



LAKE VICTORIA FISHERIES ORGANIZATION

LVFO REGIONAL PLAN OF ACTION TO PREVENT, DETER AND ELIMINATE ILLEGAL, UNREPORTED AND UNREGULATED (IUU) FISHING ON LAKE VICTORIA AND ITS BASIN

May 2004

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The Parties to this Regional Plan of Action (RPOA) to *Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing on Lake Victoria* are: the Governments of the Republic of Kenya, the United Republic of Tanzania and the Republic of Uganda, hereinafter referred to as the Partner States and the “Contracting Parties” of the Lake Victoria Fisheries Organization (LVFO). The Plan was adopted by the Council of Ministers of Lake Victoria Fisheries Organization on 27th of May 2004 at Bagamoyo, Tanzania.

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**LAKE VICTORIA FISHERIES ORGANIZATION (LVFO) PLAN OF ACTION
TO PREVENT, DETER AND ELIMINATE ILLEGAL, UNREPORTED AND
UNREGULATED (IUU) FISHING ON LAKE VICTORIA AND ITS BASIN**

PREAMBLE

The Parties to this International Plan of Action (IPOA) to *Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and unregulated (IUU) Fishing on Lake Victoria* are: the Governments of the Republic of Kenya, the United Republic of Tanzania and the Republic of Uganda, hereinafter referred to as the Partner States and the “Contracting Parties” of the Lake Victoria Fisheries Organization (LVFO)

Recognizing the efforts already made by the Partner States of Lake Victoria to strengthen regional cooperation in the spirit of the East African Community Treaty signed in Arusha on 30 November 1999;

Recognizing and acknowledging that the Governments of the three Partner States sharing Lake Victoria signed a Convention on 30 June 1994 in Kisumu, Kenya, and established the Lake Victoria Fisheries Organization to cooperate in the management of Lake Victoria resources;

Concurring that the three Partner States of Lake Victoria have a shared heritage and common interests in the health of the Lake and must ensure proper management and sustainability of its living resources for the benefit of present and future generations;

Acknowledging that the Partner States of Lake Victoria subscribe to the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (CCRF) and its associated technical guidelines;

Recalling that the Declaration of Cancun adopted by the International Conference on Responsible Fishing also calls on States to take action in this respect;

Conscious of the duties of every Partner State to exercise effectively its jurisdiction and control over vessels flying its flags including fishing vessels and vessels engaged in the trans-shipment of fish around Lake Victoria;

Recognizing that the quantity; quality and value of fish from Lake Victoria have increased substantially during the past decades, and that there is a need to ensure the sustainability of the yields;

Acknowledging further that the introduced fish species, namely the Nile perch (*Lates niloticus*) and the Nile Tilapia (*Oreochromis niloticus*) dominate commercial catches and the cyprinid ‘Omena/Dagaa/Mukene’ (*Rastrineobola argentea*) has become also prominent in the catches while some other indigenous fish species have substantially declined, affecting the biodiversity of the Lake;

Recognizing that adverse actions, taken in any portion of Lake Victoria within the territorial limits of any one of the Contracting Parties, impact on other portions of Lake Victoria lying within the territorial limits of the other Contracting Parties;

Aware of the necessity for harmonization of fisheries policies and management decisions and fisheries legislation around the Lake;

Reaffirming the dangers of over-fishing; the use of illegal fishing methods and practices and of other environmental threats on the ecosystem of the Lake;

Recognizing also the need for accurate data and information to increase scientific understanding of Lake Victoria, its living resources, its ecosystem, and the impacts of climate, natural phenomena and human activities on those resources;

Aware of the decisions and management measures made and adopted by the Council of Ministers, and thereafter, the implementation by the Partner States to sustainably manage the exploitation of the resource.

Acknowledging the efforts of the LVFO, national institutions and individuals of each of the three Partner States with additional support from development partners in addressing issues within the Lake and those imposed on the Lake;

Convinced that joint action by the Partner States is essential, in order to develop uniform management measures to the extent appropriate, to be implemented with national laws and regulations, as well as to develop adequate scientific basis for such measures;

Committed to continued cooperation with respect to the sustainable utilization of Lake Victoria and its living resources in particular;

Desirous to eliminate Illegal, Unregulated and Unreported fishing to ensure sustainable exploitation and utilization of the resources of the Lake;

Noting that this Regional Plan of Action (RPOA) to prevent deter and eliminate Illegal Unregulated and Unreported fishing will form an integral part of the International Code of Conduct for Responsible Fishing called for in the Declaration of Cancun;

Desiring to conclude the LVFO RPOA-IUU within the framework of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations hereinafter referred to as FAO under Article XIV of the FAO Constitution;

Aware that the Partner States of Lake Victoria, as the Contracting Parties to the LVFO Convention, have agreed to cooperate in development, coordination and implementation of a harmonized, unified and effective *LVFO Regional Plan of Action* to prevent deter and eliminate IUU fishing on Lake Victoria and its basin for all fish species as prescribed in the Convention.

