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Informal Consultations of States Parties to the UN Fish Stocks Agreement - Fourteenth round - "Performance reviews of regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements"

PERFORMANCE REVIEW OF RFMOs: PRACTICE AND CHALLENGES

Piero Mannini - Senior Liaison Officer

ICSP-14, New York, 2 May 2019

Regional Fishery Management Organizations (*Non species-specific*)

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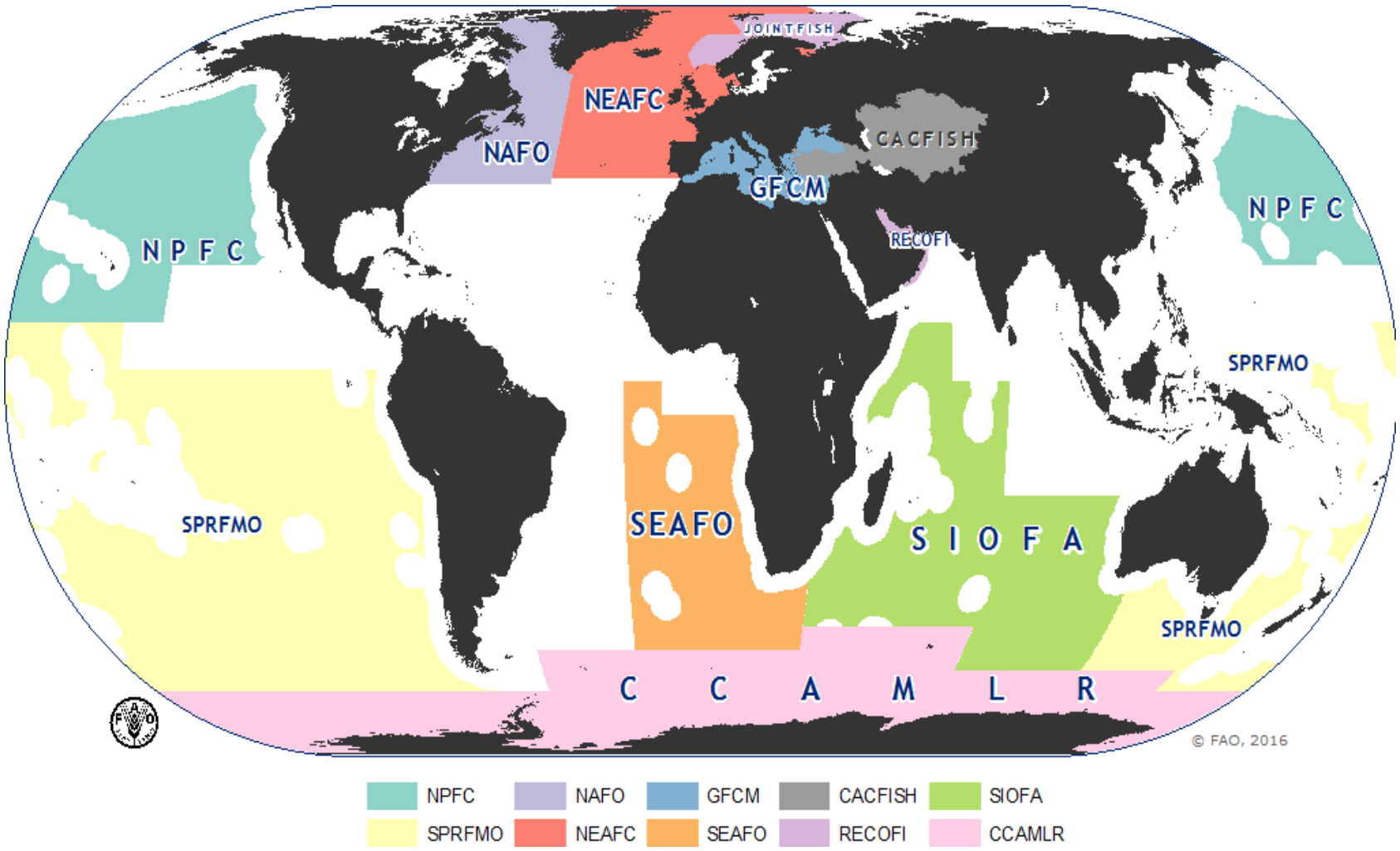

