ES

LAKE VICTORIA FISHERIES ORGANIZATION
OF THE EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY

REPORT OF THE SIXTH REGULAR SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS SPEKE RESORT AND CONFERENCE CENTRE, MUNYONYO, KAMPALA, UGANDA, 30TH JUNE 2006

LVFO Secretariat
P.O. Box 1625,
JINJA, Uganda
Tel: 043 120205/6
Fax: 043 123123
Email: lvfo-sec@lvfo.org

JUNE, 2006

Table of Content

ABBREVIATIONS III

1. OPENING SESSION 1

2. STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECISIONS OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS 9

2.1. The Decisions made by the LVFO Council of Ministers for Implementation 9
2.2. Continuation of Frame Surveys 9
2.3. Management of Fishing Effort 9
2.4. Determination of Suitable Mesh Size of Net for Harvesting *Rastrineobola argentea* (Dagaa/Omena/Mukene) 10
2.5. Development of Alternative Livelihood Options for Fishers 10
2.6. Peer Review of the Results of LVFRPII 10
2.7. Adoption and Enforcement of the 5 inch Minimum Mesh Size of Gillnets 10
2.8. Adoption and Implementation of the Slot Size of 50 cm to 85 cm for Nile perch 10
2.9. Promotion of Aquaculture in the Lake Victoria Basin 10
2.10. Sustaining the Strategy on Cross-border Fishing and Fish Trade 11
2.11. Utilization of the Lake Victoria Perch Logo and Payment of Royalty 11

3. PROGRESS IN IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WORK PROGRAM AND PROJECTS OF THE LVFO 13

3.1. The Status of Implementation of the Projects 13
3.2. The Approved Work Program of the LVFO for the Period 2004 - 2006 14
3.3. The Status of Implementation of the Approved Program 15
3.3.1. Development of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and Guidelines 15
3.3.2. Development and Harmonization of Fisheries Policies, Laws and Legislation 16
3.3.3. Preparation of a Working Paper on Fisheries Institutions and Institutional Processes 16
3.3.4. Development and Promotion of Co-management 17
3.3.5. Development of Mechanisms for Collaboration with Industrial Fish Processors 18
3.3.6. Promoting Compliance to Fisheries Laws, Regulations and Agreed Management Measures 19
3.3.7. Development of a Regional Plan of Action for Management of Fishing Capacity on Lake Victoria (RPOA – Capacity) 19
3.3.8. Promoting Compliance to Fish Quality and Safety and Improving Fish Products 20
3.3.9. Monitoring Fish Catches, Fishing Effort, Fish Stocks, the Environment and Socio-economic Factors of the Fishery and the Fishers 20
3.3.10. Promoting Aquaculture in the Lake Victoria Basin 23
3.3.11. Establishing Databases Including GIS 24
3.3.12. Packaging and Disseminating Fisheries Management Information 24
3.3.13. Conducting Statutory Body Meetings 29
3.3.14. Development of Human Resources Capacity 29
3.3.15. Procurement of Research Vessels and Patrol Boats 30
3.3.16. Construction of the LVFO Secretariat Headquarters 30
3.3.17. Rehabilitation of Fisheries Research and Fisheries Management Institutions 31
3.3.18. Construction of Fish Landing Sites and Social Infrastructure 31

4. STAFF MATTERS 33

4.1. Appointment of the Executive Secretary and Deputy Executive Secretary 33
4.2. Filling of Vacant Posts at the LVFO Secretariat 33
4.2.1. Finance and Administrative Officer 33
4.2.2. Information and Database Officer (IDO) 34
4.2.3. Posts under IFMP (Internal Auditor; Information, Communication and Outreach Officer; and Civil Engineer). 34
4.3. Review of Policy on Salaries and Allowances 34
4.3.1. Policy on Staff Salary Review/Increments 34
4.3.2. Salary of the Information and Database Officer 35

4.3.3. Salary of Drivers for Executive Staff 35
4.3.4. Housing Allowance of the Executive Staff 35
4.3.5. Residential and Mobile Telephone Allowance for Executive Staff 35
4.4. Proposal to Strengthen the Secretariat 36
4.5. Policy on Capital/Development Budget 37
4.6. Staff Welfare 38

5. FINANCIAL MATTERS 39

5.1. The Status of LVFO Accounts as of 31st May 2006 39
5.2. The Status of Country Contributions as of 31st May 2006 40
5.3. Receipts from Development Partners 40
5.4. Final Audited Accounts for the FY 2003/2004 and 2004/2005 40
5.5. The Gratuity Debt. 41
5.6. Status of the Fraudulent Transfer of US$16,079 from the COMESA Project Bank Account No. 02501007832-02 with Bank of Baroda, Jinja Branch 41

6. THE PROGRAM BUDGET OF THE LAKE VICTORIA FISHERIES ORGANISATION FOR THE FINANCIAL YEARS 2006/2007 AND 2007/2008 43

6.1. The Recurrent Budget for the FY 2004/2005, 2005/2006 and 2006/2007 43
6.2. The LVFO Development Work Program and Budget for the FY 2006/2007 and 2007/2008. 43
6.5. Sustainable Funding of the LVFO 47
6.6. Functional and Institutional Analysis of the LVFO 47

7. AOB 49

8. DATES AND VENUE OF THE SEVENTH REGULAR SESSION OF CM 49

10. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT 50

ANNEX I: LIST OF PARTICIPANTS 51

ANNEX II: AGENDA 55

ANNEX III: PROGRAM 56

LIST OF OTHER ANNEXES PROVIDED UNDER A SEPARATE COVER 57

ABBREVIATIONS

ACP	African Caribbean and Pacific
APE	Annual Program Estimates
BMU	Beach Management Unit
CAS	Catch Assessment Survey
CIFA	Committee for Inland Fisheries of Africa
CFC	Common Fund for Commodities
CM	Council of Ministers
COFI	Committee on Fisheries
COMESA	Common Market for East and Southern Africa
EAC	East African Community
EC	Executive Committee
EDF	European Development Funds
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of United Nations
FIQA	Fish Quality and Assurance
FMC	Fisheries Management Committee
FMDST	Fisheries Management Decision Support Tool
HIV/AIDs	Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immune Deficiency
HRD	Human Resources Development
ICO	Information Communication and Outreach
IFMP	Implementation of a Fisheries Management Plan
INFOSA	Information Network for Southern Africa
ISTTA	International Short Term Technical Adviser
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
RPOA-IUU	Regional Plan of Action to prevent, deter and eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated fishing
LVBC	Lake Victoria Basin Commission
KMFRI	Kenya Marine and Fisheries Research Institute
LVDP	Lake Victoria Development Program
LVEMP	Lake Victoria Environmental Management Project
LVFO	Lake Victoria Fisheries Organization
LVFRPII	Lake Victoria Fisheries Research Project Phase II
MCS	Monitoring Control and Surveillance
MRAG	Marine Resources Assessment Group
NAFIRRI	National Fisheries Resources Research Institute
PSC	Policy Steering Committee
RAF	Regional Office for Africa
RPOA-Capacity	Regional Plan of Action to manage fishing capacity
RTF	Regional Task Force
RWGs	Regional Working Groups
SAREC	Sida's Department for Research Cooperation
SC	Scientific Committee
SFC	Strengthening Fish Products Health Conditions
Sida	Swedish International Development Agency
SOPs	Standard Operating Procedures
STTAs	Short Term Technical Adviser
TCP	Technical Cooperation Project
TORs	Terms of Reference
COMESA	Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa
UNU	United Nations University
USAID	United States Aid for International Development
VicRes	Lake Victoria Research Initiatives
VMS	Vessel Monitoring System
WGs	Working Groups
WTO	World Trade Organization

THE REPORT OF THE POLICY STEERNG COMMITTEE TO THE SIXTH REGULAR SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTER, SPEKE RESORT CONFERENCE CENTRE, MUNYONYO-KAMPALA, UGANDA, 30th June 2006

1. OPENING SESSION

The Sixth Regular Session of the LVFO Council of Ministers was held at the Speke Resort Hotel Conference Centre, Munyonyo, Kampala, Uganda on the 30th June 2006. It was attended by members of the LVFO Council of Ministers, Policy Steering Committee, Executive Committee, FAO representative from Harare, Zimbabwe, LVFO Desk Officers, The Ugandan High Commissioner to Kenya, representative of the Tanzania High Commission in Kenya, representative of Kenya High Commission in Uganda, a representative of the EC Delegation in Kampala, a representative of the Regional Authorizing Officer of EU-EDF (Uganda), a representative of Fish Processors Association from Tanzania, a representative of IUCN, representative of LVEMP Uganda and Staff of the LVFO Secretariat. The list of participants is attached as **Annex I.**

1.1. Statement of the Out-going Chairman of the Council of Ministers

Hon. Joseph Munyao the out-going Chairman of the LVFO Council of Ministers, and Minister of Livestock and Fisheries Development welcomed the participants to the LVFO to the Sixth Regular Session of the Council of Ministers. He thanked the Government and the people of the Republic of Uganda for the warm welcome and hospitality. He thanked the participants for the tremendous support he has received during his term of officer. He commended member States and LVFO for implementation of the Fisheries Management Plan

The outgoing Chairman of outlined some of the achievements during tenure. The Implementation of Fisheries Management Plan (IFMP) was proceeding well and he thanked EU for the financial support. Conflicts in fishing had been contained. Illegal fishing was being combated. Standard Operating Procedures (SOPS), guidelines and manuals conducting of activities on the lake had been developed. Fisheries regulations had been enforced through patrols and to the extent that the fishery is recovering. BMUs had been formed to involve fishers in fisheries management. Slot-size for Nile Perch harvesting and processing was being implemented. The Regional Plan of Action to prevent, deter, and eliminate Illegal, Unregulated and Unreported has been adopted and was being implanted by Partner States. Fisheries policies and legislation and institutional arrangement have been initiated in Kenya and Uganda.

The Outgoing Chairperson called on his successor to continue with the good work started including setting up a fund to manage the lake, finding solution to management of HIV/AIDS in fishing communities, Ensuring the current EU – IFMP Project is extended and a follow up project named formulated and a request for fund made. Ensure that legislations, policies, institutional arrangements and levies continue to be harmonized. He called upon his successor to look into aquaculture development with a view to introducing viable alternative livelihoods to ease the pressure from the lake and the Secretariat builds close links with all East African institutions and organs, especially the Lake Victoria Basin

Commission.

The Outgoing Chairman extended gratitude to all development and collaborative partners, especially EU, the Uganda government for hosting the Council Session. He assured his successor Hon. Anthony Diallo, Minister for Natural Resources and Tourism, Tanzania of his support and handed instrument of power to him wishing him Gods blessing.

1.2. Statement by the Host Minister

Hon. Eng. Onek Hilary (MP), the Minister of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries welcome participants to the Sixth Session of the Council of Ministers of the LVFO. He informed participants that the meeting of Council of Ministers is very important as it deliberates on the progress on the implementation of the Council of Ministers decisions, adopts and approves new measures for implementation. He informed members that the challenges facing the lake are well known and from previous meetings and that several management measures have been put in place to address them. What was required was therefore commitment and resources to implement them.

The Minister informed that meeting that the fisheries of Lake Victoria are important to the people of the Partner States and it is collective duty to to guide their development and management to ensure their sustainability.

He noted that the population of the Partner States was increasing rapidly at about 3% per year and there was need actions to increase in fish production by ensuring protection of the fish stocks and proper management of the fishing capacity, and specific actions for each of the commercial species to obtain maximum benefit.

He informed the meeting the Uganda was committed to implementation the Council of Ministers Decisions. It has developed a new Fisheries Bill, was committed to putting in place a sustainable funding mechanism whereby a fish levy on fish exports have been agreed upon. Uganda is also committed to working with the Partner States in the implementation of the Fisheries Management Plan on Lake Victoria. The formation of Beach Management Units (BMUs) in Uganda has been completed and initial training done. There are now 349 legally established BMUs ready to participate in fisheries management. Reports from the field show that they have started fighting use of illegal fishing gears. The BMUs require adequate capacity building for them to perform their duties effectively and complement the work done by government. There is need for formation of a strong BMU network on Lake Victoria with leadership at regional level to represent interests of fishers.

