ISSN 2070-6987

Report of the

EXPERT CONSULTATION TO DEVELOP AN FAO EVALUATION FRAMEWORK TO ASSESS THE CONFORMITY OF PUBLIC AND PRIVATE ECOLABELLING SCHEMES WITH THE FAO GUIDELINES FOR THE ECOLABELLING OF FISH AND FISHERY PRODUCTS FROM MARINE CAPTURE FISHERIES

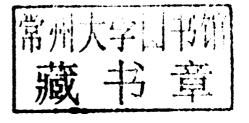
Rome, 24-26 November 2010



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ISBN 978-92-5-106762-8

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PREPARATION OF THIS DOCUMENT

This is the report of the Expert Consultation, held in Rome, from 24 to 26 November 2010, convened by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) in response to the proposal by the Twelfth Session of the Sub-Committee on Fish Trade of the Committee on Fisheries (COFI:FT) that the FAO Secretariat should develop an evaluation framework to assess the conformity of public and private ecolabelling schemes with the FAO Guidelines for the Ecolabelling of Fish and Fishery Products from Marine Capture Fisheries. The Twenty-eighth Session FAO Committee on Fisheries (COFI) in 2009 had requested COFI:FT to consider an approach to assess the conformity of ecolabelling schemes with the FAO Guidelines suggested by the FAO Secretariat.

FAO.

Report of the Expert Consultation to Develop an FAO Evaluation Framework to Assess the Conformity of Public and Private Ecolabelling Schemes with the FAO Guidelines for the Ecolabelling of Fish and Fishery Products from Marine Capture Fisheries. Rome, 24–26 November 2010. *FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Report.* No. 958. Rome, FAO. 2011. 51p.

ABSTRACT

The FAO Guidelines for the Ecolabelling of Fish and Fishery Products from Marine Capture Fisheries, originally adopted by the Committee on Fisheries (COFI) in 2005, were adopted in revised form by the Twenty-eighth Session of COFI in 2009. Following two Expert Consultations held in 2006 and 2008, a third Expert Consultation convened in May 2010 completed the draft Guidelines for the ecolabelling of fish and fishery products from inland capture fisheries for consideration by COFI in January–February 2011.

Following discussion in both COFI and the Sub-Committee on Fish Trade of the Committee on Fisheries (COFI:FT) relating to checking claims of compliance of ecolabelling schemes with the FAO Guidelines on ecolabelling of fish and fishery products, the Twenty-eighth Session of COFI requested the Secretariat to present a proposal to address this issue to COFI:FT. The Secretariat prepared and presented a document outlining various options for assessing the conformity of ecolabelling schemes with the FAO Guidelines to the Twelfth Session of COFI:FT. The Twelfth Session of COFI:FT agreed that, as a first step, the FAO Secretariat should convene an Expert Consultation to develop an FAO evaluation framework to assess the conformity of public and private ecolabelling schemes with the FAO Guidelines for the ecolabelling of fish and fishery products from marine capture fisheries. The Expert Consultation was convened in response to this decision.

COFI:FT also noted that it would be beneficial to develop a similar evaluation framework to assess the conformity of ecolabelling schemes with the FAO Guidelines for the Ecolabelling of Fish and Fishery Products from Inland Fisheries after their adoption. Moreover, as these draft Guidelines follow very closely the marine Guidelines, the Expert Consultation also considered additional criteria relating specifically to the inland fisheries Guidelines. In the event of COFI adopting the Inland Guidelines, an evaluation framework for ecolabelling schemes certifying fish and fishery products from inland fisheries could readily be produced.

The Expert Consultation considered a number of issues relating to the Guidelines and the Evaluation Framework. *Inter alia*, it noted that the Guidelines, and therefore the draft Evaluation Framework, relate only to the biological sustainability of fishery resources and not to other aspects that might have an impact on sustainability. Also noted were the many commonalities between the Marine Ecolabelling Guidelines and the draft Inland Ecolabelling Guidelines, and that the major difference between them relates to the consideration of enhancement and the use of introduced and/or translocated species in the draft Inland Guidelines. The Expert Consultation noted that in both sets of Guidelines there is insufficient attention given to the chain of custody. The respective responsibilities of States and ecolabelling schemes in relation to assistance to developing countries was also discussed. The draft Evaluation Framework is provided in Appendix D with an explanation of the approach in the body of this report.

