

Report of Working Group 24 on *Environmental Interactions of Marine Aquaculture*

The Working Group on *Environmental Interactions of Marine Aquaculture* (WG 24) held its final meeting on October 15, 2011, in Khabarovsk, Russia. The meeting was co-chaired by Drs. Katsuyuki Abo and Stewart Johnson (for Ms. Ingrid Burgetz). A list of participants and the meeting's agenda can be found in *WG 24 Endnotes 1 and 2*.

AGENDA ITEM 2

Overview of Working Group 24 commitments from 2010

Dr. Abo provided a brief review of the Working Group commitments which were made at the 2010 Annual Meeting in Portland, Oregon, USA.

AGENDA ITEM 3

Presentation and discussion on Terms of Reference 1 activities and report

Dr. Abo is leading this part of the Working Group activities which is examining the “environmental interactions of aquaculture”. He has received country reports from most of the PICES member countries with the exception of U.S. and China. The goal is to have all country reports completed by December 1, 2012. The Co-chairs and Dr. Stewart Johnson will summarize and complete the final report for TOR1.

AGENDA ITEM 4

Presentation and discussion on Terms of Reference 2 report and opportunity for final additions

Ms. Burgetz is leading this part of the Working Group activities which is examining the current “risk assessment methods used to assess environmental interactions of aquaculture”. Unfortunately, Ms. Burgetz was unable to attend the meeting but it was reported that she will finalize the report for TOR2 (risk assessment) based on submissions that have been made by PICES member countries. Modification of country reports will be completed by December 1, 2011. The final report will be completed by September 1, 2012.

AGENDA ITEM 5

Presentation and discussion on Terms of Reference 3 activities and report

In order to collect information for TOR3, member countries were provided in 2010 with a template to complete. Dr. L. Gustafson (USA) is compiling this information, which will be used in the production of the final report. The Working Group is planning to also use this information to produce a review paper on Diseases and Disease Regulations in PICES member countries that will be submitted for publication in a peer reviewed journal. Information has been received from all member countries except China, who will submit this information on or before December 1, 2011.

AGENDA ITEM 6

Discussion on finalizing reports for each of the Terms of Reference

For a number of reasons WG 24 was not able to complete its final report in 2010/11. The Working Group requested an extension to enable completion of the final report. The schedule for production of the final report is as follows:

WG 24-2011

December 1, 2011: final input from all member countries on all Terms of Reference;
May 1, 2012: draft reports will be completed and circulated for members comments;
July 1, 2012: deadline for receipt of comments from Working Group Members;
September 1, 2012: completion of final Working Group report to all Working Group members and the PICES Secretariat.

The Co-Chairs and Dr. Johnson will compile and edit the final version of the WG 24 report.

AGENDA ITEM 7

Summary of Working Group activities and report to Committees

A summary of Working Group activities over the past year was reported by Dr. Abo to the FIS and MEQ parent committee meetings at PICES-2011.

AGENDA ITEM 8

Discussion on future activity of mariculture issues within PICES

Members of the Working Group were in agreement that aquaculture remains an important topic for PICES and the FUTURE Program. Dr. Galina Gavrilova (Russia) suggested the extension of WG 24 for 1 year to allow us to complete the final report and to develop a proposal for a study group. Upon further discussion, the Group consensus was that, following approval of the United States, an application for a study group related to aquaculture would be put forward at the 2012 PICES Annual Meeting. The focus of this study group and its Terms of Reference will be developed over the next year, taking into consideration the direction of Working Group on Development of Ecosystem Indicators to Characterize Ecosystem Responses to Multiple Stressors (WG 28) and other FUTURE activities. Members of WG 24 and others will contribute to this activity.

Action Item: WG 24 members will be contacted to determine whether they are in favor of developing a study group proposal for consideration at the PICES-2012. Members will be requested to provide suggestions from which Terms of Reference and the objectives of such a study group can be developed.

AGENDA ITEM 9

Topic Session S6 at PICES-2011

A half-day MEQ/FIS Topic Session on "*Identification and characterization of environmental interactions of marine aquaculture in the North Pacific*" was held at PICES-2011. This session included invited oral presentations by Dr. Sakami (Japan) and Dr. Dong (China). Eight oral and 3 poster presentations given.

Following the presentations there was a brief discussion of WG 24's plan to propose a study group at the next PICES Annual Meeting in Hiroshima, Japan. Participants were requested to contact Working Group members over the next year with their suggestions and ideas.

WG 24 Endnote 1**WG 24 participation list**Members

Katsuyuki Abo (Japan, Co-Chair)
 Galina Gavrilova (Russia)
 Graham Gillespie (Canada)
 Toyomitsu Horii (Japan)
 Stewart Johnson (Canada, Acting Co-Chair for
 Ingrid Burgetz)
 Hyun-Jeong Lim (Korea)
 Myoung-Ae Park (Korea)
 Ping Zhuang (China)

Observers

Natsuki Hasegawa (Japan)
 Yukimasa Ishida (Japan)
 Tomoko Sakami (Japan)
 Mikhail Stepanenko (Russia)
 Mingyuan Zhu (China)

WG 24 Endnote 2**WG 24 meeting agenda**

1. Welcome and Introductions (Chairs: Katsuyuki Abo and Stewart Johnson)
2. Overview of WG commitments from 2010 (Abo)
3. Presentation and discussion on TOR1 activities and report (Facilitated discussion: Katsuyuki Abo – facilitator)
4. Overview of TOR2 report and opportunity for final additions (Facilitated discussion: Stewart Johnson – facilitator)
5. Presentation and discussion on TOR3 activities and report (Facilitated discussion: Stewart Johnson – facilitator)
6. Discussion on finalizing reports for each of the TOR
7. Summary of WG activities and report to Committees
8. Discussion on future activity of mariculture issues within PICES
9. Topic Session S6 on “*Identification and characterization of environmental interactions of marine aquaculture in the North Pacific*” at PICES-2011