

Notes and comments on the ex-post evaluation of the fisheries agreement EU- Mauritania

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IMARES Wageningen UR

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Summary

The present report presents a summary of the content of the ex-post evaluation of the fishing agreement between the EU and Mauritania (reference below), and does not necessarily reflect the views of IMARES:

Framework Contract FISH/2006/20 :

Convention spécifique n°30 : Evaluation ex-post du protocole actuel d'accord de partenariat dans le domaine de la pêche entre l'Union Européenne et la Mauritanie, étude d'impact d'un possible future protocole d'accord.

Rapport final

Mars 2011

1. Constitution of the report

This report is made of 3 parts :

The first one presents the general framework : geo-politic facts about Mauritania, macro-economic situation (with a particular emphasis on the importance of the fisheries sector in the economy of the country), public policies and help for development .

The second part deals specifically with the fisheries sector, describing the main management measures applicable in Mauritania, the different fleets present and their catch, the state of fish stocks, the market of fish products, importance in terms of employment.

The third part, dealing with the fishing agreements, presents the terms of the agreement, its socio-economic consequences, the development of a partnership (policy, science, economy, control) and finally an evaluation of the agreements, in terms of achievements, of financial costs, relevance, and viability.

2. Relevant facts about fisheries in Mauritania

Fisheries management and control

Fisheries activity is regulated by the ministry of fisheries and maritime economy, which is in charge of scientific research (IMROP), fisheries control (DSPCM), sea food healthiness (ONISPA), formation of fishermen (ENEMP). Fisheries ministry has limited human resources (structural limitations) but important financial resources due to the 11 M€ from the agreements for supporting the development of a policy for the fisheries sector. The money from the agreements is used as a complement to the ministry budget, whereas most the other financial help for development to this country work via projects funding.

Fisheries management framework in Mauritania is mainly based on restricting the access to the resource, rather than on limiting the amount of catch allowed via species specific quotas as it is done in the EU. The main limiting measure is the existence of fishing rights (fishing licences) which apply to every fishing boat (national and foreign) willing to fish in the Mauritanian EEZ. There are various types of licences corresponding to the type of fishing vessels (artisanal, coastal, industrial) and the species targeted. Fishing licences fall under different regimes : for national boats, for foreign boats chartered by Mauritanian companies, and for foreign boats, either under fishing agreements (i.e. between Mauritania and other states) or privately.

Besides licences, there are other restrictions, such as closed areas, technical measures on fishing gears, minimal landing size of the fish, limits on the proportion of by-catch species, seasonal closures, marine protected areas. For octopus, there is a management plan in place.

Fisheries monitoring and control has received a lot of attention (including with the support of EU, France and Germany), and is the most developed in the north-western African region. EU vessels are frequently controlled and sanctioned for a variety of reasons (ranging from serious infringements such as fishing in closed areas to relatively minor ones). EU ship owners complain that they are being harassed by the Mauritanian control and often forced to acknowledge infringements (under the threat of being constraint to go to the harbour for further investigation, thereby losing fishing time).

Fleet composition

The industrial fishing fleets in Mauritania are 75% demersal fishing vessels, 15% pelagic fishing vessels, and 10% tuna fleet, but in terms of gross tonnage, pelagic fishing vessels represent 75% of the fleet.

The demersal fleet is composed of a cephalopod (mostly EU and Mauritanian vessels with Chinese interests) and a shrimp (mostly EU and Mauritanian vessels) fishery, both showing a decrease in the number of vessels since 2003.

The pelagic fleet is composed of very large industrial (either freezer or factory) fishing vessels, fishing under the EU-Mauritania agreements (EU fleet, 20 vessels), as vessels chartered by Mauritanian companies (9 vessels mostly Russians) and with free fishing licences (51 vessels mainly Russian and flag ship).

The EU fleet represents 30% of the fishing effort (in terms of day of fishing).

The other fishing fleets include a tuna fishing fleet (10 EU vessels and 15 other countries), and artisanal and coastal fleets, all Mauritanian (with occasionally Senegalese canoes).

Catch in Mauritania

Catch data for the industrial fleet come exclusively from log books, i.e. from declarations of the amount of catch by the skippers. There is no comparison with catch figures from the landing sites. This implies that there are potentially under-declaration of catches (likely for cephalopods).