The Ministers recognized the benefits of having Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for Monitoring Control and Surveillance (MCS) on Lake Victoria and informed members of inter-district teams in MCS operations which have been streamlined and would improve with participation of BMUs. He and wished the meeting fruitful deliberations.

1.3 Remarks by the Executive Secretary, LVFO

Mr. T.W. Maembe, the Executive Secretary, LVFO welcomed participants to the Regular Sixth Regular Session of the Council of Ministers and thanked the host State and the Organizers for the excellent facilities. He thanked Council for their strong commitment to ensure the Lake Victoria fisheries resources are well managed to contribute to food security, poverty reduction and economic growth.

The Executive Secretary informed Council the activities and issues that they needed to know and required their attention. The Fisheries Management Plan Project was proceeding well. The stakeholders conference directed by the Council was held and well attended. The Strategic Vision for Lake Victoria (1999-2015) and the Fisheries Management Plan will be updated. The Secretariat has remained small although the scope of work has increased and its structure and function need review and improvement.

Mr. Maembe outlined challenges that need serious attention of the Partner States and should be incorporated in fisheries development plans which included: The declining water levels of the lake; Resurgence of water hyacinth; The need for commitment to BMU establishment; The need to build a strong private – public partnership in the fisheries; Establishing a sustainable mechanism for financing fisheries management and development; the threat of HIV/AIDs, malaria and bilharzias in the fisher community; and The need to inculcate a savings culture in fisheries.

The Executive Secretary thanked the European Commission for IFMP. Supporting the Fisheries Management Plan Implementation Project NORAD through IUCN for the socio-economic of Nile project project; FAO for the development of RPOA-IUU Fishing, RPOA Fishing Capacity; the CFS/COMESA/FAO/LVFO for the project on value addition

I finally expressed his appreciation of the cooperation and commitment of the Project Coordinator, Project Manager, the Project Implementation Unit Experts and all staff at the Secretariat individually and collectively for ensuring the work entrusted to the Secretariat is implemented satisfactorily. He wish the meeting fruitful deliberations. God bless you all.

1.4. Remarks of the Executive Secretary, Lake Victoria Basin Commission

Dr Tom Okurut, the Executive Secretary (SG) of the Lake Victoria Basin Commission conveyed apology from the EAC Secretary General who is in Banjul participating in the AU heads of state meeting.

Dr Okurut informed the PSC that the activities of the EAC Institutions are being enhanced and integrated within the overall framework provided for in the Treaty . The EAC 2006-10 strategy for the first time shall include the EAC institutions framework strategies, and The East Africa Legislative Assembly (EALA) functional role includes the EAC institutions but to date, the oversight role of the Assembly has not been covering the institutions. From July 2006, this role will now be implemented to ensure that all work as a community.

The Executive Secretary of the Lake Victoria Basin Commission informed the PSC that the Commission was declared effective in July 2005 but it only became effective in April 2006 following the appointment of Executive Staff of the Commission. *Dr Tom Okia Okurut was appointed Executive Secretary); Dr Wilson Kapyas Kipkore and Mr Meraji Msuya, Deputy Executive Secretaries.*
The Commission is in the process of moving its offices to Kisumu and this should be completed by early August. The official launching of the Commission is planned for the 2nd week of August in Kisumu.

Dr Okurut informed the meeting that LVBC has acquired a Vessel RV Jumuiya; it was officially handed to EAC SG on 29th May 2006 in Mwanza. The Vessel is very ideal for scientific research and would available for use by the LVFO.

Dr Okurut informed the PSC that the Summit Meeting of April 2006 directed the convening of a special Council to consider only issues of Lake Victoria. This Meeting is now planned for August 2006. The output of this Special Meeting will be presented to the Working Summit that could be held before the regular session in November 2006. Any issues arising from this LVFO Meeting that may need attention of the full Council could be considered at this special Council of Ministers.

1.5. Remarks of the FAO Representative

Mr. Percy Misika, the FAO Representative to Uganda expressed his pleasure and honour to participate in the meeting and conveyed the warm greetings of the Director General of FAO. He noted that Lake Victoria is an asset to East Africans providing for food, employment, and export earnings.

He informed the Council that FAO has a long historical of involvement in the management and development of the Lake Victoria Fisheries. FAO was involved in formulation of the Convention for the establishment of the Lake Victoria Fisheries Organization. The linkages between LVFO and FAO has been strengthened through the Cooperative Agreement between FAO and LVFO and was instrumental in development of the Regional Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing on Lake Victoria, is currently involved in development of a Regional Plan of Action for managing fishing capacity on Lake Victoria and has provided funds to develop a strategy on aquaculture development in East Africa.

FAO is currently aware of the existing constraints to fisheries development and management of the fisheries resources of Lake Victoria such Water-borne diseases like bilhazia, malaria and HIV/AIDS, the challenges of managing of the lake as a single ecosystem by the Partner States, Lack of adequate funds. FAO wishes to acknowledge the efforts by the Partner States and development partners such as the EU and World Bank to maintain the health of lake and will continue to work with the Organization these efforts. He wished the meeting fruitful deliberations and a prosperous future for the organization.

1.6. Remarks of Regional Authorizing Officer

Mr. Haguma J. W. the Representative of the Regional Authorizing Officer for the IFMP project thanked the implementing Institutions and the Partner States for their commitment to see the IFMP project a success. He informed the Council of Ministers Session on the satisfactory progress accomplished in forming BMUs. He also briefed the members about the Mid-term review and their recommendation for a follow-up project to ensure the institutions for co-management are capable to undertake the management responsibilities. He then wished the Session successful deliberations.

1.7. Remarks of the European Commission Representative

Ambassador Sigurd Illing, the Head of Delegation, European Commission in Uganda expressed his gratitude for having been invited to the 6th Regular Session of the Council of Ministers of the Lake Victoria Fisheries Organization. He noted that the European Union (EU) has a strong commitment towards supporting the sustainable use of fisheries resources in Lake Victoria, first through the project 'Lake Victoria Fisheries Research Program (LVFRP)' and now the 'Implementation of a Fisheries Management Plan (IFMP) Project'. EU has very good reasons for this support because fish is one of the most important export products and also a base for food security for many households. For example, fish exports from East Africa to the EU amounted to 500,000 metric tones at a value of Euros 3.43 per kg. Given the link between economic growth and poverty reduction with sustainable use of fisheries resources, EU is committed to continue their support.

He quoted the words of the former EU Commissioner for Development and Humanitarian Aid Poul Nielson when commenting on the decision by the European Commission to provide support to the IFMP *"I particularly welcome this Programme as it shows how we combine development, environment and trade policy on a regional level to foster sustainable economic growth. Economic growth is essential for helping achieve poverty reduction in Africa. This programme will make an important contribution to avoiding over fishing, protecting the environment and improving quality and safety standards of the fish".* He added that EU and the LVFO were implementing a Financing Agreement with a total value of € 29.9 million, which will run up to August 2008. Under this arrangement, the EU was supporting the Countries to monitor fish catches and exports, enforce measures to counteract illegal fishing, involve fishing communities in the co-management of the fisheries, renovate a number of landing sites, and strengthen the LVFO Secretariat including constructing its headquarters building in Jinja.

He noted that the European example is often quoted when talking about regional integration in Africa, and East Africa, and pointed out the need to be aware of the difficulties that have to be overcome in such a process. He stressed the need for unlimited patience and enormous determination on the way to sustainable success. He cautioned on the danger of national interests taking over regional interests, the tendency for politicians to keep blaming the centre and in this case the LVFO in Jinja – for everything that is unpopular. He encouraged the LVFO to

keep focused and tackle such difficulties with tact and determination while continuously informing all stakeholders about the progress. He added that it the responsibility of the Organization to well manage the environment with its high biodiversity for future generations and to avoid the negative impact on the economy.

He informed the Council that the EU programme was supporting the strengthening the LVFO and collaborating institutions, and considered it more important to seek means of sustainable funding from the beneficiaries of the lake resources especially the fish processors.

He stated that the EU had just carried out a mid-term review and an independent annual review mission and the overall impression of the IFMP was positive, The EU was considering first to extend the present IFMP for a period of 24 months and thereafter support the IFMP for a 2nd phase. He was hopeful that the second phase would be fully executed by the LVFO Secretariat and be funded under the coming 10th EDF Regional Programme for Eastern and Southern Africa. He wished the Council of Ministers very good deliberations.

1.8. Remarks of the IUCN Representative

Mr Alex Muhwezi, the County Director, IUCN Uganda made a statement on behalf of Dr Alice Kaudia , Regional Director of IUCN Eastern Africa Regional program. He was pleased to have been invited to represent IUCN to this Sixth Regular Session of the LVFO Council of Ministers.

Mr Muhwezi informed the meeting the IUCN - The World Conservation Union brings together States, government agencies and a diverse range of non-governmental organizations are in a unique world partnership. The Republic of Uganda and Republic of Kenya are State members of IUCN and that negotiations are ongoing to admit United Republic of Tanzania a member of IUCN. In addition, several of the conservation agencies in the three partners' states are members of IUCN.

The IUCN representative informed the meeting that the core function of IUCN is to provide technical assistance to members and partners in conservation and natural resource management for the well-being of mankind. In this region, this technical assistance is packaged and delivered through Eastern Africa Regional Program (EARP) of IUCN coordinated by Eastern Africa Regional Office (EARO) in Nairobi, Kenya. The EARP is a component of an integrated global program, based on key ecosystems - water & wetlands, forests, dry-lands and marine as well as cross cutting areas of social aspects, biodiversity economics, environmental planning, support to international conventions and control of invasive species.

Mr Muhwezi informed the meeting that IUCN has formal collaboration with the LVFO through a Memorandum of Understanding. IUCN has enjoyed excellent collaboration with LVFO and this has resulted in successful implementation of a wide range of activities including the *Socio-economics of the Nile Perch Fishery Project on Lake Victoria* (1996-1999 phase I and 2001 – 2005 phase II) with funding support from NORAD. Through this collaboration, the LVFO has been able to promote the understanding of and demonstrate the importance of Lake

Victoria and her fisheries resources to the social-economic development of the peoples of the lake basin and their livelihoods. He noted with appreciation the recommendations given by the LVFO to LVFO Secretariat to explore more collaborative activities with IUCN. He particularly recommendation exploring modalities to develop an implement follow up activities to our previous projects. There were also new areas with potential to attract more collaboration between IUCN and LVFO. He promised the meeting that IUCN welcomes the recommendations and will follow them up with the LVFO secretariat as soon as possible. He expressed his pleasure and appreciation for the excellent collaboration IUCN was having with LVFO and the confidence they have in IUCN and pledged IUCN commitment to continued collaboration with LVFO.

1.9. Statement of the Fish Processors Association

Mr Ovia Katiti Matovu, the Executive Director of Uganda Fish Processors and Exporter's Association gave a statement on behalf of the fish processors and exporters in East Africa.

She informed the meeting that the Fish Sector plays a big role in our economies of the Partner States. It is the leading non-traditional export sector contributing about 6 – 12% of the GDP in Uganda. The Sector provides employment to a big number of our local population, right from the capture at the lake, through the production and processing chain.

The fish processors were grateful for the efforts of the LVFO and associated fisheries research and management institutions. She informed the meeting that they were committed to the partnership between LVFO and the fish processors. The fish processors were faced with acute shortage of fish in our lakes. She informed them that as they use capture fisheries and participate in the management of the fish resources, they are also developing other strategies such as maximising profits through value addition both on the fillet and on the by products. The sector was also focusing on aquaculture which they believe is the other way to supplement the capture fish, not only for the export market but for the local market as well. They promised to ensure that our local people get high quality processed fish in our super markets to demystify the assumption that processed fish is only for export to Europe.