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OPENING OF THE MEETING AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE SESSION

- 1. The Expert Consultation to develop an FAO Evaluation Framework to Assess the Conformity of Public and Private Ecolabelling Schemes with the FAO Guidelines for the Ecolabelling of Fish and Fishery Products from Marine Capture Fisheries was held in Rome, Italy, 24–26 November 2010.
- 2. The Agenda shown in Appendix A was adopted by the Expert Consultation.
- 3. The list of experts and other participants in the meeting is shown in Appendix B.
- 4. The meeting was called to order by Mr Árni M. Mathiesen, Assistant Director-General, Fisheries and Aquaculture Department, who delivered the opening statement. The text of his statement is reproduced in Appendix C.
- 5. Mr Alastair Macfarlane was elected as Chairperson.
- 6. Mr Graeme Parkes presented the salient features of the draft Evaluation Framework prepared as a discussion document for the Expert Consultation.

BACKGROUND, OBJECTIVES AND EXPECTED OUTCOME OF THE EXPERT CONSULTATION

- 7. The FAO Guidelines for the Ecolabelling of Fish and Fishery Products from Marine Capture Fisheries were originally adopted by the FAO's Committee on Fisheries (COFI) at its Twenty-sixth Session in 2005. Revisions to these Guidelines¹ were subsequently endorsed by the Twenty-eighth Session of COFI in 2009.²
- 8. An Expert Consultation was held in May 2006 on drafting the FAO Guidelines for the Ecolabelling of Fish and Fishery Products from Inland Capture Fisheries.³ These draft Guidelines were again considered in 2008 by an Expert Consultation on the FAO Guidelines for Ecolabelling of Capture Fisheries.⁴ A third Expert Consultation, held in May 2010, finalized the draft Guidelines for the Ecolabelling of Fish and Fishery Products from Inland Capture Fisheries.⁵ The Twelfth Session of COFI:FT agreed that the outcome of this Expert Consultation should be forwarded to the Twentyninth Session of COFI (2011) for its consideration.⁶
- 9. The Twenty-eighth Session of COFI requested the Secretariat to present a proposal to COFI:FT for the assessment of compliance of ecolabelling schemes with the FAO ecolabelling Guidelines. The Twelfth Session of COFI:FT considered a document (COFI:FT/XII/2010/4) prepared by the Secretariat outlining various options for assessing conformity of ecolabelling schemes with the FAO Guidelines and decided that the Secretariat should develop an evaluation framework to assess the conformity of public and private ecolabelling schemes with the Guidelines. COFI:FT agreed that the

¹ FAO. 2009a. FAO Guidelines for the Ecolabelling of Fish and Fishery Products from Marine Capture Fisheries (Revision 1), Rome, 97p.

² FAO. 2009b. Paragraph 26. Report of the Twenty-eighth Session of the Committee on Fisheries. Rome, 2–6 March 2009. FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Report. No. 902. Rome. 64p.

³ FAO. 2006. Report of the Expert Consultation on the Development of International Guidelines for Ecolabelling of Fish and Fishery Products from Inland Capture Fisheries. Rome, 23–26 May 2006. FAO Fisheries Report. No. 804. Rome. 30p.

⁴ FAO. 2008. Report of the Expert Consultation on the FAO Guidelines for Ecolabelling for Capture Fisheries. Rome, 3–5 March 2008. FAO Fisheries Report. No. 864. Rome. 21p.

⁵ FAO. 2010b. Report of the Expert Consultation on the Development of Guidelines for the Ecolabelling of Fish and Fishery Products from Inland Capture Fisheries. Rome, 25–27 May 2010. FAO Fisheries Report. No. 943. Rome. 37p.

⁵ FAO. 2010a. Paragraph 28. Report of the Twelfth Session of the Sub-Committee on Fish Trade. Buenos Aires, Argentina, 26–30 April 2010. FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Report. No. 939. Rome. 68p.

⁷ FAO. 2009b. Paragraph 31.