Catch from the industrial fleets in the recent years was of about 850 000 t of which 95% was pelagic fish (mainly horse mackerel and sardinella). There is no real trend in the volume of catches (rather stable for demersal fishes, and fluctuating for pelagic fish).

The catch of EU fleets under the fishing agreements is on average 275 000t, of which 90% is pelagic fish, 8% for demersal fisheries (half of it being cephalopods) and 2% tuna. They represent around 80% for the total Mauritanian shrimp catches, around 20% for the cephalopods and around 30% for the pelagic fish.

The main species caught by the EU pelagic fleet are horse mackerel (35%), sardine (31%) and sardinella (28%). The EU fleet targeting shrimps has low by-catch (8% cephalopods and fish) but high discards. The EU fleet targeting cephalopods catch cephalopods and fish in the same proportion (also high discards).

Catch for the artisanal fleets is of 90 000t.

State of the stocks

The national fisheries institute, IMROP is in charge of the scientific advice for the Mauritanian EEZ. The assessment of the stocks, which for most of them spread over several countries, is done during international working groups organised within the CECAF.

The pelagic stocks exploited in Mauritania are migratory, and also fished in Morocco and/or Senegal. While the assessment of the stocks is done at the regional level, there is no real concerted management of the stocks between West African countries, each country deciding of the management of the fisheries in their own EEZ. The mathematical models used for the assessment of these stocks are more simple than the one used for most pelagic stocks (e.g. in the ICES sphere). This is mainly due to a lack of appropriate data to apply more sophisticated models which would represent better the dynamics of the stocks.

The state of the stocks described in the report is the same as what was analysed during the previous meeting of the Joint Scientific Committee (see CVO nota 24 November 2010 in annex) and is not discussed further here.

Besides its direct effects on the targeted fish stocks, the fishery in Mauritania has a range of other impacts, going from high discard rate in the cephalopod and shrimp fisheries, impacts on the trophic structure of the ecosystem, detrimental effect of the fishing gears on the bottom, loss of fishing gears in the sea, the catch of endangered species (dolphins turtles or sharks).

3. Relevant points about the evaluation of the agreements

Fisheries agreements with Mauritania is the most important for the EU (86 million EU per year, while 36 and 15 million EU for the agreements with Morocco and Guinea).

The financial compensation for the fishing agreements is divided into fishing rights (75 M€ in 2006 decreasing to 50 M€ in 2012) and support to the development of a policy for the fisheries sector (11M€ in 2006 to 20 M€ in 2012) channelled through the ministry of fisheries. There were problems with the use of this envelope for sectorial policy support : financially, it was difficult to integrate this money in the financial system of the ministry. Then part of the funds was used for financing the functioning of the ministry while it should have been used to start new projects or make new investments. This problems were later sorted out by new agreements between Mauritania and EU.

The money from the fishing agreements contributed to improve scientific research capacity, fisheries control, sea food healthiness control, and to renew landing facilities (but not to the expected level, new installations had to be built but that did not happen because it was too complex to organise).

Use of fishing possibilities by the EU fleet : for shrimp and cephalopods fisheries, 100% of the licences were used in the earlier period of the agreements (2006-2008) decreasing to 70%. As the number of licences was reduced afterwards, the rate of use was close to 100% again. For the pelagic fleet, during the earlier period, the rate of use was low, but increase after 2008 because the fishery attracted more vessels and at the same time the number of licences was reduced. The quota (applying to all pelagic species combined) has been overshoot during the last two years (by 39%).

EU ship owners paid 10M€ per year in addition to the 87 M€ from public money –(proportion similar as for the other fishing agreements). The income for the EU fleets is 186 M€ (per year) of which 50% comes from the pelagic fisheries. The added value by the EU fleet and fisheries sector is 162M€ of which only 13% generated in Mauritania (because the fish is not landed there).

In terms of employment : the fishing agreements concerns 2200 fishers (1 third EU, 1 third Mauritania, 1 third others). It is an obligation for the EU vessels fishing under the agreement to have Mauritanian seamen on board. This helped to improve the employment rate of Mauritanian fishermen, and offered them a training opportunity on modern efficient fishing technics.