Now, therefore, the Partner States agree as follows:

Definitions

"Partner States" means the three East African countries, sharing Lake Victoria, namely, the Republic of Kenya, the United Republic of Tanzania and the Republic of Uganda.

"Contracting Parties" means the Governments of the Republic of Kenya, the United Republic of Tanzania and the Republic of Uganda.

“**States**” includes the East African Community Countries with regard to fisheries matters within their competence;

“**Regional**” includes sub-regional, as appropriate;

“**Conservation and Management Measures**” means measures to conserve one or more fisheries species that are adopted and applied in consistence with the relevant rules of international law;

“**Code of Conduct**” refers to the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries

"**LVFO**" means Lake Victoria Fisheries Organization

"**Convention**" means the instrument, which the Governments of the Republic of Kenya, the United Republic of Tanzania and the Republic of Uganda signed on 30th June 1994 in Kisumu, Kenya to cooperate on the management of Lake Victoria resources.

"**LVFO RPOA IUU**" refers to LVFO *Regional Plan of Action to prevent, deter and eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated fishing on Lake Victoria and its basin*

Nature and Scope of IUU Fishing and the Regional Plan of Action for Lake Victoria

In this document:

Illegal fishing refers to activities:

- a) Conducted by national or foreign fishing vessels in waters under the jurisdiction of a State, without the permission of that State, or in contravention of its laws and regulations;
- b) Conducted by vessels flying flags of States that are parties to a relevant regional fisheries management organization but operate in contravention of the conservation and management measures adopted by that organization and by which the States are bound, or relevant provisions of the applicable international law; or
- c) Conducted in violation of national laws or international obligations;

Unreported fishing refers to fishing activities:

- a) Which will have not been reported, or have been misreported, to the relevant national authority, in contravention of national laws and regulations; or
- b) Which have not been reported, or have been misreported, to the relevant national authority, in contravention of national laws and regulations; or

- c) Undertaken in the area of Competence of a relevant regional fisheries management organization (the LVFO), which have not been reported or have been misreported, in contravention of the reporting procedures of LVFO.

Unregulated fishing refers to fishing activities:

- a) In the area of application of the Lake Victoria Fisheries Organization that are conducted by vessels without nationality, or by those flying the flag of a State not party to that organization, or by a fishing entity, in a manner that is not consistent with or contravenes the conservation and management measures of LVFO.
- b) In areas or for fish stocks in relation to which there are no applicable conservation or management measures and where such fishing activities are conducted in a manner inconsistent with the State responsibilities for the conservation of living resources of Lake Victoria under International Law.

Notwithstanding the reference to above section on unregulated fishing on paragraph (b), certain unregulated fishing may take place in a manner, which is not in violation of applicable international law, and may not require the application of measures envisaged under the LVFO RPOA IUU.

The FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, in particular, Articles 1.1, 1.2 and 3.1 applies to the interpretation and application of the RPOA and its relationship with other international instruments. The RPOA is also directed, as appropriate, towards fishing entities as referred to in the Code of Conduct. **This RPOA responds to fisheries specific issues and nothing in it prejudices the positions of the Contracting Parties of LVFO.**

This document is further commitment by the three Riparian States of Lake Victoria to implement the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries.

1. OBJECTIVE

The main objective of the *LVFO Regional Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate (IUU) Fishing (RPOA-IUU)* is to: to develop and implement coordinated, harmonized, unified and effective management measures to prevent, deter and eliminate IUU fishing on Lake Victoria and its basin, and on all fish species to which the LVFO Convention applies, and to collaborate with other international organizations towards achieving this.

2. GENERAL PRINCIPLES

The **RPOA-IUU** is guided by the principles set out in, and pursues the strategies associated with, the *2001* FAO International Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and

Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing (**FAO IPOA-IUU**) and the 2002 FAO Technical Guidelines for the Implementation of the International Plan of Action to Deter, Prevent and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing.