³ FAO. 2010a. Paragraph 24.

Secretariat should convene an Expert Consultation to initiate this work, the results of which should be considered by the Twenty-ninth Session of COFI in January–February 2011. The benefits were also noted of establishing evaluation frameworks to assess the conformity of certification schemes with the Aquaculture Certification Guidelines and with the FAO Guidelines for the Ecolabelling of Fish and Fishery Products from Inland Capture Fisheries after their adoption. The conformation of the conformation

- 10. The FAO Secretariat thus convened the Expert Consultation with the objective of initiating the process of developing an evaluation framework to assess the conformity of public and private ecolabelling schemes with the Guidelines for consideration by COFI. The principal task was to develop an evaluation framework for marine capture fisheries. As COFI:FT had also noted that it would be beneficial to develop a similar evaluation framework to assess the conformity of ecolabelling schemes with the FAO Guidelines for the Ecolabelling of Fish and Fishery Products from Inland Fisheries after their adoption, and as these draft Guidelines follow very closely the marine Guidelines, the Expert Consultation also considered additional criteria relating specifically to the inland fisheries Guidelines.¹¹ In the event of COFI adopting the Inland Guidelines, an evaluation framework for ecolabelling schemes certifying fish and fishery products from inland fisheries could be readily produced.
- 11. Prior to the Expert Consultation, the Secretariat provided the following documents to the Experts:
 - The draft agenda.
 - A background paper entitled "Development of an evaluation framework to assess the
 conformity of public and private ecolabelling schemes with the FAO Guidelines for the
 ecolabelling of fish and fishery products from marine and inland capture fisheries" that
 included a proposed Evaluation Framework to serve as a discussion document during the
 Consultation.
 - The 2009 FAO Guidelines for the Ecolabelling of Fish and Fishery Products from Marine Capture Fisheries (Revision 1). 12
 - The FAO draft Guidelines for the Ecolabelling of Fish and Fishery Products from Inland Capture Fisheries.¹³ Those paragraphs of the draft Guidelines that are not identical to the Marine Ecolabelling Guidelines were highlighted for ease of reference.
 - The FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries.

DISCUSSION

12. Ecolabelling schemes are designed to certify labels for products from sustainably managed marine and inland fisheries. The Evaluation Framework was developed to assess whether private or public ecolabelling schemes are in conformity with the FAO Guidelines for Marine Capture Fisheries and the draft FAO Guidelines for Inland Capture Fisheries¹⁴ (the Guidelines). The Evaluation Framework can also be used to assess schemes that, in addition, cover aspects other than those related to the biological sustainability of the fishery (e.g. social and economic aspects). The Evaluation Framework will, however, only provide an assessment in relation to the biological sustainability component of the scheme.

⁹ FAO. 2010a. Paragraph 25.

¹⁰ FAO. 2010a. Paragraph 26.

¹¹ An evaluation framework for aquaculture certification schemes was not considered as the Guidelines are very different to those for capture fisheries.

¹² FAO 2009a.

¹³ FAO 2010b.

¹⁴ Inland fisheries exist in natural waters such as streams, rivers, swamps, lakes and inland seas, temporary water bodies such as floodplains and seasonal water bodies, and also in man-made and modified habitats such as irrigation systems, rice paddies, reservoirs and enclosed natural water bodies.

