

ANFTS POST WASHINGTON WSC

The third meeting of the Fish Technology, Utilization and Quality Assurance in Africa held in Mahe, Seychelles in November 2011, was used as a forum to re-energize and renew commitments towards the establishing of the ANFTS network. An executive board made up of six members were elected and conferred the challenge to take the organization forward under the strategic support of FAO and IAFI Board members are as follows:

Christopher Hoareau - President

Yahya Mgawe, Kalifa Sylla and Margaret Atipko - Strategic Planning

Anass Karzazi - Communication and focal point

Clifford Frimpong - Operation and action plan

Following the deliberations, a resolution named the ***Mahe Resolution*** was adopted with a simple road map to implement the vision, which was proposed as “***Appropriate fish technology for safe products and market access***” *The main recommendations were :*

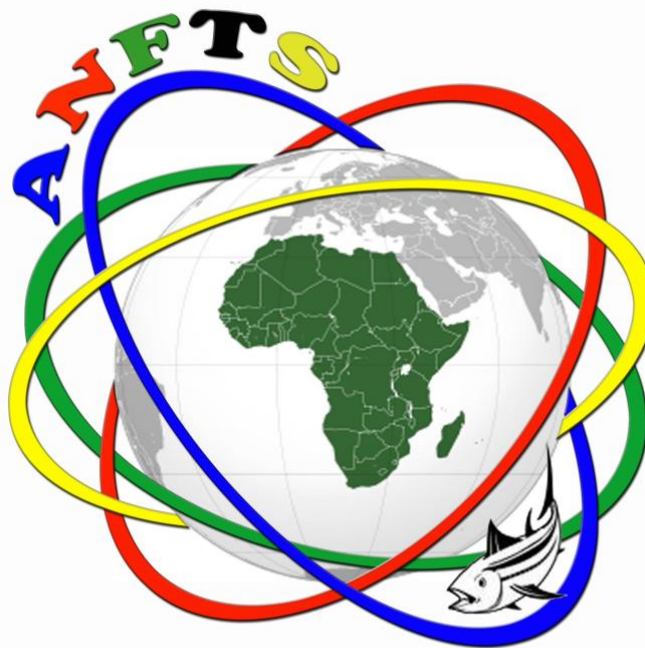
- Establishing the organization as a recognized body
- Confirming the vision, mission, and plans to achieve the vision
- Rapidly developing the website
- Creation of a marketing and communication plan
- Review the business plan and funding support for the next phase.

With the advice and support of FAO, SmartFish sponsored the participation of the executive board to the International Institute of Fisheries Economics & Trade (IIFET) meeting held in July 2012 in Dar Es Salam, Tanzania with the main objective of getting the board to work as a team to take the Network a step further in its realization. An action plan was thus developed to provide the new face of the Network and within this the following were to be finalized before the end of 2012: Terms of Reference for the Network with Mission, Vision and

Objectives; Organogram; Final Constitution; Strategic and Business Plans; Establishing a functional website spearheaded by FAO; Establishment of a secretariat; The way forward and Legalization of the Network spearheaded by FAO; Promoting the Network in member countries through sensitization and to this country executives are to be elected and select country Focal Points for information dissemination.

Partners have been identified and a comprehensive Action Plan for the next five years has been drawn.

Following the IFET meeting, intensive networking between member under the close supervision of the FAO advisors continued for the development of the website and also a new logo.



AFRICAN NETWORK FOR FISH TECHNOLOGY AND SAFETY

Several of the items on the action plan have been achieved such as finalizing the constitution, business plan, mission, vision and organogram. Tanzania has agreed to host the secretariat at the **Fisheries Education and Training Agency, Bagamoyo**, the CEO being Yahya Mgawe, one of the board members. Work on the website is in progress with a holding page already displayed.

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AFRICAN NETWORK FOR FISH TECHNOLOGY AND SAFETY

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Fish and Food Security in Africa

Today, in sub-Saharan Africa, one out of every two people (49%) lives on less than \$1 a day (World Bank 2004a). While in other regions chronic hunger is receding, in sub-Saharan Africa malnutrition is still rising in both absolute and relative terms.

Developing Aquaculture

22 June 2012

Aquaculture will play an increasing role in food security in Africa. Small-scale integrated fishing- farming systems will provide alternative and/or additional employment opportunities for growing rural populations in remote areas.

Improving value-added through better market chains

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ANFTS Channel

Images of Africa: A Fishing Community

Upcoming Events

- Event 1
22 June 2012
- Event 2
23 June 2012
- Event 3
24 June 2012
- Event 4
25 June 2012

Partners

- Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
- United Nations Environment Programme
- Global Environment Facility

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THE WAY AHEAD

Presently, ANFTS boasts of over one hundred and seventy-six (176) members from thirty-two (32) countries. It is without any doubt that updating the mailing list to get all at the same level of information is a necessary action on part of the board.

The challenge is to generate more interaction, sharing of information and exchange of experience among members and have the network expanded. The involvement of each one of us is critical to a vibrant and sustainable network. This would foster current support from FAO/SMARTFISH and attract additional interest and funding from other agencies. **LET US KEEP THE CANDLE BURNING!**