She emphasized the need for the Private Sector in East Africa to work together as one industry through a Regional Association which can help us to jointly overcome the constraints that were facing the industry. She looked forward to the time when the fish would be marketed as Victoria Perch rather than Nile Perch Uganda, Kenya or Tanzania and requested for the support of the Organization. She thanked LVFO for having organised this important meeting.

1.10. Election of Chairperson and Vice-chairperson of the LVFO CM

The United Republic of Tanzania took-over as the Chairman of the LVFO Council of Ministers and the Republic of Uganda was elected Vice-Chairperson.

1.11. Statement of the In-coming Chairperson

Hon. Anthony Diallo (MP), Minister, Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism, United Republic of Tanzania expressed great pleasure to be in Munyonyo, Kampala to attend the Sixth Regular Session of the LVFO Council of Ministers and thanked the Republic of Uganda for hosting the Session. He also appreciated the LVFO Secretariat for the excellent logistic support provided to the delegates from Tanzania.

The Hon. Minister congratulated the outgoing Chairman of the Council of Ministers Hon. Joseph Konzollo Munyao, EGH, and (MP) for retaining his portfolio during the recent Government reshuffle in the Republic of Kenya. He also congratulated Hon. Eng. Hilary Onek, (MP), Minister of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries (MAAIF), Republic of Uganda for wining the recent elections and also being appointed as the MAAIF Minister.

He noted that the meeting was taking place at a time when the management of the fishery resources of Lake Victoria was becoming a crucial issue in our region. He referred to last year's film made on the lake fisheries on the Tanzanian side called the "Darwin's Nightmare" which painted a bad image of the Lake Victoria fisheries and called for corrective management measures including eco-labeling.

He noted that Lake Victoria basin is affected by social, cultural and environmental problems, such as, open access, encroachment on fish breeding areas, increasing fishing effort, illegal fishing practices, poverty, HIV/AIDS and waterborne diseases. In addition, research and field data show decline in fish stocks. As a result, the Council of Ministers in its fifth Regular Session held in Bagamoyo, Tanzania in May 2004 instituted control measures to arrest the situation. Tanzania is committed to deploy human and financial resources to implement the Council Decisions. Action has been taken to enforce the Fisheries Act No. 22 of 2003 and Fisheries Regulations of 2005. Monitoring Control and Surveillance was intensified with the purchase of patrol boats and with the involvement of Beach Management Units (BMUs).

The Hon. Minister appreciated and looked forward to continued financial support from European Union (EU) through the Implementation of the Fisheries Management Plan (IFMP) Project towards sustainable management of the Lake Victoria fisheries resources and the LVFO should look for ways and means of ensuring that the Organization is sustained. He urged the LVFO Secretariat to organize a meeting of the Stakeholders to discus the Fish Levy Study Report and come up with way forward.

The Hon. Minister thanked all Development Partners for providing help for the management of the fishery resources of Lake Victoria and was confident that the Partner States have the will and capacity to ensure sustainable fishery resources of the lake for now and the future. The Hon. Minister committed himself to serve the Organization as the Chairman of the Council of Ministers for the next two years. He requested for full support of the Members of the Council in order to fulfill the functions of the Council as stipulated in the LVFO Convention.

2. STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECISIONS OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

2.1. The Decisions made by the LVFO Council of Ministers for Implementation

The LVFO Council of Ministers (CM) deliberated on the progress made by Partner States in implementing the decisions of the Council. These were:

a) Continue frame surveys;
b) Rationalize fishing effort on Lake Victoria;
c) Determine suitable size of net for harvesting Dagaa;
d) Develop alternative livelihood options for fishers;
e) Peer review the results of LVFRPII
f) Adopt and enforce the 5 inch minimum mesh of gill net;
g) Adopt and implement the slot size of 50 to 85 cm for Nile perch;
h) Promote aquaculture in the Lake Victoria basin;
i) Sustain the strategy on cross border fishing and fish trade; and
j) Develop a strategy on use of the Lake Victoria Perch Logo including payment of royalty.

The status of implementation of these Council decisions was presented as outlined below:

2.2. Continuation of Frame Surveys

The Partner States have continued to undertake frame surveys on the lake every two years to monitor the status of the fishery. The data for the frame survey conducted in 2004 was analyzed and a regional report prepared **(Annex IV).** A comparison of the results of the 2004 frame survey with previous surveys suggested that there were no new entrants in the fishery with the number of fishing crafts decreasing from 52,481 to 51,712 and the number of fishers from 175,890 to 153,066 between 2002 and 2004. However, the fishing effort has increased through increase in the number of gill nets from 984,084 in 2002 to 1,233,052 nets in 2004. This has been increased further through an increase in the practice of joining nets vertically. The number of outboard engines increased from 4,108 in 2000 to 9,609 in 2004 suggesting that more fishers were going far in search of fish. Another frame survey was conducted in April 2006 and the data are being analyzed.

2.3. Management of Fishing Effort

The Partner States have continued to assess fishing effort through frame and catch assessment surveys. The Partner States in collaboration with FAO organized a regional workshop in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania from 12th to 14th December 2005 to discuss fishing effort and capacity on Lake Victoria. Subsequently, a Regional Task Force (RTF) was set up to draft a Regional Plan of Action to manage fishing capacity (RPOA-Capacity) on Lake Victoria. The draft RPOA-Capacity is attached **(Annex V).**

2.4. Determination of Suitable Mesh Size of Net for Harvesting *Rastrineobola argentea* (Dagaa/Omena/Mukene)

The research institutions conducted mesh-size selectivity experiments using nets of 3 mm, 5 mm, 6 mm, 8 mm, and 10 mm mesh sizes. They also surveyed the distribution of Dagaa especially in relation to that of juveniles of other commercially important fish species. The available information on Dagaa was also synthesized. The results showed that 8 mm was the minimum most suitable mesh size of net for harvesting Dagaa. It was also observed that fishing in bays and within 2 km off the shore caught large numbers of juveniles of other species as by-catch. Precautionary measures were recommended to use a minimum mesh of 8 mm two km away from the shore and further research work to verify the appropriate fishing grounds using the 8 mm Dagaa nets.

2.5. Development of Alternative Livelihood Options for Fishers

Council directed that alternative livelihood options for fisher-folk should be explored to reduce fishing pressure on the lake. A study on alternative livelihood options is planned in the Annual Work Program (APE) 2006/2007 under IFMP project. In the meantime LVFO is promoting aquaculture in the Lake Victoria basin as an alternative livelihood option for fishery dependent communities.

2.6. Peer Review of the Results of LVFRPII

The results of LVFRPII have not been peer reviewed in detail. However, some of the of the results were reviewed and presented at the Regional Stakeholders Conference held in Entebbe in February 2005. Methodologies for data collection have also been improved and standardized through development of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs). Some of the data is being re-analyzed using the SOPs. A team of consultants from the Marine Resources Assessment Group (MRAG) is also reviewing available information and data to develop a Fisheries Management Decision Support Tool (FMDST) for Lake Victoria.

2.7. Adoption and Enforcement of the 5 inch Minimum Mesh Size of Gillnets

Uganda and Kenya adopted the 5 inch minimum mesh size and incorporated this in their fisheries regulations while Tanzania set the minimum mesh size at 6 inches. All the Partner States are enforcing the mesh size restriction through patrols and sensitization of fishers.

2.8. Adoption and Implementation of the Slot Size of 50 cm to 85 cm for Nile perch

All the Partner States have adopted and are implementing the lower slot size of 50 cm. However, implementation of the upper slot size of 85 cm has been problematic and more research is needed to review its applicability.

2.9. Promotion of Aquaculture in the Lake Victoria Basin

A status report, guidelines and implementation plan and manuals for culture of the commonly cultured species have been drafted. Experiments on culture of Nile

perch have been conducted by NAFIRRI at Kajansi (Uganda) and KMFRI, at Sangori (Kenya). Large-scale commercial aquaculture is being strongly promoted by some of the Partner States. LVFO institutions are developing a strategy and framework for aquaculture in the basin with FAO support.

2.10. Sustaining the Strategy on Cross-border Fishing and Fish Trade

This strategy was being implemented in collaboration with IUCN Nile perch project which was supported by Norad through IUCN. The project contributed greatly in resolving conflicts in cross-border fishing and fish trade, assisted in summarizing applicable laws and making them available to stakeholders and conducted training for cross-border BMUs. Implementation of the strategy is to be maintained through IFMP.

2.11. Utilization of the Lake Victoria Perch Logo and Payment of Royalty

During the Regular Session of the CM held in Bagamoyo in May 2004, the Secretariat proposed payment of a royalty of US$ 0.01 per kg to be charged for using the logo. The Council of Ministers directed that Partner States consult fish processors on the issue and submit their reports to the Secretariat within six months. The Secretariat communicated the decision to the Partner States but to date no response has been received and the fish processors have not used the logo despite its potential advantages. There is, however, need to adopt use of the logo as it would distinguish the product on the market. A meeting of the competent authority with the fish processors to address the issue among others was held on 23rd May 2006 in Entebbe, Uganda. The meeting recommended that the LVFO Secretariat should distribute the logo to the Competent Authorities in the Partner States. The industry would use the logo and Competent Authorities would consult with the industry on the amount to be paid and the mode of payment and set a Code of Practice and conditions for use of the logo.

The CM deliberated on the status of implementation of the Council decisions and agreed as follows:

(a) Technical issues of the Organization should be discussed by the Scientific Committee (SC) and Fisheries Management Committee (FMC) before being presented to the Executive Committee;
(b) There was need for thorough analysis and interpretation of the results of frame survey;
(c) RPOA-capacity should be subjected to stakeholders workshop before being considered by organs of the LVFO;
(d) Mesh size of Dagaa should be considered by the SC before being brought to the EC;
(e) There was need for explicit objectives for management of individual fish species;
(f) Peer review of LVFRPII results should be undertaken;
(g) The LVFO Secretariat should work with IUCN to develop a follow up project on cross-border fishing and fish trade;
(h) There was need for an in-depth study on use of the Nile perch logo. The use of Logo should be considered together with other aspects of fisheries management especially eco-labeling. Payment for the Logo should be determined by Partner States since some of these states are

already charging levy; and

(i) Some of the issues such as RPOA-Capacity, use of the logo needed dedicated session.

Action: The CM took note of the status of implementation of the Council Decisions and directed:

I. **Research institutions to carry out research to provide guidance on the need for an upper slot size for Nile perch;**
II. **The LVFO Secretariat to commission peer review of LVFRPII results;**
III. **Research institutions to complete mesh sizes selection studies for Dagaa; and**
IV. **The LVFO Secretariat to initiate eco-labeling process of the fisheries of Lake Victoria.**

3. PROGRESS IN IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WORK PROGRAM AND PROJECTS OF THE LVFO

The status of implementation of the LVFO work program and projects is presented in detail as LVFO Progress Report, 2004 to 2006 (**Annex VI).**

3.1. The Status of Implementation of the Projects

The projects that were operational at the LVFO during the period 2004-2006 included:

a) The IUCN/LVFO Socio-economics of the Nile Perch Fishery for Lake Victoria Project Phase II;
b) The CFC/FAO/COMESA project on Production and Marketing of Value-added Fishery Products in Eastern and Southern Africa Phase I;
c) Implementation of a Fisheries Management Plan (IFMP) Project for Lake Victoria; and
d) The Aquaculture Support (TCP/RAF/3102 (A) Project.

The IUCN/LVFO Socio-economics of the Nile perch project ended in October 2005. This project assisted greatly in resolving conflicts in cross-border fishing and fish trade. With the completion of the final technical report a proposal for a follow-up project will be prepared.

