



The GFCM amendment process

GFCM Secretariat



GFCM – Task Force

- ❖ 2009-2011: performance review in accordance with UN/FAO
- ❖ 2011-2012:
 - ❖ Launching of Task Force consultations with SAC-CAQ experts, GFCM Members, non Members and stakeholders/civil society, including at sub-regional level
 - ❖ Elaboration of a set of a revised GFCM Agreement and associated rules through independent experts

Task Force WG on Amendment

- ❖ As of June 2013 the GFCM Secretariat contacted several GFCM Members to explore available options in order to support the organization of the Working Group on the amendment process
- ❖ 35 experts from GFCM Members, observers, the FAO Legal Office and the GFCM attended the Working Group from 19-21 February
- ❖ All available information examined by the Task Force since 2011 was compiled by the GFCM Secretariat and brought to the attention of the working group

GFCM Extraordinary Session

- ❖ Held in Athens from 7 to 9 April 2014
- ❖ A revised draft GFCM Agreement was finalized and it was recommended to translate it into French and Arabic and circulate it in view of the 38th GFCM Session
- ❖ As a few issues remained pending, it was decided to resume the Extraordinary Session for one day on 17 May 2014 at the FAO HQs
- ❖ The resumed Extraordinary Session will finalize the GFCM amended Agreement and decision on its adoption will be taken by GFCM at its 38th Session on 20th of May, at the FAO HQs

New features of the GFCM Agreement

- ❖ Broader objectives and additional functions (Arts. 5 and 8)
- ❖ A focus on the various GFCM sub-regions, including the Black Sea (Arts. 8 and 9)
- ❖ Better compliance vis-à-vis Members and non Members (Arts. 14 and 18)
- ❖ Recognition of the special conditions of developing countries (Art. 17)
- ❖ More transparency and openness (ad hoc provisions on observers and cooperation with other organizations)
- ❖ Strong links with the FAO framework

GENERAL FISHERIES COMMISSION FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN



Thank you for the attention!