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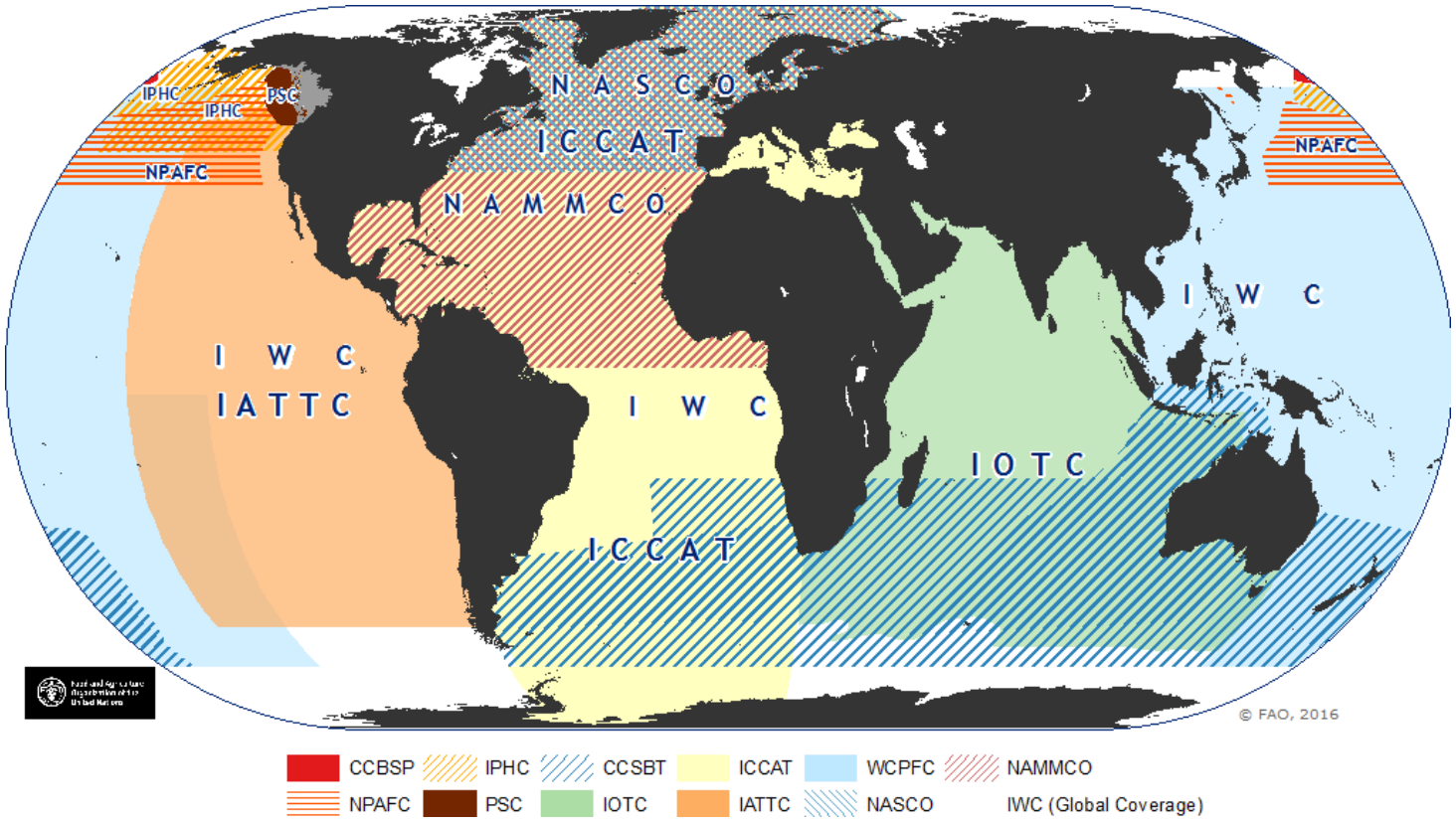
Regional Fishery Management Organizations (*Species - specific*)

Species - specific (i.e. tuna, halibut, salmon, marine mammals, etc.)



