General Assembly. Special thanks to WFF member in Ecuador our host for the 5th General Assembly.

Income and expenditure

Description	\$	Euros
INCOME		
WFF Members Contribution	5,920.00	5,565
Foundation Charles Leopold Mayer (FPH)	37,320.00	35,000
FAO	10,000.00	9,400
South America	8,000.00	7,520.00
Sub total of Income A	61,240.00	57,484.80
National Support to the WFF General Assembly		
Ministry of Environment of Ecuador	1,600.00	1,504.00
Director of Ecuador	100.00	94.00
Mayor of Salina	840.00	789.60
Gifts to delegates from Governor of St Elena	1,000.00	940.00
Gifts to delegates from Mayor of Salinas	800.00	752.00
Lunch for Delegates from Government of Ecuador	4,110.00	3,863.40
Gas for transportation from Government of Ecuador	360.00	338.40
Coffee break for Inauguration from Government of Ecuador	1,500.00	1,410.00
Technology equipment IT Services from Government of Ecuador	912.00	857.28
Interpreters from Government of Ecuador	5,592.61	5,257.05
Table, chairs, hall, audio from Mayor of Salinas	2,532.00	2,380.08
Bus from Government of St Elena	800.00	752.00
FENACOPEC WFF Host	500.00	470.00
Sub total of Income B	20,646.61	19,407.81
Total Income	81,886.61	76,892.61
EXPENDITURE		
Travel		
International flights for 30 delegates	45,543.51	42,810.90
Local travel and visa costs	2,003.00	1882.82
	47,546.51	44,693.72
Local Expenses for WFF General Assembly in Ecuador		
Accommodation for Delegates	8,223.00	7,730
Meals	11,738.56	11,034
Local coordination expenses	4,392.73	4,129
Rapporteur services	2,000.00	1,880
	26,354.29	24,773.03
Translation of documents	1,381.60	1298.70
Interpreters and equipment	6,504.61	6114.3334

	7,886.21	7,413.03
Other expenses		
Table, chairs, hall, audio	2,532.00	2380.08
Stationery supplies	2,200.00	2068
Gifts to delegates	1,800.00	1692
	6,532.00	6,140.08
Total Expenditures	88,319.01	83,019.87
INKIND CONTRIBUTION from Ecuador		
press and video documentation		
Bus, Table & Chairs for Inauguration Ceremony from Army of Ecuador		

Declaration



DECLARATORIA DE LA 5TA ASAMBLEA GENERAL DEL FORO MUNDIAL DE PESCADORES Y TRABAJADORES DE LA PESCA "WFF"

El 28 de enero del 2017, en la ciudad de Salinas, provincia de Santa Elena, Ecuador, la Asamblea General del Foro Mundial de Pescadores y trabajadores de la pesca, hacen la siguiente declaración a los gobiernos y organizaciones internacionales:

Los pescadores y trabajadores de la pesca en pequeña escala juegan un papel importante en la soberanía alimentaria y nutrición de los pueblos, generando producción de recursos hidrobiológicos, empleo, divisas, por lo que es importante que los gobiernos apliquen políticas públicas en beneficio de la pesca en pequeña escala, dentro de los ámbitos de la infraestructura social, económica y política.

Los pescadores en pequeña escala expresan su necesidad de conocer los efectos de los cambios climáticos para buscar y aplicar medidas de mitigación que disminuyan el impacto negativo sobre las poblaciones costeras.

Proponemos a las Naciones Unidas, FAO, gobiernos a nivel global y ONG'S cumplan y respeten las directrices voluntarias para lograr la sostenibilidad de la pesca en pequeña escala, visibilizando al sector y garantizando el desarrollo eco sistémico de los pueblos pesqueros.





Mauricio A. Chiribay

Malakoto



















Annexes







