

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN
THE FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION
OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND
THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL FOR THE EXPLORATION OF THE SEA**

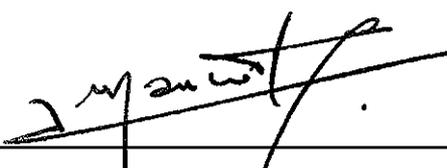
Recognizing that the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), hereinafter called "the Organization", exists to promote sustainable food supplies from fisheries and aquaculture on a global basis through their better planning, management and conduct, involving: (a) the improvement of the social and economic contribution of fisheries and aquaculture through better policies, planning, trade and harvest strategies; (b) the rehabilitation and stabilization of the natural resource base and its critical environments; (c) enhancing natural productivity of fisheries and aquaculture, as well as promoting improved fishery technologies, and (d) providing an international depository and means of exchange and dissemination of information on matters relating to global fisheries.

Recognizing that the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea, hereinafter called "the Council", exists to: (a) promote and encourage research and investigations for the study of the sea particularly related to the living resources thereof; (b) draw up programmes required for this purpose and to organise, in agreement with its Contracting Parties, such research and investigations as may appear necessary; (c) publish or otherwise disseminate the results of this work; and (d) provide scientific information and advice to Member Country governments, and the regulatory commissions with which cooperative relationships have been established. In order to carry out these tasks appropriately and efficiently, the Council seeks, *inter alia*, to establish and maintain mutually agreed working arrangements with other international organizations which have related objectives.

The Organization and the Council, hereinafter called "the Parties", have, therefore, agreed to the following Understanding:

1. There shall be reciprocal consultations and regular contacts between the Parties on matters of common interest in the field of marine scientific research, resource management, fishing technology, data exchange, and on training and related activities, including environmental studies, particularly those involving studies in those seas where the geographical competencies of the Parties overlap.
2. There shall be regular exchange between the Parties of information, documents, and publications relating to programme and project plans and to the results of activities agreed to be of mutual interest, joint or otherwise.
3. The Parties shall invite each other to be represented, in an observer capacity, at meetings of common interest, to the extent that this is possible within their respective working procedures.

4. The Parties shall, as appropriate, undertake joint activities, including when required, the establishment of joint subsidiary bodies or other suitable arrangements, to study and report on matters of common interest, including the support of those activities that concern them both.
5. The Parties shall consult regularly on ways in which cooperation between them can be further improved and extended. Specific joint programmes and activities may be defined through addenda to this framework agreement on a biennial basis.
6. The terms of this Understanding may be revised by the Parties if they both agree. If they fail to agree on new terms, the Understanding shall continue on the basis of the existing terms until new terms have been agreed. Either Party may withdraw from the Understanding at any time subject to giving one year's written notice.
7. Recognizing and fully respecting their various mandates, policies and priorities, the signatories agree that this Understanding shall enter into force upon signature and shall remain in force unless either Party withdraws pursuant to Paragraph 6 above.
8. Any agreement, arrangement or joint activity entered into in consequence of this Memorandum of Understanding which involves a financial commitment will be covered by an annex to this Memorandum governing the provision of funds.



President
International Council for the
Exploration of the Sea



for Officer-in-Charge
Fisheries Department
United Nations Food and Agriculture
Organization

Date: 27 march 1996

Date: 12 March 1996