Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean
Commission générale des pêches pour la Méditerranée

Scientific Advisory Committee on Fisheries (SAC)

Subregional Committees for the Eastern (SRC-EM) and Central Mediterranean (SRC-CM) Joint session on deep water red shrimp fisheries in the eastern-central Mediterranean Sea: analysis of survey data

FAO HQ, Rome, 20 March 2019

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Wednesday 20 March 2019

Morning Session, 9:00-13:00
Afternoon Session, 14:30-17:30

1. Opening and arrangements of the meeting

The GFCM Secretariat will very briefly introduce the objective of the meeting, aimed at initiating an in-depth analysis of all available fishery-independent data available for Aristaeomorpha foliacea *and* Aristeus antennatus *in GSAs 12-16 and 18-27, on a haul-by-haul basis, with the aim of identifying possible sources of bias through:*

i. *an analysis of the spatial patterns in indices, length structure and maturity*
ii. *an analysis of the temporal trends in indices, length structure and maturity*
iii. *a possible attempt to standardize of indices when and if needed*

The work will be carried out with the assistance of staff from COISPA (Bari, Italy) who will contribute with a demonstration dataset and several R scripts constructed ad-hoc for this session. In order to reach the objectives, ***participants are expected to undertake preparatory work as described in the appendix to this agenda****.*

2. Practical session

Most of the one-day session will comprise hands-on data analysis with the assistance of staff from COISPA (Bari, Italy). The session will start with participants running the checked demo data (section 4) through R-scripts to perform:

i. *an analysis of the spatial patterns in indices, length structure and maturity*
ii. *an analysis of the temporal trends in indices, length structure and maturity*
iii. *a standardization of survey indices*

The practical session will then continue with participants running their own data through these scripts, providing them with the necessary tools to continue the analysis at home towards fulfilling the work plan agreed during the November 2018 session.

3. Presentation of the results and future work

The preliminary results obtained during the session will be briefly presented to the group and, based upon them, a work plan will be devised for the completion of the analyses in the short-term.

Appendix

Preparatory work required in advance of the meeting

1. Compilation of relevant fishery-independent data on deep water red shrimps

In order to be able to perform this kind of analyses, all haul-by-haul data available will be required in advance of the meeting – the GFCM secretariat will contact experts to ensure the availability of this data in advance of the meeting. In the case of MEDITS surveys this will entail the Ta, Tb and Tc files, while for other data, all available information by haul will be needed.

2. Preparatory analysis to be done before the meeting

2.1 Data structure

In order to obtain the most from the meeting, the available fishery-independent data should be, ideally, arranged in a common format so that general R scripts can be readily used for the analyses. All participants will be provided with a demonstration data set to guide the restructuring of their own data. It is expected that the data used during the one-day session will be in the restructured format.

2.2 Data quality checks

An R script whose aim will be to ensure the final data set to be used is free of obvious errors that may impede subsequent analyses will be provided to all participants. The demonstration dataset mentioned in section 4.1 will contain a number of known errors and the data-checking R script will be accompanied by a user's manual. In this way, each participant will be able to trial the data-checking R scripts on the demo data before running it on their own data. It is expected that each participant arrive to the one-day session having at least tried to run their data through the data-checking script