General considerations

- **COFI - XXVI Session (2005) - recognized importance of independent assessments of RFMOs' performance**

- **UNGA stressed the importance of PRs as independent evaluations for RFMOs/As and recommended:**

  - transparent criteria based on international instruments

  - consider best practices for RFMOs

  - elements of independent evaluation

- **The FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Circular No. 1072 (2012) and the FAO Circular No. 1108 (2015)** provided a list of criteria for PRs and also showed that:

- Panels rely primarily on official documents and interviews with official RFMO staff, and that;

- Analysis of RFMO foundational texts are examined vis-à-vis the international conventions and soft-law fishery instruments

Commonly recognized criteria to PRs

FAO Circular No. 1108

- ✓Conservation and management of fish stocks
- ✓Compliance with and enforcement of international obligations
- ✓Legal framework, financial affairs, organization
- ✓Cooperation with other international organizations and non-member States
- ✓Socio-economic aspects of fishing
- ✓Duties of RFMOs towards developing countries

Suggested elements and criteria to be considered when conducting PRs

Outcomes of the resumed Review Conference on the UNFSA (23-29 May 2016)

- ✓Enhancing PR consistency
- ✓Making PR of RFMOs mandatory
- ✓Adaptive, independent and regular review exercise
- ✓Ensuring the principle of accountability, transparency and participation from civil society
- ✓Time-bound implementation of recommendations
- ✓ Follow-up mechanism for implementing PR recommendations

Additional remarks

- The introduction of the practice of Performance Review is a milestone in the history of RFMOs (and RFABs)
- Difficulties in finding criteria that can be accepted by all regions and that reflect particular circumstances
- Each RFMO operates in a specific geo-political and socio-economical environment
- Related factors to each regional context should be taken into consideration and reflected in the criteria applied
- Strong degree of commonality in the factors affecting RFMOs performance

Outcome of the Resumed Review Conference on the UNFSA:

- There is a need to adjust/include new elements and criteria so as to ensure a complete and clear picture of how the RFMOs are performing

Future of Performance Reviews

- Performance review as an increasingly common practice for both RFMOs and RFABs
- Common key criteria need to be identified and established
- Independency and transparency must be ensured as well as inclusivity
- Performance reviews should be institutionalized and regularly carried out on periodic basis.
- Monitoring of follow-up actions and appraisal of effects of performance review findings and recommendations