The CFC/FAO/COMESA project on production and marketing of value-added fishery products in Eastern and Southern Africa Phase I has generally been slow due to uncertainties in the flow of funds. This project has picked with the coming of a processing consultant in March 2006 to work with fish processing establishments to develop value added products. The samples developed will be shipped to potential customers and trade fair in Europe in October 2006. Other consultants including a marketing consultant will come to the region during the development of the value added products. The project has been extended to January 2007 to allow completion of outstanding activities.

The IFMP project became fully operational in October 2004 after a start up phase which lasted for 18th months from March 2003. Two Annual Work Programs (APEs) of the project have so far been approved and implemented and a third one is under preparation. A Mid-term review of the project has been undertaken. The IFMP annual report for APE 1 (October 2004 to September 2005) is provided as **Annex VII.** This project has financed the entire work program outlined under Section 3.2 of this report. The key achievements are summarized below:

a) Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and guidelines have been developed;
b) Support to Partner States was provided in developing Fisheries Policies while efforts to harmonize laws and legislations continued;
c) Operational efficiencies of national institutions and the LVFO Secretariat is being improved with the provision of 14 vehicles, computer equipment and communication systems;
d) Good progress has been made in the promotion of Co-management institutions at grass-root level with 349 BMUs formed and trained in Uganda in 2005. The same process is underway in Kenya and Tanzania of

which about 1000 BMUs will be formed around the lake by September 2006;

e) Regular fisheries resource monitoring surveys and socio-economic studies are conducted to provide information to guide planning and management;
f) Major fisheries enforcement programs are undertaken to reduce illegal fishing and fish trading practices through regular patrols at district and national levels
g) International tenders have been launched for the supply of patrol boats and research vessels, and ten outboard engines have been purchased for inter-district patrols;
h) Six national fisheries institutions of the Partner States are being renovated to provide improved working conditions whilst landing sites to be developed have been selected and the process to procure contractors is underway;
i) An architectural design firm has been commissioned to design the LVFO Headquarters and supervise construction;
j) A Fisheries Management Decision Support Tool (FMDST) is been developed to effectively bring together all the resource monitoring information generated before and during the project and provide management guidance;
k) A RPOA-Capacity document is being developed to address management of fishing effort in Lake Victoria;
l) The Regional Fisheries Stakeholders Conference was conducted and Declaration and Proceedings published.

The CM reviewed the progress made in implementation of the work program of the organization and recommended that LVFO explore possibilities of a follow on project with IUCN.

Action: The CM took note of the status implementation of the different projects and:

I. **Thanked the IUCN for the impact this project had on resolving cross-border conflicts;**
II. **Directed the Secretariat to speed up processing with the IUCN for a follow on project; and**
III. **Thanked the development partners especially the EU for the support given to the implementation of LVFO programs.**

3.2. The Approved Work Program of the LVFO for the Period 2004 - 2006

The CM considered status of implementation of the work program that was approved by the LVFO Council of Ministers at its Regular Session held in Bagamoyo, Tanzania on 27th May 2004. This comprised of the following activities:

a) Continuation in development and harmonization of fisheries policies, laws and regulations;
b) Preparation of a working paper on fisheries institutions and institutional process to provide guidance on improvement of fisheries institutions and processes among Partner States;
c) Promoting participation of stakeholders in sustainable development and management of the fisheries through support to formation and operation of Beach Management Units (BMUs);

d) Promoting adherence to fisheries laws and regulation through support to Monitoring Control and Surveillance (MCS);
e) Promoting compliance to fish quality standards and improvement of fish products;
f) Monitoring fish catches and fishing effort, the fish stocks, the environmental and Socio-economic factors of the fishery and the fishers;
g) Initiating aquaculture development in the Lake Victoria basin;
h) Establishing databases including GIS for Lake Victoria;
i) Packaging and disseminating fisheries management information;
j) Conducting Statutory body (Working Groups, Scientific, Management, Executive Committee) meetings and project Steering Committee) meetings;
k) Developing Human Resources Capacity at different levels of fisheries development and management;
l) Initiating construction of LVFO Headquarters;
m) Rehabilitation of fisheries research and fisheries management institutions including providing of equipment and supplies; and
n) Initiating construction of fish landing and social infrastructure.

In addition to the approved program outlined above, the Organization under the IFMP undertook the following key activities:
o) Development of Standard Operating Procedures, Guidelines and Manuals;
p) Developed mechanisms of collaboration with industrial fish processors;
q) Prepared a draft regional plan of action on management of fishing capacity; and
r) Initiated procurement of research vessels and patrol boats.

3.3. The Status of Implementation of the Approved Program

The Status of Implementation of the approved program and other key activities undertaken by the Organization is outlined below.

3.3.1. Development of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and Guidelines

Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for collecting scientific information and Guidelines to be used by the Partner States to implement fisheries activities on Lake Victoria in a harmonized manner have been developed by Regional Working Groups (RWGs) with input from short-term technical assistance from the MRAG. SOPs have been completed for Frame Surveys **(Annex VIII),** Catch Assessment Surveys **(Annex IX)**; Trawl Surveys (**Annex X)**, Hydro-acoustic Surveys **(Annex XI)**, Gillnet Surveys **(Annex XII)**; Biological and Ecological Studies **(Annex XIII)**; Socio-economic Research and Monitoring; **(Annex XIV);** and Guidelines for Beach Management Units **(Annex XV)** and for Monitoring Control and Surveillance MCS **(Annex XVI).** Most of these SOPs were endorsed by the Policy Steering Committee in Mombasa on 27th May 2005.

SOPs, Guidelines and Manuals are also under development in the following areas: Dagaa Seine net Light Fishery; Environmental Monitoring; Aquaculture Research and Development; and Database Development and Management.

The CM noted that most of the SOPs had been adequately considered by the

Organs of the LVFO.

Action: The CM:

I. **Took note of the development of the Socio-economic Monitoring SOPs;**
II. **Thanked the RWGs for the efforts put in development of the SOPs;**
III. **Urged the Partner States to use the SOPs, Guidelines, and Manuals;**
IV. **Approved the completed SOPs; and**
V. **Directed LVFO Secretariat to finalize the un-completed SOPs by September 2006.**

3.3.2. Development and Harmonization of Fisheries Policies, Laws and Legislation

Considerable progress has been achieved in harmonization of fisheries legislation building on work of the LVEMP1. Uganda has a new fisheries policy. The draft fisheries policy for Kenya had been developed while that of Tanzanian is to be updated with support of IFMP. After this the fisheries policies of the Partner States will be harmonized.

The CM considered the status of fisheries policies and recommended that the development and harmonization process should be expedited.

The CM noted that the process of legislation harmonization was completed and all States have domesticated these agreed legislations into their laws. The legislation on dagaa is pending scientific investigation on appropriate mesh size.

The CM also noted that Uganda and Kenya were at different stages of developing fisheries authorities. Similarly the Partner States have developed fish export levies though, while Uganda and Tanzania charge unit per kg of exported fish, Kenya charges a percentage of FOB value. It is important that the institutions and export levies are harmonized to unit per kg and a minimum charge agreed. It is also important that a minimum levy to be charged is agreed upon by the Partner States. A minimum of US$ 3 cents per kg of fish exported FOB was proposed.

Action: The CM took note of the progress of developing and harmonization of fisheries policies, laws and regulations, and levies:

I. **Directed LVFO Secretariat to coordinate the harmonization of fisheries policies;**
II. **Directed LVFO Secretariat to explore opportunities for harmonization of fish levy to be charged in units per kg of fish exported; and**
III. **Urged Partner States to expedite establishment of developed institutional arrangement.**

3.3.3. Preparation of a Working Paper on Fisheries Institutions and Institutional Processes

The LVFO prepared and published a booklet on The Institutional Structures and

programs of the Organization **(Annex XVII)**. The booklet sets out the operational framework of the Organization from the grass-root to the regional level. It outlines the socio-economic importance of Lake Victoria, the challenges facing the lake and the interventions required to meet the challenges to promote sustainable economic growth and resource use and development. It describes operational principles and the institutional structure set up by the Partner States to address the challenges, the implementation mechanisms including the programs that have been set up and their functions and the working groups that have been established to implement the programs and their specific functions. The booklet highlights the progress made in addressing the challenges facing the lake and the current and future plans to address and monitor the interventions. A review of the Strategic Vision of the LVFO and a functional analysis of the Organization are planned under IFMP to update the operational principles, organizational structures and functions of the Organization.

The CM recommended that the LVFO should liaise with the Lake Victoria Basin Commission (LVBC) in its programs especially those related to the environment.

Action: The CM noted the Development of the booklet on fisheries institutions and institutional structure and:

I. **Directed LVFO to liaise with LVBC in developing its programs in order to avoid duplication and overlaps.**

3.3.4. Development and Promotion of Co-management

The promotion of co-management centred on the re-organization and harmonization of Beach Management Units (BMUs) within the Partner States Progress in BMU re-formation and capacity building of BMUs has progressed at different rates due to the need to develop guidelines and regulations in Kenya and Tanzania, whilst the existing guidelines and Statutory Instruments in Uganda were accepted as complying with the Harmonized BMU Guidelines.

Uganda completed forming 349 BMUs on Lake Victoria in February 2006. Kenya will complete the reformation of just over 280 BMUs by the end of June 2006 and Tanzania is in the process of reforming 450 BMUs by the end of September 2006.

Pilot training was provided to some BMUs and has been rolled out in the area of BMU Orientation in Uganda. Training will be provided to all BMUs in BMU orientation, fisheries and financial management.

The CM noted that the number of BMUs to be formed on the lake had increased beyond the number originally planned under IFMP and recommended that modalities should be explored to increase funding of BMU establishment.

Action: The CM:

I. **Noted the status of re-formation and capacity building of BMUs and;**
II. **Urged Partner States to expedite and complete the reformation by December 2006; and**

III. **Directed the LVFO Secretariat to Consider modalities for BMU representation in LVFO decision-making structures;**
IV. **Directed the LVFO Secretariat to expedite formation of higher level BMU associations and National Fisheries Management Organisations by September 2007;**
V. **Directed the Partner States to ensure the participation of women in BMUs for their empowerment and improved livelihoods; and**
VI. **The Partner States to explore modalities for increasing funding in light of the increased number of BMUs on the lake.**

3.3.5. Development of Mechanisms for Collaboration with Industrial Fish Processors

A consultative meeting was held between the LVFO and the fish processors on 23rd May 2006. The fish processors expressed the need to be involved in decision-making right from the inception to the final decision on issues that affect them such as on the use of Lake Victoria Perch Logo. The meeting noted the need to strengthen collaboration between the LVFO and the fish processing and export industry and agreed as follows:

a) The fish processing and export industry could be given future representation on FMC and SC through regional association;
b) National Associations for processors should consult and re-constitute a Regional Association;
c) LVFO will examine the institutional arrangements to provide guidelines on how the National Associations could be strengthened and to provide a lead in the harmonization process;
d) The National Committees for Fisheries should be formed as planned and the private industry should be proactive in their formation and take a lead role in their operation. Clear Terms of reference for these Committees must be developed and should agree on financing mechanism;
e) FIQA-RWG should share the preliminary results of the traceability work with the industry. The development of a harmonized system will be encouraged and the industry must be involved in all stages of its development. Development of offshore traceability system to be explored;
f) Training on traceability systems should be supported by the private industry;
g) IFMP should share information and consult with industry to identify future research and pilot activities such as fish holds for fishing craft, safety and hygiene, quality and competitiveness;
h) People should be trained in the Nile Perch distribution chain to reduce post-harvest losses;
i) Research should be undertaken to examine the issues related to the slot size limits; and
j) Consultative meetings should be held every three months, particularly during the institutional building stage, and thereafter every six months.

The CM observed that the Regional Fish Processors Association was not yet in place and recommended that the process be expedited and modalities in their involvement in the LVFO Organs developed.