- 13. The two sets of Guidelines (those for marine capture fisheries and the draft Guidelines for inland capture fisheries) are designed for third party voluntary ecolabelling schemes. These schemes potentially confer on the owner of a capture fishery product the opportunity to voluntarily affix a label on the packaging, or a list (e.g. a menu) containing the fishery product demonstrating that the product was sourced from a fishery that conforms to an environmental sustainability standard.
- 14. The Evaluation Framework may be used to assess conformity with FAO Guidelines through a variety of means. It could be used as a self-assessment tool by the ecolabelling scheme holder; it could also be used by third parties with an interest in assessing the conformity of ecolabelling schemes with the Guidelines. These would include governments, consumers, retailers, processors and harvesters that are seeking to make their own assessments against the agreed criteria. FAO will not actually undertake the conformity assessment of ecolabelling schemes, but will provide the tools with which to undertake the assessment.
- 15. The Guidelines recognize the special circumstances of developing countries and countries in transition including the need to use less data demanding approaches, financial and technical assistance, technology transfer, and training and scientific cooperation. In some instances these special circumstances can be addressed by ecolabelling schemes. In other instances these special circumstances can only be addressed by States, relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, and financial institutions. The Evaluation Framework only requires ecolabelling schemes to address the special circumstances when they fall within their capacity. The extent to which States, relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, and financial institutions respond to these requirements falls outside the scope of this Evaluation Framework. However, ecolabelling schemes should try to facilitate access to appropriate assistance from States, relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, and financial institutions.
- 16. The Consultation recognized the many commonalities between the marine and inland Guidelines. It was valuable to address the marine capture fisheries Guidelines and the draft inland capture fisheries Guidelines together. It was noted that the similarities between them made it possible to develop one Evaluation Framework for both of them.
- 17. The draft inland capture fisheries Guidelines are mainly differentiated from the marine capture guidelines on the issues of enhancement and the use of introduced and/or translocated species. The Expert Consultation (EC) noted that enhancement in marine fisheries is becoming more common and that this element is missing from the marine capture Guidelines. The EC considered that an amendment to the Guidelines would be required in order to address this issue in full.
- 18. The Guidelines require ecolabelling schemes to address the chain of custody certification. However, they do not provide effective minimum substantive requirements to ensure that the integrity of ecolabelled products is maintained at all points throughout the supply chain. The meeting has provided guiding comment in the Evaluation Framework in an effort to address the shortcomings. However, an amendment to the Guidelines would be required in order to address this issue in full.
- 19. The EC agreed that there is a need to assess the extent to which ecolabelling schemes in practice contribute to improved fisheries management and economic returns. The assertion is frequently made by proponents of ecolabelling schemes that they do. The meeting agreed that there is now a body of evidence emerging that should be analysed to verify whether these assertions have been borne out. The meeting considered that this was a task that FAO might consider undertaking.
- 20. The EC noted that the structure and function of fish sustainability recommendation lists (e.g. non-governmental organization [NGO] traffic light lists) could be evaluated using the Guidelines, but these lists are not equivalent to ecolabels and the Evaluation Framework is not directly applicable to them.

