

African Union

ENHANCING REGIONAL COORDINATION THE FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE IN AFRICA

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AU-IBAR

Introduction

Peculiar features/challenges of Fisheries and aquaculture sector in Africa

- Lack of policy coherence and weak coordination.
- Overexploitation in many fisheries
- Weak Monitoring and Control and Surveillance
- Weak and uncoordinated institutions governing the sector
- Low returns from the exploitation of resources
- Lack of knowledge on fisheries, statistics and evidence to foster reforms



Introduction

Peculiar features/challenges of Fisheries and aquaculture sector in Africa

- Untapped potential of Small scale fisheries
- Undeveloped Aquaculture sector
- Limited resources for fisheries management and aquaculture development
- Poverty of fishers and fish farmers and the need for food security
- USD 2-5 billion losses due to mismanagement per year



AU responses

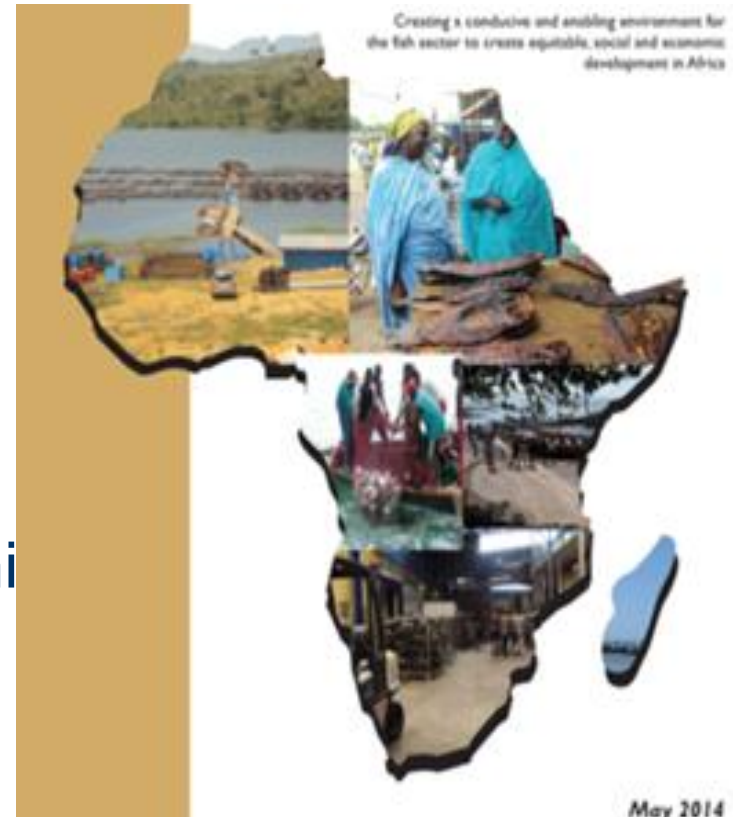
- 2003: The Maputo Declaration on agriculture and food security
- 2004: The Sirte Declaration
- 2005: The Fish for All Summit in Abuja, Nigeria
- 2010: The First CAMFA
- 2014 Adoption of the PFRS
- 2015 Launch Decade of African Seas and Oceans (2015-2025)



The Policy Framework

POLICY FRAMEWORK AND REFORM STRATEGY FOR FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE IN AFRICA

Creating a conducive and enabling environment for the fish sector to create equitable, social and economic development in Africa



The Policy Framework

GOAL

Provide structured guidance to Africa's fisheries management and aquaculture development agencies and other stakeholders towards coherent national and regional policies that realize the potential benefits of African fisheries and aquaculture; ensuring sustainable social, environmental and profitable outcomes for Africa and its peoples.

Purpose

Facilitate transformation of Africa's fisheries and aquaculture for food, livelihoods and wealth



Policy Areas in the PFRS

- 1. Conservation and Sustainable Resource Use**
- 2. small-scale Fisheries Development**
- 3. sustainable Aquaculture Development**
- 4. Responsible and Equitable Fish Trade and Marketing**
- 5. Strengthened Regional and Sub-regional Cooperation**