Action: **The CM noted the efforts being made to promote collaboration between LVFO and the fish processors and directed the LVFO Secretariat to:**

I. **Follow up the implementation of the recommendations of the fish processors meeting;**
II. **Facilitate the formation of Regional Fish Processors Association; and**
III. **Explore modalities of establishing the National Committees.**

3.3.6. Promoting Compliance to Fisheries Laws, Regulations and Agreed Management Measures

Compliance to agreed measures has been enforced through inter-district, national and joint regional patrols. Guidelines and Manual outlining procedures and reporting format for Monitoring Control and Surveillance (MCS) have been developed and adopted and patrols undertaken (**Annex XVIII**). During the six months of APE1 of IFMP 1,612 beach seines, 777 small seines, 17,656 undersized gill nets, 1360 monofilament gill nets, 564 fishing crafts and 93 tones of immature fish were impounded and 1,760 suspects apprehended over the lake. The joint regional patrols were conducted to share experience between the Partner States.

The CM considered the efforts undertaken to promote compliance to agreed decisions and recommended that efforts should be made to assess the impacts, costs and benefit of MCS.

Action: **The CM took note of the level of MCS operations and the magnitude of illegal fishery activities still on the lake and:**

I. **Urged the Partner States to implement RPOA-IUU;**
II. **Urged the Partner States to support the effort to strengthen the role of BMUs in surveillance activities; and**
III. **Directed the Secretariat to develop mechanisms for monitoring the socio-economic and ecological impact of the enhanced law enforcement.**

3.3.7. Development of a Regional Plan of Action for Management of Fishing Capacity on Lake Victoria (RPOA – Capacity)

In 1997, the Committee on Fisheries COFI requested FAO to address the issue of fishing capacity. FAO formed a Technical Working Group on Management of Fishing Capacity and a consultative meeting in Rome resulted into the International Plan of Action on Management of Fishing Capacity. FAO and LVFO with support of IFMP held a regional technical workshop in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania in December 2005 to discuss fishing effort and capacity as a first step in developing RPOA-Capacity for Lake Victoria. A Regional Task Force (RTF) was established to draft a Regional Plan of Action for Management of Fishing Capacity on Lake Victoria (RPOA-Capacity) for Lake Victoria. The RTF met in Kisumu (Kenya) in April 2006 and Bukoba in June 2006 and prepared a Draft RPOA-

Capacity **(Annex V)**. The RPOA-Capacity seeks the commitment of the Partner States to take measures to control capacity to avoid undermining long-term sustainability of the fisheries resources.

The CM reviewed the status of development of RPOA-Capacity and recommended that the draft should be subjected to stakeholder consultations. The representative of FAO informed the PSC that the process had been delayed due to funding constraints and promised to follow up.

Action: The CM took note of the above developments and directed the Secretariat to:

I. **Organize National and Regional Consultation workshops; and**
II. **Complete the RPOA-Capacity after the consultations with the Stakeholders by December 2006.**

3.3.8. Promoting Compliance to Fish Quality and Safety and Improving Fish Products

There are two projects that were intended to focus on fish quality on Lake Victoria. The project on: Strengthening Fishery Product Health Conditions in Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda and the CFC/FAO/COMESA project on Production and Marketing of Value-added Products in Eastern and Southern Africa. Unfortunately, LVFO has limited control over these projects. This has affected coordination and planning for fish quality issues under IFMP on the lake. However, LVFO has participated in preparation of a Code of Practice for Fish and Fishery Products within the East African Community **(Annex XIX)**, Fish Inspectors Guide for Assessing Compliance to the Code of Practice for Fish and Fishery Products **(Annex XX),** and the Manual of Standard Operating Procedures for Inspection and Quality Assurance in Capture Fisheries and Aquaculture **(Annex XXI)**. LVFO has also initiated a program to improve the processing of Dagaa into human food other than animal feed.

The CM considered the development of the documents and recommended that LVFO should organize a meeting to review the documents.

Action: The CM took note of the progress of the development of the Codes of Practice and the Manuals and directed the Secretariat to:

I. **Arrange a meeting for Partner States to review and adopt the documents; and**
II. **Demand for a review of the project by CFC in the shortest possible time.**

3.3.9. Monitoring Fish Catches, Fishing Effort, Fish Stocks, the Environment and Socio-economic Factors of the Fishery and the Fishers

3.3.9.1. The Status of the Fish Stocks

The status of the fish stocks has been monitored through trawl surveys, hydro-acoustic surveys, gill net surveys and long lines. These surveys show that Nile

perch, *Rastrineobola argentea* (Dagaa / Omena / Mukene), Nile tilapia have remained the most important commercial species but the contribution of Haplochromines is increasing, especially in Tanzania waters of the lake.

Trawl surveys suggest a slight decline in stocks from catch rates of 181 kg/hr in March 1999/2000 to 154 kg/hr during the same period in 2005 and from 292 kg/hr in June/July 1999/2000 to 284 kg/hr in 2005 but there are still substantial stocks of Nile perch in the lake. The trawl catches are dominated by the Nile perch but its contribution has decreased from 81% in 1999/2000 to an average of 70% during the same period in 2005 while that of haplochromines has increased from 5% to 16%. Trawl catches are still dominated by juvenile Nile perch.

Estimates of standing stock based on acoustic survey suggest that the stocks are generally stable. The stocks were estimated at 1.9 to 2.5 million tones in 1999/2001 and 1.5 to 2.5 million tones in 2005/2006.

Gill net surveys have recorded a decline in catch rates from a range of 400-1500 g/net/night in 1999/2000 to 150-550 g/net/night in 2005 suggesting a decline in the larger species (Nile perch and Nile tilapia) which are exploited using this method.

Biological studies have shown that the maximum size and the size at first maturity of the major commercial species have decreased which is a sign of high fishing pressure.

The above results indicate that although there are still substantial stocks species overall, some species especially Nile perch are showing declining trends. This calls for intensification of enforcement of management measures adopted by the Council of Ministers.

3.3.9.2. The Status of the Fish Catches and Fishing Effort

The status of the fishery has been monitored through frame surveys and Catch Assessment Surveys (CAS). CAS data shows that annual catches on the lake have increased from 710,000 tones in 1999/2000 to 804,000 tones valued at beach level at US$ 350 million in 2005. The increase in annual yield has largely been due to an increase in the contribution of Dagaa from 40% in 1999/2000 to 48% by 2005 and haplochromines from 2% to 14% during the same period. The contribution of Nile perch to the catches decreased from 46% to 29% during the period 1999/2000 and 2005. Most of the increase in Dagaa and haplochromines is however from Tanzania, followed by Kenya and is low in Uganda suggesting a need to expand the Dagaa fishery in Uganda. Nile perch contributed most, 71% of the beach value followed by Dagaa (12%), Nile tilapia (11%), haplochromines (5%) and others only 1%.

3.3.9.3. Expansion of the *Rastrineobola argentea* (Dagaa/Omena/Mukene) Fishery and its Management

The contribution of Dagaa to fishery yield on Lake Victoria is increasing. Total catch over the lake increased from 280,000 tones in 1999/2000 to 385,000 tones in 2005. Much of the Dagaa is used in animal feed but more could be turned into human food through improved processing. IFMP has initiated a process of

improving the quality of Dagaa for human food.

A survey of the distribution of Dagaa shows that the average size increases from inshore offshore. There are high by-catches in bays and within 2 km from the shore. The most suitable minimum size of seine net for Dagaa is 8 mm. It has therefore been recommended that Dagaa should be fished with a minimum mesh of 8 mm beyond 2 km from the shoreline and outside the bays. Research is planned to explore the potential in off shore Dagaa stocks especially in Uganda waters and the appropriate technology for harvesting it.

3.3.9.4. The Status of the Environment

Key environmental parameters especially oxygen, temperature, nutrients and production of algal and invertebrate communities which are important food of fishes and indicators of environmental health has been monitored alongside fish stock assessment and biological surveys. Oxygen measurements have continued to show anoxia in deep water during thermal stratification. The nutrient status continues to show symptoms of eutrophication with high concentration of phosphorus.

A major emerging environmental threat to fisheries is the declining water levels of Lake Victoria. There have been rapid changes in water levels since 2001 due to drought and excessive release at Jinja. This has resulted in reduced power generation, interference with docking, fish landing sites and water abstraction and disruption of fish breeding grounds. Management of the fisheries of the lake should incorporate management of factors that affect rainfall and consequently the water levels.

3.3.9.5. The Socio-economic Status of the Fishery and the Fishers

Lake Victoria continues to contribute significantly to the regional economy, generating an overall value of US $544 million in 2004, with US $240 from Nile perch exports. There was a slight decline in the number of fishers between 2002 and 2004 (175,890 to 153,066), but the scale of employment from the fishery is not yet known. Registration of everyone working in fisheries at a beach with the newly reformed Beach Management Units (BMUs) will give a picture of the number of people benefiting from the fishery. The fishing communities are still poorly served by facilities and services, with only 4% of landing sites having electricity, 27% accessible by an all weather road, 3% with potable water and 20% with public toilets. Most people at the landing sites use lake water for drinking. Despite the low figure regarding public toilets, many households have their own latrine. Access to primary education is improving, though around 10% of the adult fishing community has had no education at all, whilst, 28% did not complete primary education. Fish contributes significantly to the diet of the fishing communities, with 85% citing fish as their most common sauce, with people eating fish, mostly tilapia, on average four times a week.

3.3.9.6. Development of a Fisheries Management Decision Support Tool

The FMDST is a new tool developed to bring together management, research and

monitoring under a single integrated system. The FMDST document was prepared under the IFMP project by MRAG Consultants to guide and support the implementation of the 'Fisheries Management Plan' for the Lake Victoria fisheries. It was noted that there exist a considerable amount of fisheries information collected during the LVFRP and LVEMP projects and even before the two projects by the Management and Research Institutions of the Partner States but has not been sufficiently utilized to provide regular and timely guidance to management. The recent FAO/LVFO workshop on fishing effort and capacity held in December 2005 also called for a clearer focus on key fisheries management objectives and identification of the information and indicators needed to provide a basis for taking management decisions. In working towards these aims, the 'FMDST' document combines current and past data to identify fishery trends and develop a package of key fisheries information and indicators, upon which rational fisheries management decisions can be based.

The FMDST outlines the possible management options for each of the three major fisheries (Nile perch, Nile Tilapia and Dagaa), including management goals and operational objectives, management standards (indicators and reference points), decision rules and potential management actions. On this basis it also defines the critical data requirements necessary to inform the decision-making process and monitor the implementation of the FMP.

The CM considered the progress made in monitoring fish catches, fishing effort, fish stocks, the environment and socio-economic factors of the fishery and the fishers and recommended that these issues should be reviewed by the Scientific Committee. The CM directed the Secretariat to ensure timely distribution of technical reports of the Organization. The CM also recommended that LVFO should liaise with the LVBC and EAC in handling environmental issues on the lake including the polyethylene bags and the resurgence of water hyacinth.

Action: The CM took note of the progress made in monitoring the fish stocks and the environment and directed the Secretariat to:

I. **Ensure that the FMDST is presented and discussed under the relevant fora before adoption;**
II. **Ensure timely distribution of technical reports;**
III. **Work with LVBC and other relevant agencies in handling environment and socio-economic problems; and**
IV. **Revisit impact of vertical joining of gill nets.**

3.3.10. Promoting Aquaculture in the Lake Victoria Basin

A report on the status of Aquaculture in the Lake Victoria basin; Draft SOPs for Aquaculture Research and Development, and an implementation plan for Aquaculture Research and Development have been developed. Manuals for: Fry Production for Nile Tilapia; Fry Production for Catfish – *Clarias;* Tilapia Culture; Catfish (*Clarias)* Culture; Feed Production; and Pond Management have been developed. A TCP/RAF/3102 (A) on Aquaculture in East Africa that was submitted to FAO has been approved to the tune of $360,000 to develop a Strategy and Action Plan for aquaculture development in East Africa. The TCP is coordinated by the LVFO. Implementation of to the TCP will start in July 2006. In

addition, LVFO is collaborating with other initiatives on aquaculture in the basin including the Victoria Research Initiatives (VicRes), which is being funded by Sida/SAREC under Lake Victoria Development Program of the EAC and coordinated by the Inter-University Council for East Africa. Members of the LVFO are participating in four of VicRes projects namely:

a) Designing and developing systems and guidelines for rural aquaculture;
b) The breeding of *Labeo,* catfish and tilapia;
c) Revival of aquaculture for food security and poverty alleviation among the rural communities along Lake Victoria basin; and
d) Improving farm yields and income through integrated agriculture-aquaculture in the Lake Victoria basin

Action: The CM took note of the above developments and directed the Secretariat to:

I. Complete and distribute the Aquaculture Manuals; and
II. Enhance collaboration with other initiatives such as VicRes in Aquaculture development in the basin.