APPROACH

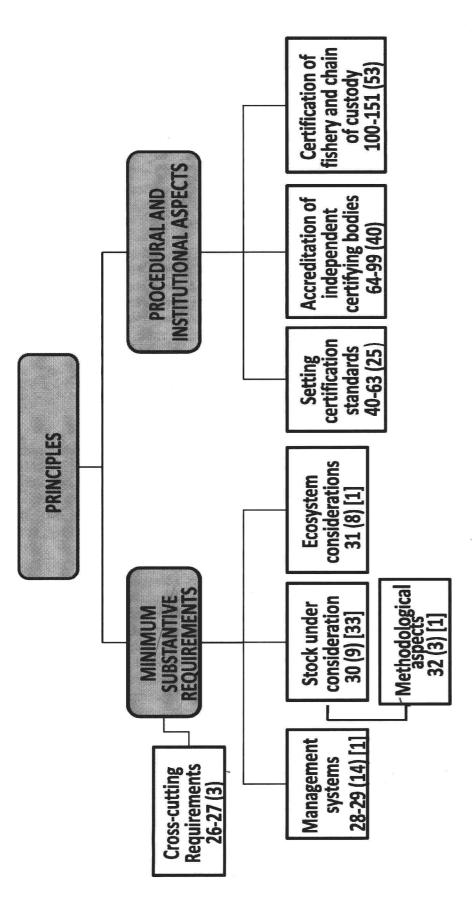
- 21. Appendix D sets out the Benchmarking Indicators developed by the EC and the corresponding paragraphs of the Guidelines for which these indicators can be used to assess conformance. The draft Evaluation Framework has been developed to cover both marine and inland fisheries with one set of indicators. Textual differences between the two sets of Guidelines, and associated differences in individual indicators, are identified in the text of the Framework. Text in the proposed Guidelines for inland fisheries that is not included in the Guidelines for marine capture fisheries (and the text in the corresponding performance indicators) is shown in grey highlight. Text in the Guidelines for marine capture fisheries that is not included in the proposed Guidelines for inland capture fisheries (and the text in the corresponding performance indicators) is shown in bold.
- 22. Three main parts of the Guidelines create the structure for the Evaluation Framework:
 - The Principles (Guidelines, paragraphs 2.1 to 2.14).
 - The Minimum Substantive Requirements, including 'Management systems', 'Stocks under consideration' and 'Ecosystem' (Guidelines, paragraphs 26 to 32).
 - The Procedural and Institutional Aspects, including Guidelines for the setting of standards of sustainable fisheries, Guidelines for accreditation (of independent certifying bodies) and Guidelines for certification (of fisheries).
- 23. The Principles of the Guidelines describe a number of higher order requirements that are essential for all ecolabelling schemes. The details of how the schemes achieve these requirements are provided in the sections on Minimum Substantive Requirements and the Procedural and Institutional Aspects.
- 24. The links between the paragraphs in these sections and the Principles is shown in Table 1. This Table demonstrates that there are a large number of paragraphs dealing with the issues of transparency (Principle 2.4), non-discrimination (Principle 2.5), accountability (Principle 2.7), independence of auditing and verification (Principle 2.8), best scientific evidence (Principle 2.10), practicality, viability and verification (Principle 2.11) and communication of truthful information (Principle 2.12). The only Principles not covered directly by later paragraphs are equivalence (Principle 2.9) and clarity (Principle 2.10). Comments are provided in Table 1 with respect to these two Principles.
- 25. The tiered structure of the Evaluation Framework based on the Guidelines is illustrated in Figure 1.
- 26. The EC developed benchmark indicators covering all paragraphs in the Minimum Substantive Requirements and the Procedural and Institutional Aspects. No separate benchmark indicators were developed for the Principles. Conformance with the Principles is to be assessed through conformance with the benchmark indicators developed under the Minimum Substantive Requirements and the Procedural and Institutional Aspects.
- 27. The approach used in developing the Evaluation Framework has been to identify indicators that will permit an assessment of conformity with the FAO Guidelines to be made. In the section dealing with Minimum Substantive Requirements and Criteria for Ecolabels one or more indicators are identified for each paragraph in the Guidelines. In the section dealing with Procedural and Institutional Aspects indicators are often identified to cover groups of paragraphs where related issues are identified. The indicators can be found in the Appendix D and follow closely the text of the Guidelines.
- 28. The main components of the Guidelines that are not considered to be part of the key elements for benchmarking are the General Considerations (paragraphs 4 to 6), the Terms and Definitions (paragraphs 7 to 25), the introductory paragraphs to the section on Procedural and Institutional Aspects (paragraphs 33 to 38) and the Introduction of the draft Inland Guidelines (paragraphs i–iv).

Nevertheless, these are important components of the Guidelines and could be considered to describe issues of scope that may be significant. For example, for the purposes of clarity, the terms and definitions used in the ecolabelling schemes being evaluated should be reasonably equivalent to those used in the Guidelines (paragraphs 7 to 25) – or a table of equivalences drawn up – to support a proper and unambiguous assessment of conformance.

