

Workshop pre-announcement

REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON QUALITY ASSURANCE, ECO-LABELING AND CERTIFICATION

24 – 26 November 2009, Swakopmund, Namibia

INFOSA (INFOPECHE unit in the SADC region), is the Intergovernmental Organization for Marketing Information and Technical Advisory Services in the SADC region, plans to hold the above mentioned Regional Workshop in Namibia (24 – 26 of November 2009).

Seafood exports from the SADC region to international markets was valued at over US\$1,3 billion in 2007. In the same context, Africa's share of fish export value doubled during the last decade.

The increasing demand for fish and fishery products, coupled with technological developments in fish handling (primary production), preservation, added value, eco-labeling and the increasing awareness and demand of consumers for safe and high quality fish have led many countries to undertake a comprehensive evaluation and re-organization of their fish inspection and control systems in order to improve efficiency, rationalize the use of human resources and harmonize approaches.

Certification, eco-labeling, good manufacture and hygiene practices for seafood (both capture fisheries and aquaculture) has gathered momentum and the various issues need to be understood by stakeholders to enhance trade. Furthermore, The coming into force of the new IUU Fish Certification regulation in January 2010 also calls for a proper understanding of the mechanism underlying the regulation.

In this context, INFOSA is organizing a three days workshop in fish quality assurance, eco-labeling and IUU certification to enhance trade at domestic, regional and internationally.

This three day workshop will aim at discussing these and other related issues for the improvement of the industry. Collaboration to hold the workshop will be sought from the Ministry of Fisheries Marine Resources in Namibia (MFMR) and the Namibia Standards Institute (NSI), FAO, WWF, UNIDO, USAID, SABS, NTF, MCS, EU, ICEIDA, NORAD, DFID, GTZ, NFDS, UNAM and other interested organizations.

This workshop is open to all stakeholders along the seafood chain, (processors, traders and consumers of seafood, farmers, fishermen, transport operators, distributors, certification bodies, NGOs, other related stakeholders (nationally, regionally and internationally) as well as governments officials who have the responsibility of facilitating trade and creating enabling policies and regulatory frameworks at national levels.

A tentative program is enclosed.

For more information and clarification, please contact:

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Proposed Programme

24 – 26 November 2009
Swakopmund, Namibia

MONDAY, 23 NOVEMBER 2009		
17.30 - 18.00	Registration open	
18.00 - 19.30	Welcome reception	
TUESDAY, 24 NOVEMBER 2009		
08.30 - 08.40	Opening Remarks
08.40 - 08.50	Welcoming address
08.50 - 09.10	Ministers address & Opening of workshop	Hon. Minister/ Director of NSI,
09.10 - 09.40	Overview of world trade & Safety in Seafood	(L. Ababouch, FAO)
09.40 - 10.00	TEA BREAK	
SESSION 1: SEAFOOD CERTIFICATION FOR SUSTAINABILITY		
Chair: NTF		
10.00 - 10.45	Seafood safety certification and quality certification: two sides of the same coin	(Emberley, Canada.....)
10.45 – 11.30	The consumer's perspectives: quality and safety aspects for fish trade	(EUROFISH, ...)
11.30 – 12.00	Discussion and conclusion	
12.00 – 13.00	LUNCH	
13.00 - 19.00	Field visit: 13.30 - 14.30: Fish industry (Walvis Bay) 14.30 – 16.00: Oyster farm (Salt mine) 16.00 – 18.00: Seal Community (Henties Bay)	

WENESDAY , 25 November 2009
SESSION 2: SADC - How do we do it – practical approaches to achieving Food Safety certification
Chair: SABS

08.30 – 09.00	SABS requirements for food safety and certification	(SABS
09.00 – 09.30	Integrity in Seafood markets	(Allan Reilly/ Peter Marshals (Ireland)
09.30 – 10.00	Industry driven initiatives: Sellers-Expectations and opportunities	(NTF or Fish Industry,
10.00 – 10.30	Discussion and conclusion	
10.30 – 11.00	TEA BREAK	

SESSION 3: Harmonization and Equivalence recognition - myth or reality for SADC region
Chair: FAO

11.00 - 11.45	Implications of the SPS and TBT Agreements (WTO)	(L.Ababouch, FAO)
11.45 – 12.30	Case study: Eco-labeling and certification - implications in seafood trade	(Allan Reilly,
12.30 – 12.45	Canada experience in Certification, traceability and eligibility – constraints and challenges	(Emberley,)
12.45 – 13.00	Iceland experience in Certification, traceability and eligibility – constraints and challenges	(ICEIDA,)
13.00 – 13.30	Discussion and conclusion	
13.30 – 14.30	LUNCH	
14.30 – 17.30	Round table: do eco-labels have an impact on the operators and public institutions along the value chain	Chair: SABS Panels: NSI, MFMR, NTF or Fish Industry, NFDS, MCS, Ababouch, Allan Reilly, WWF, UNIDO

THURSDAY, 26 November 2009
SESSION 4: Some “tools” for certification
Chair: MCS

08.00 – 08.30	Code of Conduct and FAO guidelines for trade	(Emerson, FAO)
08.30 – 09.00	IUU Fishing - implication for trade	(Sandy Davies, NFDS Africa)
09.00 – 09.40	New IUU Fishing Certification – its implication for SADC Countries	(Sandy Davies, NFDS Africa or EU)
09.40 – 10.00	Traceability in the small scale communities	(Luisa Arthur, INFOFA)
10.00 – 10.30	Discussion and conclusion	

10.30 – 11.00	TEA BREAK	
SESSION 5: Aquaculture certification as voluntary tools – education and good code of practices Chair: MFMR		
11.00 – 11.20	Over view of the process of Aquaculture certification	(FDA, Brett Koonze,)
11.20 – 11.40	Aquaculture certification: WWF experience regarding impacts, standards and certification	(WWF, ...)
11.20 – 11.40	Spanish experience in Namibia	(Spain Cooperation,....)
SESSION 6: Certification and safety quality – for promoting the reputation of SADC seafood products Chair: NSI		
12.00 – 12.30	FDA perspective on seafood safety and certification	(FDA, Brett Koonze,)
12.30 – 13.00	Disciplining fisheries subsidies at the WTO: trade and sustainability issues	(Emmerson, ..)
13.00 – 13.30	From local production to global trade - how small scale fishers can access markets	(UNIDO, NGO,)
13.30 – 14.30	LUNCH	
14.30 – 16.00	Work Groups: (1) Sanitary requirements and sustainable certification program (2) Government to adopt – procurement and regulatory framework	Chair: NSI 4 Work Groups – Drivers: Emerson, Emberley, Brett and Sandy
16.00 – 17.00	Presentation from each group and discussion	
17.00 – 17.10	Workshop evaluation	
17.10 – 17.30	Concluding remarks and closing of the workshop	