3.3.11. Establishing Databases Including GIS

The LVFO with support of IFMP has established a fisheries database called SAMAKI and the manual is given as **Annex XXII**. There are so far seven modules in the database. This is expected to improve data storage, processing and reporting. A consultant was hired to incorporate GIS into Samaki.
There is however still no clear policy on data ownership and sharing within the LVFO and as a result, data is not readily made available to users. There have also been cases where data has been released before clearance as required by the LVFO Convention. This has had negative consequences. A process has been initiated for an International Consultant to support the formulation of an information ownership and sharing policy for the LVFO.

The CM considered the level of development and utilization of Samaki and recommended that it should be fully developed and relevant training conducted.

Action: The CM took note of the above developments and directed the Secretariat to:

I. Complete development of Samaki and ensure it is operational and users are trained; and
II. Expedite development of a regional policy on information and data ownership and sharing.

3.3.12. Packaging and Disseminating Fisheries Management Information

3.3.12.1. ICO Strategy and Action Plan

A draft Information, Communication and Outreach (ICO) Strategy and Action Plan **(Annex XXIII)** has been developed to provide a framework for promoting increased dissemination and use of information to engender positive attitudes, values and behaviours relating to sustainable use and management of the

fisheries resources of Lake Victoria. It provides guidelines for effective mechanisms and procedures to establish the smooth implementation and supervision of ICO activities to address LVFO thematic programmes. The strategy also provides the ICO and technical Working Groups with a framework for effective planning, monitoring and evaluation of ICO activities and reformulation of the strategy to incorporate emerging issues.

The Key strategies include:

a) Public awareness campaigns delivered over a specific period of time, with defined objectives, target group, messages, baseline analysis, impact evaluation, budget and timeline.

b) Promotion and branding campaign to improve the overall corporate image and increase the visibility of the LVFO as an organization concerned with real fishing families, and real fisheries officials as opposed to being projected as a coordinating organization.

c) Production and dissemination of messages and materials that are easy to understand and can attract the attention of the target audiences in a competitive environment of other advertisers and promoters

d) Strengthening the capacity and improving skills of the ICO Working Group members through training in different communication approaches.

Action: The CM took note of the above developments and directed the Secretariat to provide support to ICO activities.

3.3.12.2. The Lake Victoria Regional Stakeholders' Conference

The Council of Ministers of the LVFO at its Sixth Special Session of October 2003 requested the Secretary General of the EAC to organize a conference on Lake Victoria Fisheries to raise awareness of key stakeholders to enable them make informed decisions. This conference took place in February 2005 and was attended by 230 participants, which represented over 90% of the invited guests. The participants included members of the Council of Ministers, Members of Parliament from the Partner States, East African Legislative Assembly MP's, Provincial and Districts Heads, Researchers, Development Partners, NGOs, Fishers and other key stakeholders. A major outcome of the conference is articulated in a conference declaration "The Entebbe Declaration" **(Annex XXIV).** The detailed Conference Proceedings are given as **Annex XXV**. The LVFO has learnt that many of the stakeholders especially MPs who attended the conference are now backing the fisheries in the Partner States using information generated in the workshop.

The PSC of this conference and recommended that the Council of Ministers adopt the Conference Declaration.

Action: The CM commended the outcome of **the Entebbe Stakeholders Conference and:**

I. Directed the LVFO to organize similar Regional Conferences to

sensitize the political and administrative leaders every five years;

II. **Applauded the resource persons for the papers presented;**
III. **Thanked the organizers and the donors (Sida, EU through IFMP Project, Government of Finland and The Partnership Fund of the EAC) for funding the conference;**
IV. **Adopted the Entebbe Conference Declaration;**
V. **Urged the Partner States to implement the provisions of the Entebbe Declaration.**

3.3.12.3. LVFO Monitoring and Outreach Mission 2005

A Monitoring and Outreach Mission around the lake comprising the Directors/Commissioners of Fisheries and Directors of Fisheries research took place from 31st January to 17th February 2005. The mission met and addressed different stakeholders and distributed outreach materials. The mission observed that:

a) There was need to operationalize RPOA-IUU which was adopted by the LVFO Council of Ministers;
b) There were high incidences of HIV among fisher communities;
c) There was no saving and investment culture among fisheries;
d) Polythene bags were widely used in the lake and posed an environmental hazard;
e) There was no clear mechanism for funding BMUs that were being established; and
f) There was need to develop capacity of BMUs and Co-management institutions in general.

The CM considered the issues as presented and recommended that LVFO should explore on alternative use of gillnet sinkers instead of polyethylene bags for sinkers.

Action: The CM :

I. **Urged the Partner States to enhance implementation of RPOA-IUU;**
II. **Urged Partner States to incorporate HIV in fisheries programs and develop linkages with lead HIV/AIDs institutions and have it mainstreamed;**
III. **Directed LVFO Secretariat to develop a Strategy and Action Plan to promote saving and investment culture among fishers;**
IV. **Directed the LVFO Secretariat to explore alternative options to the use of polythene bags in fishing; and**
V. **Directed the Secretariat to develop a policy and mechanism for funding BMUs and improve their capacity.**

3.3.12.4. The Workshop on Empowering Women of Lake Victoria Fisheries

The IFMP Regional Workshop on Empowering Women of Lake Victoria Fisheries was held from 21st to 22nd March 2006 at the Colline Hotel, Mukono, Uganda. It was attended by women from landing sites around Lake Victoria, from Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda, NGOs and CBOs working with women in fisheries. The following actions were recommended:

a) Training in financial management, business administration (keeping records, making plans, etc.), entrepreneurship skills, leadership skills training, and as community based educators;
b) Improving access to credit and financial empowerment for women through credit facilities;
c) Raise women's awareness of BMUs and ensure that at least attain the target of 30% women on a BMU Committee is achieved;
d) Improved access to safe water, sanitation and health information and care; and
e) Women's workshops should be held every annually or two years, to evaluate the impacts of this workshop, and national workshops held in between to encourage networking and evaluate progress. Country specific women fisherfolk meetings from grassroots to national level should also be supported.

The CM considered the importance of bringing women together and recommended annual women workshops.

Action: The CM:

I. **Took note of the IFMP initiatives; and**
II. **Urged the Partner States to follow up the recommendations contained in the workshop report.**

3.3.12.5. The Workshop on HIV/AIDs and development of a strategy on HIV/AIDs among fishers

The infection rate of HIV/AIDS in fishing communities in East Africa is 10 to 40%. The high and increasing rate of infection is a threat to the sustainability of the resource due to loss of manpower and desperate behaviour which can promote fishing malpractice. In March 2006, LVFO with IFMP support brought together national AIDS Commissions, NGOs working with fishing communities on HIV/AIDS and the fisheries sector to begin the process of developing the strategy, identifying key actions needed to tackle this challenge. The strategy is aimed at integrating HIV/AIDS into the Fisheries Management Plan, advocating and linking with relevant players to bring more interventions to tackle HIV/AIDS among fishing communities.

The CM considered the impact of HIV/AIDS and recommended that LVFO Secretariat establish links with all on-going projects in the region to address the issue. They also urged LVFO to assist in ensuring HIV/AIDS is mainstreamed into the relevant National fisheries Institutions.

Action: The CM:

I. **Took note of the above initiative;**
II. **Directed LVFO Secretariat to complete the development of the Strategy to control and manage HIV/AIDs among fishing communities by September 2007;**
III. **Directed the LVFO Secretariat to facilitate the mainstreaming of HIV/AIDs programs for fishing communities into national programs;**
IV. **Directed LVFO to seek and conduct baseline study on HIV/AIDs**

percentage in fisher communities.

3.3.12.6. Publications

The following were some of the key publications produced during the period 2004-2006: A booklet on The Institutional Structure and Programs of the Organization; The Entebbe Declaration; the Proceedings of the Lake Victoria Fisheries Stakeholder's Conference; LVFO Brochures and Posters; and Calendars. These publications have been distributed to stakeholders around the lake. There has been a revival of a number of LVFO publications following recruitment of an officer to specifically take charge of publications.

a) The proceedings of Victoria 2000: A New Beginning Conference were finally published in early 2006 **(Annex XXVI).**
b) Publication of *the African Journal of Tropical Hydrobiology and Fisheries* started with a Special Issue of the LVEMP Scientific papers from Uganda in February 2005 **(Annex XXVII)**. Another issue is in press.
c) The publication of Mputa Newsletter slackened but has been revived and is in press. It is expected to be produced bi-annually.

The CM commended the Secretariat for the progress noting that finally the LV 2000 proceeding were published.

Action: The CM:

I. **Took note of the above developments; and**
II. **Recognized the efforts of LVFO Secretariat and the support of IFMP in producing the publications.**

3.3.12.7. Meetings and Conferences

The staff of the Secretariat and LVFO institutions with IFMP support, participated and presented papers at a number of conferences. The key ones were:

a) The Cage Culture workshop organized by FAO/USAID and LVFO in Entebbe, Uganda on the 20th to 23rd October 2004;
b) The CIFA meeting held in Entebbe from 27th to 29th October 2004;
c) The 11th World Lake Conference organized by the International Lake Environment Committee (ILEC) in Nairobi Kenya on 31st October to 4th November 2005;
d) International Symposium on Changing Great Lakes of the World (Glow IV) organized by Aquatic Ecosystem Health and Management Society (AEHMS) in Bagamoyo on 20th to 22nd February 2006;
e) Sharing Fish Conference, Esplanade Hotel, Fremantle, Western Australia 23rd to 2nd March 2006.

The Executive Secretary of LVFO attended COFI and the meeting of FAO Regional Fisheries Bodies in Rome. He was appointed Vice-Chairperson of the Regional Fisheries Bodies of the FAO representing freshwater fisheries. The ES also attended the INFOSA/FAO workshop on World Trade Organization (WTO) agreements and fisheries in Windhoek, Namibia.

The CM noted that although some issues took place in 2004 or 2005 they still need to be reported to the Council as it meets once in two years. The PSC

directed that there should be a feedback on workshops attended as earlier recommended.

The CM Congratulated the ES upon his appointment as Vice Chairperson of the FAO Regional Fisheries Bodies

Action: The CM:

I. **Noted the participation of the LVFO in the above conferences; and**
II. **Directed that the outcomes of meetings attended should always be summarized and circulated for information and follow up and the Secretariat should comply.**

3.3.13. Conducting Statutory Body Meetings

The Organization held meeting of Regional Working Groups. The Project Steering Committee of IFMP met every six months and the Project Implementation Unit at the Secretariat held quarterly planning meetings with National Coordinators for implementation of IFMP. Meetings of the Scientific Committee, The Fisheries Management Committee, the Executive Committee and the Policy Steering Committee were also held.

The CM observed the omission of the Secretariat to hold the annual Scientific and Management Committee meetings prior to the EC Session and recommended that these should be observed in the future.