2.1 Participation and Coordination

Implementation of the **RPOA-IUU** is based on:

- (i) Coordination and monitoring the implementation by the LVFO;
- (ii) Individual action by Contracting Parties of the LVFO, both on their own initiative, or collectively, as a consequence of Management Measures agreed upon in accordance with Article II, VIII, IX decision of the Convention of the Organization.
- (iii) Directives given by the Council of Ministers.
- (iv) Participation and cooperation of resource users individually or collectively under grassroots fisheries management institutions

The RPOA-IUU is implemented collectively by all LVFO Contracting Parties directly, through the Organization and/or in collaboration with other Stakeholders. Close collaboration is promoted with FAO, other relevant Regional and International Organisations. The successful implementation of the RPOA-IUU relies on consultation as well as on close and effective coordination.

2.2 Implementation

The Partner States under the coordination of the LVFO Secretariat shall continue to develop and implement necessary measures to prevent, deter and eliminate **IUU** fishing in an urgent and progressive approach, covering national and regional concerns.

2.3 Integrated Approach

The LVFO management actions are aimed at preventing, deterring and eliminating IUU fishing, and to address factors affecting all capture fisheries and aquaculture within Lake Victoria basin. LVFO and Partner States shall implement market related measures and provisions to ensure that nationals do not support nor engage in IUU fishing.

2.4 Policy Measures

The Partner States shall promote the creation of public awareness of the need for protection and management of resources and participation in the management process by those stakeholders affected. This will result in prevention, deterring, and elimination of IUU.

The Partner States shall address the risk and uncertainties of fish production and adopt a precautionary approach in setting policies for the management of fisheries of the Lake Victoria Basin.

LVFO shall take precautionary principle measures to ensure that actions taken by any member states do not jeopardize integrated management of the Lake.

The Partner States shall promote the establishment of systems to monitor the fisheries and enforcement of Lake Victoria as part of the management process using social economic, physical, chemical and biological criteria.

The Partner States shall promote Co-management to involve all stakeholders in management effort.

The Partner States shall promote multidisciplinary research in support of management of Lake Victoria basin with respect to biological, social, economic, legal, political, environmental administrative and technical and criteria.

The Partner States in collaboration with LVFO shall strive to ensure Lake Victoria ecosystem is certified as a sustainably managed fishery.

The Partner States shall encourage and strengthen capacity building in order to cope with the problem of IUU around the lake.

2.5 Regional Cooperation

The Partner States shall cooperate to facilitate sustainable utilization of the resources in Lake Victoria and its basin and conservation of biodiversity.

2.6 Conservation

LVFO management measures and actions to prevent, deter and eliminate IUU are consistent with the principles of the Convention Article II, VIII and IX; and with the protection of the environment. LVFO shall support programmes aimed at conserving indigenous lake and riverine species and promoting appropriate aquaculture of species in the lake basin.

2.7 Transparency and Good Governance

The IPOA-IUU shall be coordinated by the LVFO Secretariat and implemented by the Partner States in a manner consistent with the Convention and aims for mutual trust and transparency as stipulated in Article 6.13 of the *FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries*.

2.8 Review

The action taken within this RPOA-IUU shall be reviewed in two years time (May 2006) and the RPOA revised if necessary.

3. LVFO MANAGEMENT MEASURES TO PREVENT DETER AND ELIMINATE IUU FISHING

3.1 Background

Contracting Parties of the LVFO are signatories and subscribe to a number of international and regional conventions, agreements and treaties. The regional agreements relevant to the fisheries of Lake Victoria include: Global Environmental Facility, Technical Co-operation for the Promotion of the Development and Environmental Protection of the Nile Basin (Tecconile); the Convention for the Establishment of Lake Victoria Fisheries Organization (LVFO), and the Treaty establishing the East African Community (EAC). The International conventions and agreements include: the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance, the Convention for International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) of Wild Fauna and Flora, the Convention of Conservation of Biological Diversity (CBD); the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (CCRF).

Among the international protocols, the CCRF provides major guidelines for development and management of fisheries in order to facilitate the combating of IUU.