The partnership worked well in terms of development of a fisheries policy in Mauritania. The scientific partnership (joint scientific committee) met as planned. It's role in terms of providing scientific advice on the exploitation of fish stocks was not very develop, since most of its conclusion were taken from the CECAF recommendations. The committee had also a plan for scientific actions, which were very slowly carried out. There is a lack EU scientists involvement in this committee. Only the part of the partnership agreement promoting European investments in the fishery sector in Mauritania was not successful at all, Mauritania is not seen as an attractive place for investments.

Post ex evaluation of the agreements :

were those agreements successful in terms of realisations ?

- a. Efficient in providing some support for the EU distant fishing fleets.
- b. Not playing its role in the stabilisation of EU sea food market (as most of the catch is pelagic fish which is not sold on the EU market), and for the employment in the fisheries products sector.
- c. The development of the Mauritanian fisheries industry has been weak (too limited interaction between EU fishing companies and fisheries sector in Mauritania, except for an increasing number of EU vessels in Nouadhibou).
- d. Support to the fisheries policy in Mauritania : improvements were made (scientific research, enforcement, fleet monitoring) but no construction of new major installations (e.g. harbour).
- e. As a conclusion : fisheries sector in Mauritania still has the same problem as before : overcapacity in the fisheries, lack of appropriate installations, weakness of the

management system, all resulting in a stagnation of this sector of the Mauritanian economy.

Were those agreements successful in financial terms :

very high cost for these few results :

- f. Cost of the agreements for the EU is large compared to the profit made by for the EU fleet (the cost for EU is about 40% of income generated by the EU fleet)
- g. Agreements money represents 80% of the revenue of the fishing sector in Mauritania, but for only 29% of the total catch taken in the EEZ.

For 1€ paid by the EU, 1.4€ of added value is generated, which is a ratio similar as for the other fisheries agreements (except the ones for tuna).

Was it relevant to have those agreements ?

The agreements provided an access to a resource of distant seas fishing fleets : in many instances this prevented fishing vessels from having to stop their fishing activity, or from being sold to other countries (e.g. for Andalucian fleets).

For Mauritania, the agreements provided a secured and stable income on the midterm; which makes it possible to use this money in a well-planned and more rational way (than giving access to their resource on the basis of individual licences as it is done with other foreign countries and is not as stable in terms of income).

The agreements are beneficial for the viability of the EU fleets, and the EU fishing sector. No impact on the economic viability of the Mauritanian industrial fleet (slightly negative though because it creates a overcapacity for the octopus fishery). The ecological viability of the agreement is problematic : the agreement results in an excessive fishing effort on the pelagic stocks and on the some of the demersal stocks, generates important discards, and potentially affects sensitive marine habitats. However, excluding the EU fleet would not entirely solve these problems since other foreign fleets and the Mauritanian fleet also significantly participate to the excess of fishing capacity and impact on the ecosystem.

4. Conclusion :

For Mauritania, the agreements had some positive points: the agreements money contributed to the development of a policy for the fisheries sector. The agreements are beneficial for the employment and training of Mauritania fishermen.

But the agreement was not optimal for Mauritania in term of the economic gains generated by their fish resources : on the one hand, the agreements generated an important income for the country (the fishing licences paid by EU companies), but on the other hand, most of the potential added value escapes from Mauritania, due to the limited interaction between the EU fleet exploiting the fish and the Mauritanian industry (only use the landing facility, but no transformation of the fishing products in Mauritania, no maintenance on the vessels...). Similarly, the agreements contribute to the employment of Mauritanian fishermen, but could generate more employment if the catch was landed and processed in the country. No economic partnership was developed between EU and Mauritanian companies, the facilities onshore have improved, but there was no construction of new major installations.

The presence of the EU fleets contributes to the overcapacity in Mauritanian fisheries. For some fisheries, most the fishing pressure is due to EU vessels (shrimp, demersal fish). This situation generates a competition for the resource and hampers the development of the national coastal and artisanal fleets.

For other fisheries the importance of the EU effort is lesser (around 30% of the catch of small pelagic overall), and there is less overlap with the artisanal fisheries.

For the EU, the agreements allowed to maintain some vessels in activity (Spanish vessels) and provided a compensation for the decrease in fishing quotas in Europe of the pelagic fleet. Most of the catch from Mauritania is not sold on the EU fish market (pelagic fish). Most of the added value of these fisheries is for the EU economy. But the public cost seems to be high compared to this added value.