- 29. The assessment process, at present, enables an evaluation to be made as to whether the scheme being assessed is in conformity with the indicators identified in the Evaluation Framework (Appendix D) only on a pass/fail basis. Complete conformance is determined only where all indicators have been included in a scheme being assessed.
- 30. The meeting discussed the benefits of more flexible approaches (e.g. a traffic light approach) to assess the extent of conformity. It recognized that this would require weighting indicators in order to identify those that are critical to ensure conformance with the principles. The performance assessment of other indicators of a more operational nature might lead to determinations of partial but acceptable conformance with the Guidelines. The EC considered that there could be value in this approach but there was insufficient time to attempt it.
- 31. The Evaluation Framework includes a very large number of benchmark indicators (155 in total, six of which apply only to the inland fisheries guidelines). The Framework does not provide specific guidance on how evaluators should make a determination of conformance, for example, the types of objective evidence that might be used. In undertaking an evaluation using these indicators, evaluators are encouraged to identify the evidence used. In this regard, the EC envisaged three categories of evidence that might be used to assess conformance:
 - (a) internal evidence (i.e. the scheme says it does something);
 - (b) outcome evidence (i.e. the scheme demonstrably does what it says it does); and
 - (c) independent evidence (i.e. an independent expert has determined that the scheme does what it says it does).
- 32. The EC considered ways in which evaluators might present the results of the evaluation of conformance of an ecolabelling scheme with each indicator. In the first instance, conformance should be summarized by each section of the Guidelines, as illustrated in Figure 1. A simple percentage of the total number of indicators that the ecolabelling scheme passed could be presented on a rosette diagram as illustrated in Figure 2. The EC noted, however, that these approaches suffered from a number of limitations, including the different numbers of benchmark indicators addressing conformance with each section of the Guidelines. The EC was unable to develop more elaborate approaches in the time available, but encouraged evaluators to develop a range of options that most accurately reflect the overall picture of conformance in such a way that areas of both conformance and non-conformance are clear and required improvements can be identified.
- 33. The Evaluation Framework has not yet been tested by assessing any ecolabelling scheme. Future revisions should take into account the experience gained from undertaking such a test.

ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

34. The report of the Expert Consultation, including the proposed draft evaluation framework to assess the conformity of public and private ecolabelling schemes with the FAO Guidelines for the ecolabelling of fish and fishery products from marine and inland capture fisheries, was adopted on 26 November 2010.



in each box. Numbers in curved brackets () are the total numbers of benchmark indicators in each case while the numbers in square brackets [] give Figure 1. The tiered structure of the Guidelines used for the Evaluation Framework. References to the Guidelines paragraph numbers are provided those that apply only to inland fisheries. Benchmark indicators were developed for all paragraphs in the Guidelines in the Minimum Substantive Requirements and the Procedural and Institutional Aspects (Appendix D).

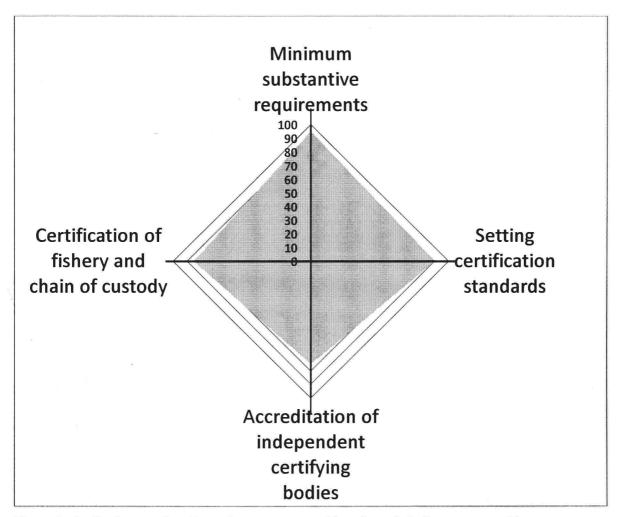


Figure 2: Stylized example of how the percentage of benchmark indicators passed by an ecolabelling scheme might be presented in a report of an evaluation.

Table 1. Relationships between paragraphs in the Principles of the Guidelines and the more detailed paragraphs in the Minimum Substantive Requirements and the Procedural and Institutional Aspects. Note: some paragraph numbers appear in more than one box.

	Conformance wi	th the Principles 'k indicators for	Hormance with the Principles is to be assessed through compliance very benchmark indicators for the Guideline paragraphs listed below	Conformance with the Principles is to be assessed through compliance with the benchmark indicators for the Guideline paragraphs listed below
Principle	Minimum	Proce	Procedural and Institutional Aspects	nal Aspects
	Substantive Requirements	Standards	Accreditation	Certification
2.1 be consistent with [the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and the Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks], the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, and the World Trade Organization (WTO) rules and other relevant international instruments	28	42		104, 105, 106
 2.1a Be consistent with the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, the Convention on Biodiversity, the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, and the World Trade Organization (WTO) rules and other relevant international instruments. 2.1b Take into account the provisions of relevance for the management of inland capture fisheries contained in the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and the Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks 				
2.2 Recognize the sovereign rights of States and comply with all relevant laws and regulations	28	42		
2.3 Be of a voluntary nature and market-driven		41		
2.4 Be transparent, including balanced and fair participation by all interested parties		46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62	67, 69, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86	109, 124, 125, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151
2.5 Be non-discriminatory, do not create unnecessary obstacles to trade and allow for fair trade and competition		41, 57, 58	67, 68, 96	112
2.6 Provide the opportunity to enter international markets		41		