3.2 Contracting Parties

- i. Contracting Parties of the LVFO Convention are urged to fully implement the *FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries* and its related International Plans of Action.
- ii. Articles II, VIII and IX, Convention urge the Contracting Parties to implement LVFO Management Measures in respect of regionally adopted measures consistent with those in waters under their national jurisdiction.
- iii. Contracting Parties are urged to develop national plans of action (NPOA) to prevent, deter and eliminate IUU fishing in Lake Victoria.
- iv. Contracting Parties are urged to undertake a thorough review of their existing laws, regulations and practices as these may relate to **IUU** fishing and to ensure compliance with LVFO Management Measures
- v. Contracting Parties are urged to make it a violation of their law for their nationals (i.e. 'juristic persons') to contravene the fishery conservation and management laws of any other State or to undermine the effectiveness of the LVFO Management Measures.
- vi. Contracting Parties are urged to ensure that their nationals are aware of the effects of **IUU** fishing and should discourage them from doing business with those engaged in **IUU** fishing.
- vii. Contracting Parties are urged to exchange in information on IUU fishing activities through the *International Network for the Cooperation and Coordination of Fisheries-Related Monitoring, Control and Surveillance*

Activities as a means to augmenting implementation of the RPOA on IUU and LVFO Management Measures in force.

3.3 Partner States of Lake Victoria

- i. Partner States shall require their fishing vessels, fish collection and fish transport vessels to be registered and licensed in order to operate in Lake Victoria.
- ii. Partner States shall not license a fisher who does not belong to Beach Management Unit (BMU).
- iii. Before a Partner State registers a fishing vessel, it should ensure that it has the financial means and capacity to control the fishing activities of the vessel.
- iv. Each Partner State should maintain a comprehensive record of fishing vessels entitled to fish in Lake Victoria.
- v. The capacity to conduct regular patrols shall be strengthened in protected areas agreed upon by the Partner State.
- vi. Each Partner State shall coordinate among its responsible government agencies the functions of registering fishing vessels and granting authorisations to fish in the respective national waters.
- vii. Where a vessel has been identified as having engaged in IUU fishing in the Lake Victoria, Partner States shall ensure that their registered vessels do not transship fish from that vessel, re-supply that vessel or assist it in other ways (except for humanitarian purposes such as in cases of distress).
- viii. Partner States shall ensure that their fishing, fish collection and transport vessels in Lake Victoria do not undermine LVFO conservation and management measures.
- ix. Fishing vessels engaged in cross border fishing and trade shall do so in accordance with LVFO resolutions and/or other decisions which affect such harvesting.
- x. Partner States shall submit data to LVFO Secretariat as required from their vessels authorized to fish on Lake Victoria and update these submissions regularly.
- xi. The policy on fishing vessels shall be kept under constant review

3.4 Internationally Agreed Market-Related Measures

- i. Contracting Parties shall develop internationally agreed, market-related measures to prevent, deter and eliminate IUU fishing in Lake Victoria and its basin. Such measures shall be interpreted and applied in accordance with the

principles, rights and obligations established by the World Trade Organization (WTO), in a fair, transparent and non-discriminatory manner.

- ii. Partner States shall take steps to improve the transparency of their markets to allow the traceability of fish or fish products from catches in their territorial waters.
- iii. Partner States shall disseminate information on **IUU** fishing to individuals and companies in their territories whose activities are related to fishing and encourage them not to do business with others who are engaged in, or supporting, IUU fishing in Lake Victoria.
- iv. Partner States shall enact legislation that makes it a violation to conduct such business or to trade in fish or fish products derived from **IUU** fishing in Lake Victoria

3.5 Special Capacity Needs of Contracting States

- i. Partner States shall cooperate to support training and capacity building, and consider providing financial, technical and other assistance in the Lake Victoria region
- ii. Partner States, with the support of the LVFO and relevant international and financial mechanisms and where appropriate, shall cooperate to facilitate:
 - (a) review and revision of national Fisheries Policy and Legislation and Regional Regulatory Frameworks;
 - (b) improvement and harmonization of fisheries information and related data collection;
 - (c) collection of scientific information and monitoring of available data;
 - (d) strengthening of regional institutions; and
 - (e) strengthening and enhancing integrated MCS systems, including vessel-monitoring system (VMS).
 - (f) Promoting Community participation in Fisheries Management.

3.6 Implementation of the LVFO RPOA-IUU

- i. The LVFO Secretariat shall coordinate activities of the Contracting States to the **RPOA-IUU** to prevent deter, and eliminate IUU fishing.
- ii. The LVFO Secretariat, under the direction of the Council of Ministers, shall serve as a hub for improved collection, archiving and dissemination of information on fishing vessels engaged in **IUU** fishing on Lake Victoria.