Though the agreements may have been beneficial for the scientific research (contribution of the agreement money to the functioning of IMROP), their impact in terms of cooperation was weak. Most of the cooperation was bilateral (Mauritania-Spain, Mauritania-Netherlands) and the role of the joint scientific committee was limited. It consisted more in providing a platform for discussion between the different parties (i.e. scientists from IMROP, from European institutes, and the European commission) on on-going projects rather than in generating new ideas for future joint research programs. In terms of advice on fish stock exploitation, there was no added value from the agreements (i.e. the Joint Scientific Committee) compared to the advice produced within CECAF (given that many experts of the JSC also attend CECAF working groups).

The lack of a regional management body is a problem for the management of pelagic stocks, which are shared and migrate through different countries of the sub-region. For these stocks a species specific TAC should be set based on the advice provided by the CECAF, and split into national quotas.

Justification

Rapport C096/11

Project Number: 4308101032

The scientific quality of this report has been peer reviewed by the a colleague scientist and the head of the department of IMARES.

Approved: Mark Dickey-Collas
Senior Scientist

Signature:

Date: 6 December 2011

Approved: Dr. ir. T.P. Bult
Head of the Fisheries department

Signature:

Date: 6 December 2011

Appendix A. CVO nota 10.IMA0924 - 24 November 2010

Meeting of the Joint Scientific Committee on the Fishing Agreements between the European Union and Mauritania, October 5-7 2010, Cadiz-Spain



Memo

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FROM
Dr. T.P.A. Brunel

CVO/WOT

DATE
November 24, 2010

SUBJECT
Meeting JSC October 5-7 2010
Cadiz - Spain

Our reference:
10.IMA0924-CVO nota-TB-lcs

CVO nota To: Frans van Beek
From: Thomas Brunel
Cc: dr.ir. M. Kool, ir. L.R.M. Lomans, ir. H.R. Offringa, ir. I.H. Janssen,
ir. D.J. van der Stelt, (EL&I, Dir. AKV)
M. Scholten, T. Bult, onderzoekers Visserij en Vis (IMARES).
Subject: Meeting of the Joint Scientific Committee
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the European Union and Mauritania
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Aims and functioning of the Joint Scientific Committee

Fishing agreements between the European Union and the Islamic Republic of Mauritania impose the constitution of an independent Joint Scientific Committee (JSC) composed of EU (up to 2 delegates per European country) and Mauritanian scientists. The mission of the JSC is to provide scientific advice and recommendations for the management of the stocks in the Mauritanian EEZ which are included in these agreements.

The JSC has ordinary meetings every year in October, during which a review of the state of the stocks is made. The JSC also aims at answering a number of questions of particular relevance for the sustainable exploitation of Mauritanian resources, which may be identified by the JSC itself, or asked by the Mixed Commission (European commission-Mauritanian government).

Intercessional work is organized mostly through emailing, but if the situation requires it, the JSC can have an extraordinary meeting.

This year, there was no special request from the Mixed Commission, and the specific questions addressed were all identified in last year's JSC meeting. The status of the stocks was discussed on the basis of the results of the CECAF/FAO working groups on the assessment of the demersal stocks and of the pelagic stocks of Western Africa, which both took place in 2010.

Besides that, the mandate of the president and vice-president of the JSC were ending this year. The group decided to carry on with the same board for 2 more years (till the end of the current fisheries agreement), namely Mahfoudh Taleb Ould Sidi, as president, and Eduardo Balguerias, as vice-president.

Wageningen UR (Wageningen University, Van Hall-Larensstein University of Applied Sciences and various research institutes) is specialised in the domain of healthy food and living environment.

Review of specific questions studied in 2009-10.

The questions analysed by the members of the JSC during the present meeting were the following:

- Scientific observers

A team of 40 Mauritanian scientific observers is currently in charge of data collection at sea from the different fleets (national and international) operating in Mauritania. Historically, they were affiliated to the fisheries control administration. Since 2009, they have worked at IMROP (Mauritania fisheries institute) and their task has been refocused on scientific observation.

2010 was the first year that this new observer system was operational. By the time of the meeting, 1000 fishing days observed had been realized. This represents a significant improvement compared to the 2009 figure, but also indicates that the target of 5000 fishing days observed scheduled for 2010 will probably not be reached. The main reasons for this coverage lower than expected are: 1) a lack of communication to IMROP of the name of the vessels having a fishing licence every month; 2) the logistical difficulty of planning observer trips on vessels for some fleets due to the duration of their fishing trips (e.g. cephalopod fishery and small pelagic fishery) and 3) the lack of compliance of some fishing companies to their obligation of accepting scientific observers on board.