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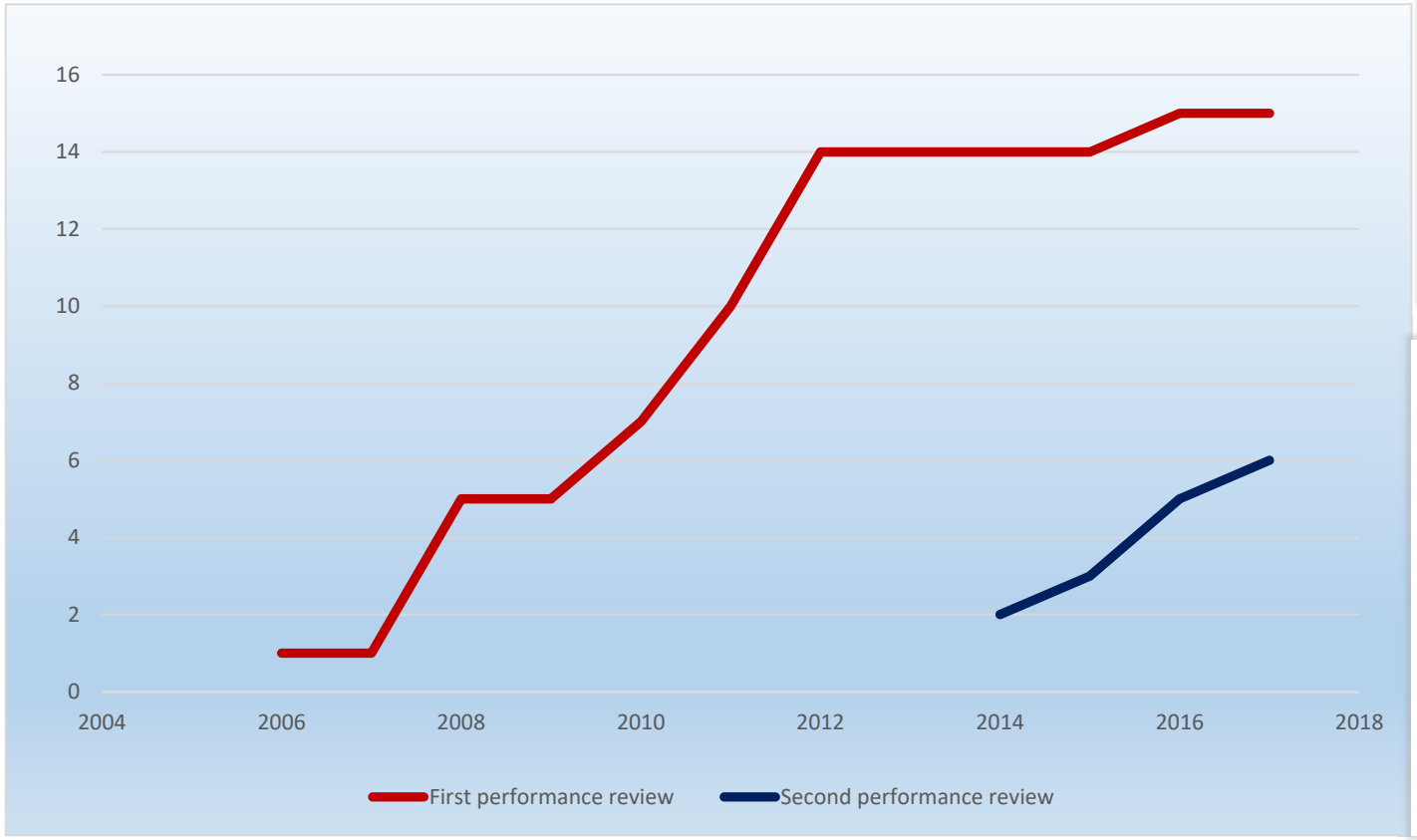
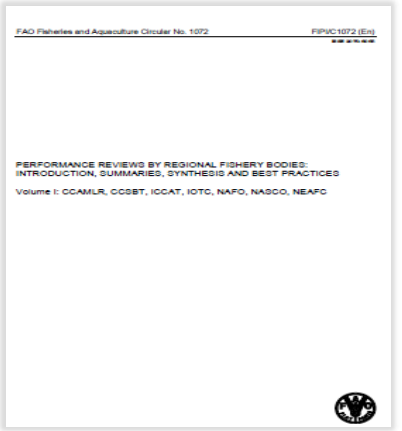
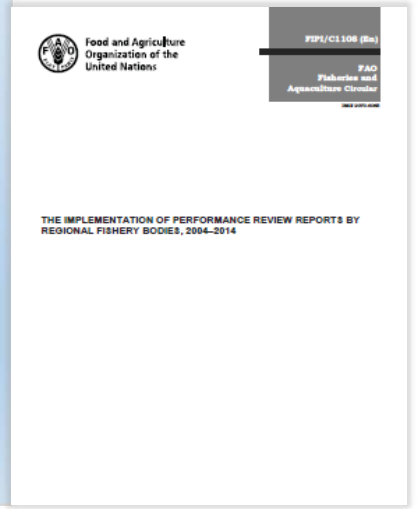
RFMO performance reviews, 2000–2017




FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Circular No. 1072 FIPI/C1072 (En)

PERFORMANCE REVIEWS BY REGIONAL FISHERY BODIES: INTRODUCTION, SUMMARIES, SYNTHESIS AND BEST PRACTICES

Volume I: CCAMLR, CCSBT, ICCAT, IOTC, NAFO, NASCO, NEAFC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FIPI/C1106 (En)

FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Circular

THE IMPLEMENTATION OF PERFORMANCE REVIEW REPORTS BY REGIONAL FISHERY BODIES, 2004–2014

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