- iii. The LVFO with the support Secretariat shall coordinate:
 - a) Collection and dissemination of information relating to IUU fishing on Lake Victoria;
 - b) Adoption of catches certification and trade documentation schemes and other market-related measures to combat IUU fishing on the Lake Victoria;
 - c) Joint monitoring, control and surveillance activities on the Lake.
- iv. Contracting States shall ensure that the LVFO Secretariat has the human and financial resources necessary to carry out its functions including the coordination of **RPOA-IUU**.
- v. The Contracting Parties shall impose sufficient and consistent penalties on **IUU** fishers.
- vi. The LVFO shall coordinate Partner States and relevant intergovernmental Organizations (IGOs) and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and financial institutions to promote effective integrated management of Lake Victoria resources and also to prevent, deter, and eliminate **IUU** fishing.

3.7 Implementation of Agreed Management Measures

The Partner States shall implement the following agreed and adopted management measures to facilitate the **RPOA-IUU** for Lake Victoria.

- i. Implement the FAO International Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, (CCRF) and the accompanying Technical Guidelines.
- ii. Enhance collection of statistics and socio-economics data
- iii. Continue studies on *Lates niloticus* (Nile perch), *Oreochromis* species. (Tilapias) and *Rastrineobola argentea* ('Omena/Dagaa/mukene')
- iv. Not to fish with gillnets of mesh size less than 127 mm (5 inch)
- v. Implement the Nile perch slot size of 50 – 85 cm
- vi. Not to land Tilapia of less than 25 cm
- vii. Not to use beach seines on the lake
- viii. Not to use trawls to fish for all fish species
- ix. Not to use traps and weirs across rivers and river mouths
- x. Not to fish with cast nets
- xi. Not to use tycoon method of forcing fish in the nets by splashing water
- xii. Not to fish with chemicals and herbicides on the Lake
- xiii. Not to use dynamites and other explosives

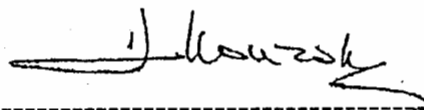
- xiv. Implement closed areas restrictions
- xv. Implement closed season restrictions
- xvi. Develop joint licensing mechanisms
- xvii. Not to introduce alien species of both plants and fish without consent of the other Contracting States of LVFO
- xviii. Protect the environment and critical fish habitats
- xix. Ensure fish quality assurance and promote international fish trade
- xx. Strengthen collaboration between policy makers, researchers, fishers and other stakeholders
- xxi. Encourage and promote fisheries associations, cooperatives and credit schemes
- xxii. Be committed and to assure budgetary provision fisheries management, development and research
- xxiii. Provide financial resources for Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS) for preventing deterring and elimination of IUU.

LVFO REGIONAL PLAN OF ACTION (RPOA) TO PREVENT, DETER AND ELIMINATE ILLEGAL, UNREPORTED AND UNREGULATED (IUU) FISHING ON LAKE VICTORIA AND ITS BASIN

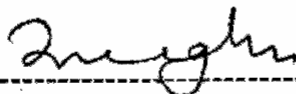
The Regional Plan of Action (RPOA) to *Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing* on Lake Victoria and its basin was adopted by the LVFO Council of Ministers on 27th May 2004 as the LVFORPOA-IUU for Lake Victoria.

This plan will be incorporated in the FAO RPOA-IUU and henceforth appropriately be implemented by the EAC Partner States sharing Lake Victoria, whose authorized representatives have duly signed this Plan.

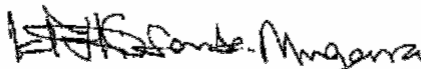
Done in Bagamoyo, Tanzania, on the Twenty Seventh Day of May in the Year of Two Thousand and Four.



