

**Public Authority of Agriculture Affairs and Fish Resources, State of Kuwait  
Action taken Report of the on UN Fish Stock Agreement in response to the UN  
General Assembly resolution 66/68 adopted on 6 December 2011.**

<b>No.</b>	<b>Actions need on Fisheries Issues</b>	<b>Action taken by Kuwait</b>
<b>I</b>	<b>Achieving sustainable fisheries</b>	<p>Public Authority of Agriculture Affairs and Fish Resources, State of Kuwait implements various conservation measures for achieving sustainable fisheries in Kuwait coastal waters. Some of the important regulatory measures are as follows.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fishing activities are prohibited in the three mile zone from Kuwait coasts and the Kuwait Bay as the areas are recognized as important nursery habitats for shrimps and fin fish.</li> <li>• During spawning and breeding season of shrimp, a closing season is enforced for shrimp catch in Kuwait waters that starts from February to August every year.</li> <li>• In order to limit fishing efforts, issuance of new fishing license to the shrimp trawlers and shrimp dhows are halted.</li> <li>• Mesh size regulation for shrimp trawlers, gill nets and fish traps are implemented.</li> </ul>
<b>II</b>	<b>Implementation of the 1995 Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks</b>	<p>State of Kuwait has not become a party of the UN Fish Stock Agreement.</p> <p>Highly migratory tuna and tuna-like species (billfishes, bonitos, mackerels and tunas) Marlins, Sailfishes and Swordfish are rarely constitute in Kuwait marine fish catches.</p>

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>III</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Related fisheries instruments</b></p>	<p>State of Kuwait is ably implementing conservation measures to protect its marine living resources in accordance with Kuwait's fishery regulations.</p> <p>Kuwait is the party of the following Conventions and Organizations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (1982)</li> <li>• Convention on Biological Diversity, Rio de Janeiro (1992)</li> <li>• Kuwait Regional Convention for Cooperation on the Protection of Marine Environment from Pollution 1978, entered into force on 1 July 1979.</li> <li>• Member of the Regional Commission for Fisheries (RECOFI) since 1999</li> <li>• Member in the GCC (Gulf Cooperation Council) since 25 May 1981</li> </ul> <p>Kuwait has not become the party of following Agreements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1993 FAO Agreement to Promote Compliance with International Conservation and Management Measures by Fishing Vessels on the High Seas</li> <li>• 1995 UN Fish Stocks Agreement</li> </ul> <p>State of Kuwait is ably implementing its fishery regulations to conserve and protect its marine living resources.</p>
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IV	<b>Illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing</b>	<p>Uncontrolled fishing activities in the International waters near to the border of Kuwait territorial waters is one of the challenge to the fishery management of Kuwait. The international waters are open access areas and are beyond the management regime of Kuwait. As most of the species of fishes and shrimps are represented by single population each in both areas, the continuing fishing activities in the international waters results serious repercussions on Kuwait's fin fish and shrimp stocks.</p> <p>Only licensed fishing vessels of Kuwaitis are allowed for fishing in Kuwait waters. Fishery violators are impounded in accordance with fishery regulations.</p>
V	<b>Monitoring, control and surveillance and compliance and enforcement</b>	<p>Monitoring, Control and Surveillance have been strengthened to combat any illegal fishing activities in Kuwait territorial waters. Use of Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) is under active consideration by the Public Authority of Agriculture Affairs and Fish Resources, State of Kuwait to combat illegal fishing activities in Kuwait waters.</p>
VI	<b>Fishing overcapacity</b>	<p>In order to reduce fishing capacity in Kuwait, the following measures have been taken</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fishing capacity is under control to maintain sustainability of fish stocks in Kuwait waters</li> <li>• No new licenses are issued by PAAFR since 1985.</li> <li>• Trawling for fin fishes was prohibited since 1985</li> <li>• Bottom-set gill nets, Beach seine and long-lines were also prohibited for fishing in State of Kuwait</li> </ul>
VII	<b>Large-scale pelagic drift-net fishing</b>	<p>Large-scale pelagic drift-net fishing has been prohibited in Kuwait</p>

<b>VIII</b>	<b>Fisheries by-catch and discards</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• By-catch reduction in shrimp fishing is one of the important issues in Kuwait fisheries management.</li> <li>• Installation of By-catch Reduction Devices (BRDs) and TEDs, in the shrimp trawlers is under active consideration in Kuwait.</li> <li>• Issuance of fishing license will be considered only for fishing vessels those fitted with BRDs and TEDs in future.</li> <li>• Public Authority of Agriculture Affairs and Fish Resources is planning to utilize the by-catch for producing fish meal and other value added products in Kuwait</li> </ul>
<b>IX</b>	<b>Sub-regional and regional cooperation</b>	State of Kuwait will always be the front runner for expedite its commitments towards conservation and protection of its marine living resources in cooperation with the regional organizations such as FAO/RECOFI and Gulf Cooperation Council.
<b>X</b>	<b>Responsible fisheries in the marine ecosystem</b>	State of Kuwait is implementing its fisheries regulations with the broad perspectives and vision for conserving the entire marine biodiversity in State of Kuwait
<b>XI</b>	<b>Capacity-building</b>	As for as Capacity building is concerned, State of Kuwait is strengthening its technical manpower and infrastructure facilities for managing the fisheries. Guidance of RECOFI and FAO guidance is accorded in this regard.

<b>XII</b>	<b>Cooperation within the United Nations system</b>	<p>State of Kuwait expedites its obligations and commitments towards these UN Conventions with full hearted efforts and cooperation. Kuwait is the party of the following Convention.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (1982)</li> <li>• Convention on Biological Diversity, Rio de Janeiro (1992)</li> </ul>
<b>XIII</b>	<b>Activities of the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea</b>	Not applicable
<b>XIII</b>	<b>Sixty-seventh session of the General Assembly</b>	<p>State of Kuwait is aware about the Sixty-seventh session of the General Assembly. The Action taken report of Kuwait on the UN Fish Stock Agreement has been prepared and submitted to the office of the UN Secretary General in response to the Note Reference LOS/FISHERIES/STATES/2012</p>