
**14th FCWC Conference of ministers Accra,
Ghana, 11th to 13th January 2022.**

Terms of Reference.

I – BACKGROUND

Following the signing by all Contracting Parties of the Convention establishing the Fisheries Committee for the West Central Gulf of Guinea (FCWC) on November 7, 2007, in Cotonou, Benin, the FCWC Secretariat organizes annual ordinary sessions of the Conference of Ministers of the Organization.

The session of the Conference is held in turn and in alphabetical order among the Contracting Parties, in accordance with the provisions of Article 7 of the Convention establishing the Committee.

The last ordinary session of the Conference of Ministers was held in Cotonou, BENIN, from December 15th to 17th, 2021, and reviewed the implementation of previous recommendations, ongoing projects, and regional initiatives on fisheries management.

The 14th session of the Conference, which will be held **from 11th to 13th January 2022**, will give Member States and other stakeholders the opportunity to review regional efforts and actions taken at national level in fisheries for the development of the sub-region.

The theme of this conference session is "**Supporting Effective Fisheries Management for a Sustainable Ocean Economy**". The session of the Advisory and Consultative Committee (ACC) will be held on January 11th and 12th, 2023 and the ministerial plenary will be held on January 13th, 2023.

II - OBJECTIVES

The management mandate of the Contracting Parties to the Committee is to promote cooperation in fisheries at the regional level and to support the sustainable management of fisheries. This 14th session will review the technical work of the Secretariat and assess the implementation of previous recommendations and inform the Member States of the Committee and its partners on the activities and achievements in 2022.

In particular, the session will provide opportunity to:

1. exchanges between Members States' Ministers of the region on issues of common interest as well as through the renewal of the position of the secretary general as executive governing bodies of the Committee;
2. Examine the lessons learned and the results of the implementation of regional projects and programs supported and funded by ECOWAS, the European Union and Norway;
3. Inform the Conference of the new opportunities resulting from the cooperation between the FCWC, and JICA-Cote d'Ivoire, ILO, FAO CECAF, IUCN in terms of fisheries and aquaculture development in the region.;

4. Review the report of partnership development and coordination of activities carried out in our sub-region by the FCWC, including activities related to the theme of the previous fiscal year of 2022 and the new as area of common interest to address in 2023;
5. Adopt the Committee's work plan and budget for 2023/2024 under the tripartite agreement ECOWAS, FCWC and SRFC.

III – EXPECTED OUTCOMES

1. The governance of fisheries in the sub-region is strengthened and issues of common interest are addressed including the renewal of the governing bodies of the Conference of Ministers of the FCWC.
2. The lessons learned and the results of the implemented fisheries the projects in the region,
3. The technical, financial and audit reports for the financial year 2022as well as the work plan and the budget of the Committee for 2023/ 20224 are approved.

IV- PARTICIPANTS

Fifty (50) participants, representing Member States of the Committee, international and regional institutions, regional projects, partners, the private sector, NGOs, consultants and specialists in Fisheries and Aquaculture, are expected to attend the Conference.

V – VENUE

A reservation has been made at the **TANG PALACE HOTEL** respectively for the participants and the Ministers who have confirmed their presence at the conference. *Adresse: Borstal Avenue, South Airport Residential Area, 2.5km from the Airport, Accra, Ghana. Contacts : [+233 24 350 0692](tel:+233243500692)/ [+233 24 350 0695](tel:+233243500695).* For any other challenge, you can contact numbers of the resource person in Accra, Ghana: +233 595422282/ +233 504229724/ +233 558401617.

VI - AGENDA

The agenda and all documents relating to the Conference of Ministers will be communicated before the meeting.

VII - LANGUAGE

The ACC meeting and the plenary session of ministers will be held in the two working languages of the Committee, English and French. Simultaneous interpretation will be provided during meetings and all working documents and presentations will also be in both languages.