The JSC sees the implementation of the new observers system at a very positive development but at the same time, recommends a working group to improve the coordination of the Mauritania and Spanish observers systems and to examine whether the data collected by the observers is at the standard required by the European Data Collection Framework. The JSC also recommends that the Mixed Commission discuss the issue of the information gap about the fisheries licences.

- Anchovy in Mauritan waters

An analysis aimed at characterising better the anchovy stocks in Mauritan waters based on the historical scientific survey data was carried out at IMROP. It showed that the biomass of anchovy had varied, depending on the month and the years, between 30 000t and 300 000t. The JSC recommends that scientific survey targeting this species should be conducted to improve our knowledge on this stock, and that exploratory fishing should be done to assess the suitability of this resource for commercial fishing.

- Selectivity of the shrimp trawl

A survey aimed at testing the efficiency of a selectivity grid to reduce the discards generated by the shrimp trawl was planned in 2009, but could not be carried out because no licence was delivered by the European commission to the commercial vessel on which the survey was planned. IMROP and IEO have prepared a new survey which should be conducted at the end of this year.

- Mapping sensitive areas

A Spanish survey aimed at the assessment the deep sea fish resources of the continental slope off Mauritania discovered a cold water coral reef of a length of 450 km, the longest in the world, and of 100m high at a depth of 500m. The JSC recommends to continue the on-going study of this reef, and evaluate if measures aiming at its protection are required.

- Choice of the date for the octopus fishery closure in Mauritania

Recent observations show that the reproduction period of the octopus have switched from March-May to May-June for the spring season, and from September-October to October-November of the autumn season. The dates of the fishery closure, aiming to

protect the spawning octopus, were lagged accordingly, in agreement with the recommendation of the IMROP.

State of the stocks :

The fisheries agreements between EU and RIM involve 11 métier categories:

- crustaceans fishery (excl. crabs and lobster)
- trawl and long line fishery on black hake
- fishery on demersal fish other than black hake with a gear other than trawl
- demersal trawler targeting fish
- cephalopods fishery
- lobster fishery
- tuna (purse seine)
- tuna (hand line and long line)
- industrial pelagic trawlers
- crab fishery
- pelagic fishery (for fresh consumption)

Most of these stocks (demersal and small pelagic species) are assessed within CECAF (Committee for the Eastern Central Atlantic Fisheries) working groups organized under the auspice of the FAO. The most recent reports are from 2010 working groups. The tuna species are assessed by the ICCAT. The JSC made a review of the diagnostics provided by CECAF for the categories mentioned above, gave advises made by CECAF and also ads its own complementary advises. Dutch interest in Mauritanian resources is mainly in industrial small pelagics fisheries and only the state of the stocks of these species is detailed below.

Overview of the state of pelagic stocks

The table below gives an overview of the state of the small pelagic fish stocks in the West African waters, based on the 2010 CECAF/FAO reports.

Stock	Biomass acoustic surveys 2009 (10 ^{^6} t) (ave.2005–2009)	B/B _{0.1}	F _{cur} /F _{0.1}	Catch in 2009 in thousands tonnes (ave.2005–2009)		Diagnostics	Management recommendations
				Whole sub-region	Mauritania		
Sardine <i>S. pilchardus</i>	4.47 (5.28)	160%	15%	318 (277)	104 (82)	Not fully exploited	The total catch level may be temporarily increased, but should be adjusted to natural changes in the stock. The stock structure and abundance should be closely monitored by fishery independent methods.
Zone C							
Sardinella <i>S. aurita</i>	2.86 (1.56)	112%	223%	521 (457)	212 (206)	Over-exploited	
<i>S. maderensis</i>	1.37 (1.30)	-	-	113 (124)	27 (22)	Current catches of sardinella are not sustainable. Catches have to be reduced in order to avoid a future depletion of the stock	The Working Group maintains the 2008 and 2009 recommendations that catches should not exceed 220 000 tonnes for <i>S. aurita</i> in 2010 and 2011 and a reduction of fishing effort on both species of sardinella combined..
<i>Sardinella</i> spp.	4.23 (2.86)	94%	195%	634 (581)	239 (228)		
Horse mackerel							
<i>T. trachurus</i>	0.15 (0.22)	72%	164%	120 (107)	52 (38)	<i>T. trachurus</i> and <i>T. trecae</i> are over-exploited	As a precautionary measure and because of the mixed horse mackerel fishery, it is recommended to decrease effort by 20% compared to 2009. The 2010 total catches of the two species should not exceed 330 000 tonnes as recommended in 2009.
<i>T. trecae</i>	0.91 (0.84)	53%	197%	347 (308)	261 (242)		
Chub Mackerel <i>Scomber japonicus</i>	1.15 (0.61)	130%	77%	244 (231)	45 (51)	Fully exploited	The Working Group recommends that the catch level should not exceed the mean of the last 5 years (2005-2009) i.e. 230 000 tonnes..
Anchovy <i>Engraulis encrasicolus</i>	0.05 (0.11)	NA	97% (LCA)	116 (116)	98 (102)	Fully exploited	As a precautionary measure, effort and catch level should not increase above the current level.