Action: The CM:

I. **Directed LVFO Secretariat to ensure that all statutory body meetings are held.**

3.3.14. Development of Human Resources Capacity

A draft Human Resources Development (HRD) Strategy and Action Plan **(Annex XXVIII)** has been developed to provide a framework for improvement of knowledge and skills of Lake Victoria stakeholders. In addition, Operational Guidelines for HRD have been developed to provide guidance to the HRD and technical Working Groups on the processes and procedures for training. Training modules have been developed in BMU orientation, fisheries and financial management. A number of training activities have been taken including:

a) Training of PIU, IFMP, National Coordinators and Accountants in EU procedures;
b) Development of training modules, training of trainers and training BMU members in BMU Orientation and Fisheries Management;
c) Conducting awareness-raising events on BMUs for district authorities, fisheries officials and civil society;
d) Training in use SOPs, Guidelines and Manuals including enumerators for frame and catch assessment surveys, and MCS patrol officers;
e) Training of members of the Information, Communication and Outreach RWG in developing communication materials for fishers;
f) Training Systems Administrators, Trainers and users of the Samaki database;

g) Identification of officers to be trained under the six PhD scholarships provided for under IFMP. Three of these have started their studies and the remaining ones are completing the admission formalities.

Action: The CM:

I. **Took note of the above developments;**
II. **Directed LVFO Secretariat to ensure that all categories of stakeholders involved in management of the fisheries are adequately trained;**
III. **Directed the LVFO Secretariat and the PIU to ensure that training of co-management institutions, BMUs is given high priority; and**
IV. **Directed that the IFMP technical team visits the institutions to provide technical support**

3.3.15. Procurement of Research Vessels and Patrol Boats

The specifications for four Patrol boats and two research vessels to be procured under IFMP were defined and agreed upon by the Partner States and approved by the Regional Authorizing Officer (RAO) and European Commission Delegation. Tender for supply of the vessels were published and interested supplier's submitted bids. The bids were opened, evaluated and suppliers selected.

The CM considered the progress made and agreed to precede with the purchase of the patrol boats as per the specification. It was also noted that savings which will be made from patrol will be used on purchase of research vessels and in upgrading the *R.V. Victoria Explorer* – a Tanzanian vessel which has been used regionally. The EC and PSC also encouraged Partner States to ensure suitable jetties for safe mooring of the vessels are in place.

The CM raised concern about the price difference of the research vessels and recommended review of the tender evaluation to ensure value for money.

Action: The CM:

I. **Took note of the progress made in procurement of research vessels and patrol boats;**
II. **Directed the LVFO Secretariat and the PIU to expedite the remaining procurement process;**
III. **Urged Partner States to develop suitable jetties for safe mooring of the vessels; and**
IV. **Direct LVFO Secretariat to ensure that the tender for research vessels is reviewed.**

3.3.16. Construction of the LVFO Secretariat Headquarters

The Terms of Reference (TORs) for an Architectural firm to prepare drawings and supervise the constructions were prepared and approved. The TORs were advertised and eligible firm submitted bids. Symbion Uganda was selected to provide architectural services for construction of the LVFO Headquarters. An agreement has been concluded with Symbion and work has started. The

architect has given an indicative cost for a building which meets the minimum requirements of the Organization. The estimated cost of the building is however more than twice the originally estimates under IFMP. It is suggested that the additional cost is met from contingency fund under IFMP up to a maximum of € 400,000. Construction of the building is expected to start by September 2006.

The CM considered the proposal and recommended that the increase of the budget for LVFO HQ should not exceed the € 400,000 which will make total budget at €750,000. The CM directed that the architectural drawings of the building should be made and circulated for comments. The EC will have to approve the drawings.

Action: The CM:

I. **Took note of the progress made and the cost for construction of the LVFO Secretariat Headquarters;**
II. **Approved use of up to € 400,000 contingency funds under IFMP to meet the increase in the cost of construction of the LVFO Headquarters; and**
III. **Directed Secretariat that the Executive Committee be regularly updated and meet to approve different stages of development of the constructions.**

3.3.17. Rehabilitation of Fisheries Research and Fisheries Management Institutions

Proposal for rehabilitation of the fisheries research and fisheries management institutions under IFMP and tender dossiers prepared, firms invited to submit tenders, the tenders evaluated and a no objection obtained from the Regional Authorizing Officer and EC Delegation for five out of the six institutions. Works contracts have been concluded in two (NAFIRRI & TAFIRI) of the institutions and rehabilitation started. Contracts have been drafted for the other three institutions to enable work to start. A rehabilitation proposal is awaited from the sixth institutions.

Action: The CM:

I. **Took note of the progress made in rehabilitation of the institutions; and**
II. **Directed that the institution which has not submitted a rehabilitation proposal to speed up the process by September 2006 .**

3.3.18. Construction of Fish Landing Sites and Social Infrastructure

Provision has been made under IFMP to construct fish landings to improve fish quality, handling, processing and marketing facilities. The criteria for selection of the landing sites and social infrastructure were developed and agreed upon by the Partner States. The Partner States have selected the landing sites and social infrastructure to be developed. This is going to be followed by hiring of architectural firms to prepare drawings for the landing sites and social infrastructure in each Partner State. A civil Engineer has been hired at the Secretariat to coordinate development of civil works.

The CM concurred with the MTR recommendations to have flexibility in the level of developing the sites and the numbers approved for different countries provided they meet EU sanitary standards and are within approved budgets.

Action: The CM:

I. **Took note of the progress made;**
II. **Directed the LVFO in consultation with Secretariat and the engineers to identify the landing sites by September 2006; and**
III. **Directed the LVFO Secretariat to expedite the process.**

4. STAFF MATTERS

4.1. Appointment of the Executive Secretary and Deputy Executive Secretary

The Executive Secretary and the Deputy Executive Secretary are appointed by the Council of Ministers for a term of five years non renewable according to *Article X* of the *Convention*. The contracts of the current Executives shall expire before the next Regular Session of the Council of Ministers in 2008. It is therefore suggested that new Executives are identified and appointed to take over from the current Executives by the time the contracts of the current Executive expire. According to the adopted Policy of rotation the next Executive Secretary is to be appointed from Uganda and the Deputy Executive Secretary from Kenya. The contract of the present Executive Secretary will expire on 31 March 2008. The next Executive Secretary should therefore be available to take office from 1 April, 2008. Similarly the contract of the current Deputy Executive Secretary shall expire on 10th December 2007. The new Deputy Executive Secretary should be available to take office on 11th December 2007.

The CM agreed on the need to identify the new Executives before the term of the current Executive expires.

Action: The CM:

I. **Took note of the above status of the contracts of the Executive staff of the Organization and the procedure of identifying replacement; and**
II. **Requested Uganda to propose a candidate to be appointed as Executive Secretary from 1 April, 2008 and Kenya to propose a candidate to be appointed as the Deputy Executive Secretary from 11th December 2007.**

4.2. Filling of Vacant Posts at the LVFO Secretariat

4.2.1. Finance and Administrative Officer

The CM during its Regular Session in Bagamoyo on 27th May 2004 directed that the contract of Mr. Joseph Okongo the then Finance and Administrative Officer should be terminated. The services of Mr. Joseph Okongo with the LVFO were subsequently terminated with effect from 18th June 2004. The Post of Finance and Administrative Officer was advertised in August 2004 and Mr. Samuel Nduati Mbugua from Kenya was appointed and reported on 1st July 2005. The services of Mr. Mbugua were found unsatisfactory and his services were terminated on 31st January 2006. The post was advertised and a new administrative Officer Mr. Norbert S. Kiyizi from Tanzania has been appointed with effect from 19th June 2006.

4.2.2. Information and Database Officer (IDO)

Mr. Jacob Ikilenya Meme, the first Information and Database Officer (IDO) of the LVFO terminated his services with the Organization with effect from March 2005 to take up a new appointment with the East African Community Secretariat. The post of IDO was advertised and Mr. Samson B.A. Abura from Kenya was appointed with effect from 4th July, 2005.

4.2.3. Posts under IFMP (Internal Auditor; Information, Communication and Outreach Officer; and Civil Engineer)

The posts of Internal Auditor, and Information, Communication and Outreach Officer were provided for during APE1 of IFMP. One additional post for a Civil Engineer was provided for during APE2. These posts were advertised in local and regional Newspapers in the Partner States and filled. Mr. Valeria Chuwa from Tanzania was appointed Internal Auditor with effect from July 2005, Ms Elizabeth Birabwa from Uganda was appointed Information, Communication and Outreach officer with effect from 15th August 2005 and Eng. Hans J.W.B. Mwesigwa from Uganda was appointed Civil Engineer with effect from May 2006.

The CM noted the progress made in filling of the vacant posts and was concerned about the imbalance in recruitment of staff at the LVFO Secretariat.

Action: The CM took note of:

I. **The terminations of services of Mr. Joseph Okongo and those of Mr. Mbugua and the recruitment of their replacement;**
II. **The recruitment of the Information and Database Officer;**
III. **The recruitment of the Internal Auditor, Information Communication and Outreach Officer and Civil Engineer under IFMP project; and**
IV. **Directed that the Secretariat to in future correct the imbalance on the basis of the principle of equity in EAC Treaty.**

4.3. Review of Policy on Salaries and Allowances

4.3.1. Policy on Staff Salary Review/Increments

Rule 5.1(c) of the Staff Regulations provides for the Council of Ministers to review of staff salaries every two years. However, no salary review has taken place since the establishment of the Organization in 1996. It has therefore not been possible to provide for salary increments as provided for under Rule 5.4 (a) of the Staff Rules and Regulations. It is now proposed that a policy of increasing the salaries of staff by 5% every two years is adopted *in lieu* of salary review, starting with the financial year 2007/2008. The increments should be provided for by allowing a 5% increase in Country Contributions every two years. Considerations should also be made to rationalize the Conditions of Service of the LVFO Staff with those of the staff of the East African Community Secretariat.

4.3.2. Salary of the Information and Database Officer

The post of Information and Database Officer (IDO) is highly technical and needs to be upgraded to bring it in line with the other professional posts at the LVFO Secretariat. The Policy Steering Committee during its meeting in Mombasa on 27th May 2005 endorsed upgrading of the salary of the IDO with effect from 1st July 2006 and the title change to Information and Database Officer (IDO).

The increase in the salary of the Information and Database Officer would cost $ 2,875 each annually and this would initially be met from the cost-sharing savings.

4.3.3. Salary of Drivers for Executive Staff

Currently, the salaries of all the drivers of the Organization are the same. It is now necessary to recognize the drivers used by the Executive staff. It is proposed that the salary for the driver of the Executive Secretary is raised by US$ 50 per month and that of the driver of the Deputy Executive Secretary by US$ 30 per month, with effect from the financial year 2006/2007. The proposed increase in the salaries of the drivers to await institutional review.

4.3.4. Housing Allowance of the Executive Staff

Rule 10.1(a) of the Staff Rules and Regulations provides for a housing allowance at a rate of 15 per cent of the basic salary for all staff. Considering that the Executive staff by their status is compelled to hire houses in areas of Jinja where it is safe and the house rent is higher than the 15 per cent of their basic salary. It is proposed that the house allowance for the Executive of Staff be raised to 20% of their basic salary from the financial year 2006/2007. The proposed increase in the house allowances of Executives would cost US $ 3,250 annually and this would be met from the cost sharing savings.

4.3.5. Residential and Mobile Telephone Allowance for Executive Staff

Rule 5.13(a) of the Staff Rules and Regulations provides a monthly allowance for telephone of US$150 for the Executive Secretary and US$100 for the Deputy Executive Secretary for the residential and mobile telephones. The experience gained is that the current rates are too low compared to the cost of telephones. It is now being proposed that these rates are revised to US$ 200 for the Executive Secretary and US$ 150 for the Deputy Executive Secretary; US$ 50 for Professional staff and Administrative Officer; US$ 30 for Secretary to ES; US$ 20 for Drivers to ES and DES; and US$ 15 for other Drivers and Secretaries.