Hon. Joseph Konzollo Munyao, MP,
Minister, Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries
For the Republic of Kenya



Hon. Zakia H. Meghji, MP
Minister, Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism
For the United Republic of Tanzania



Hon. Dr. Wilberforce Kisamba-Mugerwa, MP
Minister, Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries
For the Republic of Uganda

MANAGEMENT MEASURES FOR LAKE VICTORIA FOR IMPLEMENTATION BY COUNTRIES
AND FOR REGIONAL HARMONIZATION AND COORDINATION BY LVFO

Annex 1

No.	MANAGEMENT MEASURES	KENYA'S POSITION	TANZANIA'S POSITION	UGANDA'S POSITION	REMARK
1.	Implementing the FAO International Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (CCRF) and the accompanying Technical Guidelines	Strengthening the Implementation of the CCRF and the Technical guidelines	Strengthening the Implementation of the CCRF and the Technical guidelines	Strengthening the Implementation of the CCRF and the Technical guidelines	Continuing
2.	Statistics and socio-economic data collection	Strengthened/harmonized	Strengthened/harmonized	Strengthened/harmonized	Continuing
3.	Studies on <i>Late/Tilapia/Dagaa</i>	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	Continuing
4.	Gillnet mesh size limits: Nile Perch <i>Oreochromis</i> <i>Dagaa/Rastrineobola</i> <i>Bagrus/Clarias/Protopterus</i>	127 mm (5") 127 mm (5") 10 mm To be determined	127 mm (5") To be determined 10 mm To be determined	127 mm (5") 127 mm (5") Not specified 127 mm (5")	Enforce
5.	Nile perch slot size (50-85 cm)	Legislation considered but implementing the Council of Ministers decision	Legislation considered but implementing the Council of Ministers decision	Legislation for minimum slot size (50 cm) exists and implements the enforcement of the minimum slot size.	Legislation for slot size urged
6.	Minimum size of "Tilapia" to be landed	Not less than 25 cm	Minimum 25 cm for Tilapia (<i>Oreochromis niloticus</i>)	Minimum 25 cm for Tilapia (<i>Oreochromis niloticus</i>)	Urged to implement and enforce
7.	Seine netting for Dagaa	Banned	Banned	Banned	Enforce
8.	Beach seines	Banned	Banned	Banned	Enforce
9.	Trawling	Banned	Banned	Banned	Enforce
10.	Hook sizes for <i>Late</i> (Nile Perch)	Not specified	8 -11	Minimum size 9	Harmonize
11.	Traps and weirs across rivers/river mouth	Banned	Banned	Banned	Enforce
12.	Use of cast nets	Banned	Banned	Banned (SI No. 73 of 2002) exists	Enforce
13.	Purse seining	No legislation	No legislation	Banned (SI No. 73 of 2002) exists	Harmonize & Enforce

14.	“Tycoon” and “forcing fish in the net by beating water”	Banned	Banned	Banned	Enforce
15.	Use of lift nets for <i>Rastrineobola</i>	Not yet considered	Not yet considered	Recommended prohibition	Research
16.	Fishing with chemicals and herbicides	Banned	Banned	Banned	Enforce
17.	Use of dynamites and explosives	Banned	Banned	Banned	Enforce
18.	Fishing areas and seasons Restriction: Closed areas Restrictions Closed seasons (anadromous)	Breeding areas gazetted 1 April – 31 July	24 close areas gazetted Exists 1 st Jan – 30 th June	The law exists: Identified, not demarcated, not gazetted Not identified, not gazetted	Harmonize and Enforce
19.	Joint licensing and surveillance mechanism	No legal provision yet	No legal provision yet	No legal provision yet	Legislation urged
20.	Introduction of alien species	Not allowed without consent of other Contracting States	Not allowed without consent of other Contracting States	Not allowed without consent of other Contracting States	Adopt the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries and International Aquaculture Guidelines on Alien Species.
21.	Stock enhancement	Encouraged	Encouraged	Encouraged	Research in progress
22.	Protection of Environment and Critical Fish habitat	Provided for in the law	Provided for in the law	Provided for in the law	Enforce
23.	Fish Quality Assurance and International Fish trade	Fish quality standards and guidelines exist	Regulations exist	Statutory Instruments (SI No.56/98) exist	Harmonize, implement and enforce
24.	Collaboration between policy makers, researchers and fishers	Strengthened and promoting co-management	Strengthened and promoting co-management	Strengthened and promoting co-management	Continuing
25.	Fisheries Cooperatives and Credit schemes	Encouraged and promoted	Encouraged and promoted	Encouraged and promoted	Strengthen Promotion
26.	Control on exotic genetically modified species introduction	Recommended	Recommended	Recommended	Enforce
27.	Budgetary Provisions for fisheries Research, development and management	Through National Budgetary provisions plus Levy	Through National Budgetary provisions, and Levy (Retention Scheme exist)	Through National Budgetary provisions but no Levy and retention.	Increase Budgetary contribution