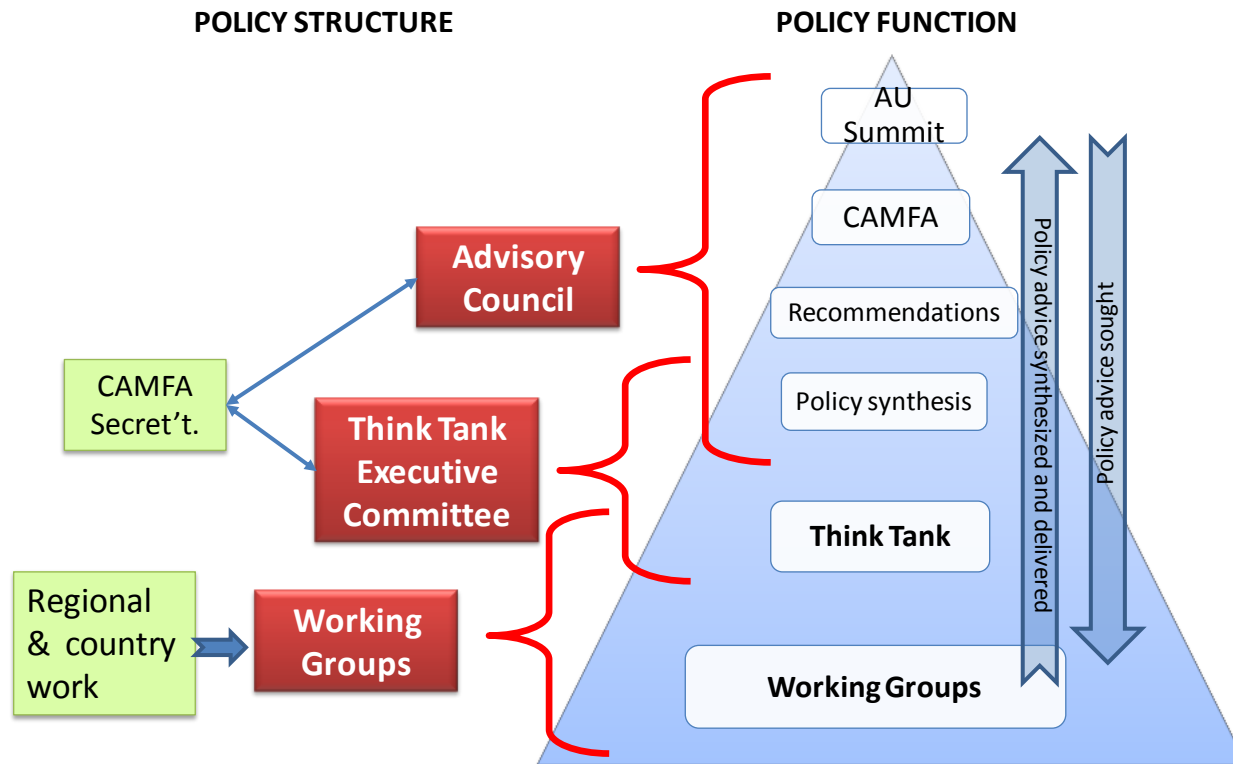
Policy Areas in the PFRS

- 6. Awareness Enhancing and Human-capacity Development**
- 7. High Seas Fisheries**
- 8. Cross-cutting issues**
 - **Strengthening resilience and reducing vulnerabilities to climate change**
 - **Gender and Youth**
 - **Private sector investments & financing mechanisms**



DELIVERY MECHANISMS

African Fisheries Reform Mechanism



Progress

- **Operationalization of the Reforms Mechanism**
- **Development and Validation of :**
 - **Parameters for alignment of national and regional policies and strategies to the PFRS**
 - **Indicators to track the implementation of the PFRS**
 - **Indicators to monitor the impact of the Reforms**



Regional and Sub-regional Cooperation: Issues

- **Weak coordination and cooperation in the sector**
- Weak Capacity of RECs on fisheries issues
- Multiplicity of regional institutions dealing with Fisheries and aquaculture development: RECs, RFBs, WBAs, LMEs etc. ***duplication of efforts and inefficient use of limited resources***
- Weak capacity of RFBs
- Multiplicity of memberships -Many States belong to more than one organization - ***heavy financial burden.***
- Bureaucracy and slow pace of political decision-making e.g. appointment of Head of institutions
- Tendency of expanding mandates



Coordination: Some achievements

Establishment of the African Platform of Regional Institutions for Fisheries, Aquaculture and Aquatic Systems (APRIFAAS)

Role

- Coordinate and facilitate systematic exchange of information
- Strengthen the “African continent voice“
- Improve dialogue between stakeholders
- Coordinate and facilitate the elaboration of harmonized work programme;
- Monitor and coordinate evaluation and implementation of the work programme



Coordination: Next steps

- **Rationalization of RFBs and WBC:**
- **Establishment of a continental platform for CSOs**



Thank You for Your Attention!