2.7 Establish clear accountability for the owners of schemes and the		43	64, 74, 75, 76, 77,	117, 118, 119, 126,
certification bodies in accordance with international standards			78, 87, 88	127
2.8 Incorporate reliable, independent auditing and verification		54	39, 64, 65, 66, 69,	100, 101, 102, 104,
procedures			78, 79, 80, 81, 89,	105, 107, 108, 109,
			90, 91, 92, 93. 94.	110, 111, 116, 128,
			95	129, 130, 132, 133
2.9 be considered equivalent if consistent with these Guidelines	Schemes that meet a	Il the requirements	of the Guidelines are eq	Schemes that meet all the requirements of the Guidelines are equivalent to each other in
	relation to their con	ormity with the Gui	relation to their conformity with the Guidelines. The Schemes themselves do not need	nemselves do not need
	to explicitly recognize equivalence with each other.	ze equivalence with	each other.	
2.10 Be based on the best scientific evidence available, also taking	29.1, 29.2, 29.3,			
into account traditional knowledge of the resources provided that its	30, 31, 32			
validity can be objectively verified				i la
2.11 Be practical, viable and verifiable		40, 43, 44, 45,	64, 70, 71, 72, 73	113, 114, 115, 120,
		56, 57, 58, 59, 63		121, 122, 123
2.12 Ensure that labels communicate truthful information		54	66, 86, 66	102, 103, 130, 134,
				135, 136, 137, 138,
				139, 140, 141, 142,
				143, 144, 145, 146
2.13 Provide for clarity	The scheme endeav	ours to ensure that a	The scheme endeavours to ensure that ambiguity is avoided and its claims can be	its claims can be
	substantiated.			
	The benchmarks use	d in the scheme itse	The benchmarks used in the scheme itself for assessing conformance with the fishery	nance with the fishery
	and chain of custody	standards should p	and chain of custody standards should provide a clear and consistent vision of, what is	stent vision of, what is
	required to achieve a passing grade.	passing grade.		
	Claims on the label	and in associated lite	Claims on the label and in associated literature should be clear, understandable to	understandable to
	consumers and unambiguous.	nbiguous.		
2.14 Be based, at a minimum, on the minimum substantive	All	All	All	All
requirements, criteria and procedures outlined in these Guidelines				

APPENDIX A

AGENDA AND TIMETABLE

Wednesday, 24 November 2010

Arrival and registration Welcome by Árni M. Mathiesen (Assistant Director-General, FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Department) Introduction of participants
Nomination of Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson of the meeting
Designation of rapporteur(s)
Adoption of the agenda
Presentation of background paper on the Evaluation Framework
Coffee break and collection of daily allowance
Discussion on the background paper
Lunch break
Discussion on the background paper (cont.)
Coffee break
Development of an outline for the further elaboration of the Evaluation Framework

Thursday, 25 November 2010

Morning	
09.00-10.30	Drafting groups on the further elaboration of the Evaluation Framework
10.30-11.00	Coffee break
11.00-12.30	Drafting groups on the further elaboration of the Evaluation Framework (cont.)
12.30-14.00	Lunch break
Afternoon	
14.00-16.00	Drafting groups on the further elaboration of the Evaluation Framework (cont.)
16.00-16.30	Coffee break
16.30-17.30	Drafting groups on the further elaboration of the Evaluation Framework (cont.)

Friday, 26 November 2010

Morning	
09.00-10.30	Discussion of revised Evaluation Framework
10.30-11.00	Coffee break
11.00-12.30	Rapporteurs revise reports based on discussion and Secretariat consolidates draft report
12.30-14.00	Lunch break
Afternoon 13.30–17.00	Plenary discussion/adoption of final report/closing of meeting