Case of sardinella species and sardine stocks

Nota on the data available to IMROP

There has been a consistent discrepancy between the catch reported by the Dutch ship-owners, which are identical to the official EU figure, and the catch data available to IMROP, through the log-books. Though the existence of double log-book has been mentioned, the JSC identified that the main cause for this difference was the loss of a substantial percentage of the copies of the logbooks, probably by the Mauritanian administration. This has however no effect on the stock assessment, since the EU figures are used by the working group.

Sardinella aurita

The catch of round sardinella in 2009 was of 521 kt for the whole region of which 212 kt were taken in Mauritanian waters, which is rather stable compared to previous year.

Acoustic survey abundance index shows a continuous decrease from 2.1 million tonnes in 1999 to 0.8 million tonnes in 2005. The index subsequently increased to reach about 2.86 million tonnes in 2009, the historical maximum of the time series.

The high level of the catches for the last 3 years, and the high abundance indices in acoustic surveys may result of the good recruitments of the year-classes 2005 and 2006. However, there is no sign of other good year-class since these two good recruitments, and under the current high catch levels, the stock remains over exploited. In addition, the assessment is less reliable, due to the lack of coverage of an important part of the distribution area of the species by the acoustic survey.

Consequently, the working group advised, as last year, a reduction of the effort on *S. aurita* and a limitation of the catch.

Sardinella maderensis

Catches of Madeira sardinella in 2009 were of 113 kt of which 27 kt were taken in Mauritania. The acoustic biomass estimate historically fluctuated between 0.8 and 1.5 million tonnes with a period at around 2.5 million tonnes in 2003 and 2004. The index then indicates a decrease with a historical low value of 0.55 million tonnes in 2008. The 2009 index increased at a level of 1.37 million tonnes. No assessment model could be fitted to the data.

Sardine

Sardine catches (stock C) have increased to 318 kt in the region and 104 kt in the Mauritanian waters.

Sardine acoustic biomass estimates have shown an increase from 1997 to 2005, reaching 8 million tonnes, and has decreased since then and stabilized around 5 million tonnes. The FAO WG considers that the stock is moderately exploited, and that catches may be increased.

Management recommendations for the small pelagic fishery

The CECAF/FAO working group for the small pelagic stocks concludes in an overexploitation of these resources, and advises a significant reduction of the fishing effort, at a global level. The JSC wanted to insist on the importance of following CECAF recommendations, specifically in the present context where there is a likelihood for a

further increase of the fishing pressure on pelagic stocks, due to an increased demand from fish meal factories, an increased number of vessels under flag of convenience, increasing targeting of the pelagic fish by the artisanal fishery and a possible withdraw of vessels from the South Pacific and their return to Mauritania.

Given the wide distribution and the migratory behaviour of the West African pelagic stocks, the JSC considers that the only way towards a sustainable exploitation will be through the creation of a regionally coordinated management organisation involving Morocco, Mauritania and Senegal. At the moment, there is very little dialogue between these countries on how to implement the recommendations of the CECAF/FAO working group. This organisation will have to decide on the allocation of the TAC and of the fishing effort between the three countries. Each country, including Mauritania, will have to make its choice about which fleets should be forced to reduce its effort.

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