The CM considered the proposals and agreed as follows;

(a) The upgrading of the positions of Database Officer was already approved by the PSC and thus was forwarded to CM for endorsement;

(b) Allowance for mobile phones of Executives should be increased to US$ 200 for Executive and US$ 150 for Deputy Executive; and US$ 50 for Professional staff and Administrative Officer; US$ 30 for Secretary to ES;

US$ 20 for Drivers to ES and DES; and US$ 15 for other Drivers and other Secretaries.

(c) The house allowance of Executives be increased to 20%;

(d) The organization should provide assistance in case of death of staff, spouse or dependant;

(e) The policy on general increase in staff salaries, the proposal for new posts to strengthen the Secretariat, and the policy on capital development would require a detailed institutional analysis of the LVFO; and

(f) The Secretariat was to carry out a functional analysis of the organization.

Action: The CM:

I. **Directed LVFO to carry out a functional analysis of the Organization including staff salaries, personnel requirements of the LVFO and capital development requirements;**

II. **Approved increase in salaries of the Information and Database Officer to that of other Professional Staff of the Organization;**

III. **Approved housing allowance of the Executive Staff from 15% to 20% of the basic salary with effect from the FY 2006/2007;**

IV. **Approved monthly telephone allowance of US$200 for the Executive Secretary and US$150 for the Deputy Executive Secretary; US$ 50 for Professional staff and Administrative Officer; US$ 30 for Secretary to ES; US$ 20 for Drivers to ES and DES; and US$ 15 for other Drivers and Secretaries with effect from the FY 2006/2007; and**

V. **Approved the use of savings from the cost sharing of salaries of professional staff to meet the proposed adjustments in allowances.**

4.4. Proposal to Strengthen the Secretariat

The initial planning for staffing for the Secretariat provides for the posts of *Executive Secretary, Deputy Executive Secretary, Senior Scientist, Senior Socio-Economist, Administrative Officer (Finance and Administration); and Information and Data Base* Officer, and *six support staff* made up of three drivers and two secretaries and an office attendant. This staffing level has remained the same although the area of coverage is vast. There are other areas of operations that need additional staff if the Organization is to respond to Partner States needs of coordination, harmonization and capacity building through preparing project proposals. The Secretariat will under the *Implementation of the Fisheries Management Plan Project* (IFMP) acquire a patrol boat which will require key personnel to operate it. The library resource centre that has been set up will require a Librarian and there is need for a Registry Assistant. While in the long term it is intended to carry out a functional analysis of the Organization and propose the appropriate Structure of Organization and staffing levels it is proposed an urgent decision is taken to provide for the following key posts:

Program Officer. This post is meant to act as a catalyst to identify areas requiring attention, preparing projects for donor funding, monitoring and evaluation of project implementation

Fisheries Socio-Economist. During the Council of Ministers Session in Bagamoyo, 2004; Job descriptions were considered and recommendation was

made to change the post of Fisheries Socio-economist to Senior Fisheries Management Officer. This post will allow separation of duties now carried out by *the Fisheries Management Officer.* This separation will provide a clear follow up on implementation of agreed decisions and effectiveness of Council of Ministers management measures decisions. The Socio-Economist will concentrate on Fisheries Development and socio-economic issues and how they impact on fisheries resources management, the fishing communities, socio-economic growth and poverty reduction.

Librarian: LVFO has set up a library resource centre. The librarian is required to ensure organization and custody of all library materials for reference and duplication and delivery to users in line with LVFO's roles as a centre of excellence for information and database.

Personal/Administrative Secretary: This post of a Personal/Administrative Secretary for the office of the Deputy Executive Secretary was abolished as a cost cutting measure due to budgetary concerns. The workload of the office of the Deputy Executive Secretary calls for the urgent re-establishment of this post. It is recommended that the post be re-established and budgeted for in the financial year 2006/2007.

Registry Assistant: The expansion of the activities of the Organization now demands the recruitment of a Registry Assistant to take care of the registry. It is being recommended that this post is established and included in the budget for the financial year 2007/2008.

Skipper and Coxswain: The Project has provision for a patrol boat for the LVFO Secretariat. The procurement process is in progress and will be delivered within the financial year 2006/2007. The boat is to be used for Monitoring of on going regional activities on the lake to ensure compliance. It is now necessary to provide for the posts of Skipper and Coxswain/technician who will man the boat.

The CM reviewed the proposal and suggested that there should be a functional and institutional analysis before the proposals are considered.

4.5. Policy on Capital/Development Budget

The Country Contributions by the Partner States is limited to covering recurrent Expenditure. There are no funds provided for *Capital Expenditure* to cater for planned development activities and replacement of unserviceable equipment e.g. Vehicles. Consequently the Organization has vehicles and other equipment which are unserviceable but are not written off because of lack of funds to replace them. It is now proposed that Partner States consider providing funds for Capital Development activities under the Country Contribution to cater for this situation. It is proposed that the Partner States increase their annual contribution by US$20,000 each to cater for this requirement. This will provide US$60,000 per year for the development budget.

The CM deliberated on the importance of establishing a Capital Expenditure/Development Budget and recommended that the Functional and

Institutional Analysis should provide guidance on this issue.

Action: The CM:

I. **Noted the importance of accommodating Capital/Development Budget within the Country Contribution; and**
II. **Directed LVFO Secretariat to speed-up the Functional and Institutional Analysis study which should incorporate the justification for the Capital/Development Budget.**

4.6. Staff Welfare

The current Staff Rules and Regulations do not provide for the type of support the Organization can extend to the affected in the event of death.

I would, on a sad note like to report that one LVFO driver attached to IFMP and the husband of the ICO passed away this year. During this sad moment, it was noted that there was no provision in the LVFO Staff Regulations on what type of assistance is supposed to be given when a member of staff passes away or loses a spouse or dependent. In the above case, LVFO management had to use US$ 1,000 in each case from savings from the cost sharing of salaries of professional staff between Country Contributions and IFMP to assist the bereaved families. It is important that LVFO has a clear policy on this matter.

The CM considered the matter and directed that matters related to Staff welfare need to be planned within the budget and should be covered during the functional and institutional study.

Action: The CM approved retrospectively the use of US$ 2000 to assist the bereaved families in burial arrangements.

5. FINANCIAL MATTERS

5.1. The Status of LVFO Accounts as of 31st May 2006

The status of the accounts of the LVFO as of 31st May 2006 is given in Table 1.

Table1. Bank Balances as of 31st May 2006

Account No.	Bank	Source	Euro	US$	Ug. Shs.
2117500009	Bank of Baroda	Country Contribution		110,349.86	
93056-00391000	Standard Chartered	APE1/IFMP	177,162.71		
2117500023	Bank of Baroda	COMESA		4,838.65	
2117500013	Bank of Baroda	EADB		1,500.88	
2117500002	Bank of Baroda	IUCN		2,249.66	
2117500001	Bank of Baroda	Staff gratuity		92,818.06	
87066-002585-00	Standard Chartered	Journal		1,157.28	
211500350	Bank of Baroda	Country contributions			23,128,130.00
2115000004	Bank of Baroda	LVEMP			109,571.00
01056-00391000	Standard Chartered	APE1/IFMP			0.00
2115000527	Bank of Baroda	COMESA			1,479,600.00
9302000399700	Standard Chartered	APE2/IFMP	33,018.17		
102000999200	Standard Chartered	APE2/IFMP			102,092,637.00
TOTAL			**210,180.88**	**212,914.39**	**126,809,938.00**

The PSC noted the need to close accounts of projects which had closed and was informed that the processes are underway.

Action: The CM noted the financial status of the Organization.

5.2. The Status of Country Contributions as of 31st May 2006

The Status of country contributions as of 31st May 2006 outlined in Table 2.

Table 2. The Status of Country contributions in US$ as of 31st May 2006

Country	Balance from (2004/2005)	Dues for 2005/2006	Total Dues 2006/2007	Remittances in 2005/2006	Balance Due per Country
Kenya	2,468.11	100,000	102,468.11	104,774.80	-2,306.69
Tanzania	205.1	100,000	100,205.10	99.821.44	383.66
Uganda	74,117.64	100,000	174,117.64	108,689.11	65,428.53
TOTAL	**76,790.85**	**300,000**	**376,790.85**	**313,285**	**65,812.19**

The Republic of Uganda and United Republic of Tanzania promised to settle their contribution by end of August 2006

Action: The CM:

I. **Noted the status of country contributions as presented; and**
II. **Urged Partner States with outstanding contributions to update their accounts**

5.3. Receipts from Development Partners

The receipts from Development Partners for the FY 2004/2005 and 2005 to 31st May 2006 are summarized in Table 3.

Table 3. Receipts from Development Partners as of 31st May 2005

Development Partner / Project	2004/2005		2005/2006	
	Euros	US$	Euros	US$
Lake Victoria Environmental Management Project (GEF/World Bank)		802	0.00	0.00
Implementation of a Fisheries Management Plan (EU)	2,242,492.00		2,902,011.00	0.00
CFC/FAO/COMESA	0.00			23,432.00
IUCN/LVFO Nile Perch Project		104,384.00		12,120.00
TOTAL	**2,242,492.00**	**104,384.00**	**2,902,011.00**	**35,552.00**

Action: The CM:

I. **Noted the contributions from the development Partners;**
II. **Thanked the Development Partners especially the EU for the support rendered to the Organization;**

5.4. Final Audited Accounts for the FY 2003/2004 and 2004/2005

The audited accounts of the organization for the FY 2003/2004 are given in **Annex XXIX.** The accounts for the FY 2004/2005 have been audited by the Auditor General and a Management Report given **(Annex XXX).**

The end of work program audit report of the IFMP for the start-up work plan for

the period ended 30 September 2004 are given as **Annex XXXI**. The accounts for the APE1 which ended on 30th September 2005 have been audited and the report is given as **Annex XXXII**.

The CM thanked the LVFO management for improvement in financial management and directed the Secretariat to address issues in the Audit report.

Action: The CM received and deliberated on:

I. **The Audited accounts for 2003/2004 and 2004/2005;**
II. **The Audited Accounts of IFMP for the Start-up Work plan and APE1; and**
III. **Directed the LVFO Secretariat to adequately address all auditor recommendations and report to the EC before the next EC meeting.**

5.5. The Gratuity Debt

The EC during its meeting in Mombasa in May 2005 deliberated on the Gratuity debt and noted that the issue had recurred a number of times and agreed that the lack of a stable gratuity fund would discredit the Organization if a member of staff were to depart when the account did not have sufficient funds to pay the gratuity. The gratuity dues had been verified by external Auditors, and the amount due was US$ 97,967/=. The EC observed that money had been used on legitimate although un-budgeted activities of the Organization. They referred the matter to the PSC so that the debt could be paid off. The PSC during its Eighth Regular Session held in Mombasa in May 2005 deliberated on the matter and approved a supplementary contribution to redeem the gratuity debt by each country contributing US$ 33,000. Since then Partner States have made the contributions to redeeming the Gratuity Debt as follows: Tanzania - $ 32,034; Kenya - 0; Uganda - $ 4,287.07.

The CM thanked the United Republic of Tanzania for meeting their contributions on time. The approval was done after National budget approval and therefore Kenya had no funds to meet obligation in 2005/2006. Kenya and Uganda promised to clear their amount as they pay the Country Contributions.

Action: The CM:

I. **Took note of the progress made towards redeeming the Gratuity Debt; and**
II. **Thanked the Partner States for the contributions towards redeeming the debt.**

5.6. Status of the Fraudulent Transfer of US$16,079 from the COMESA Project Bank Account No. 02501007832-02 with Bank of Baroda, Jinja Branch

The Police investigations on the fraudulent transfer were completed and it was reported that the Signatures of the two Officers who are purported to have signed the transfer had been forged. The bank was therefore held responsible for the transfer of the funds and refunded US$ 16,079 to the LVFO Account on 16th September 2005.

The PSC thanked the Secretariat for follow up the process that led up recovery of the money.

Action: The CM noted the refund of the money by the bank.

6. THE PROGRAM BUDGET OF THE LAKE VICTORIA FISHERIES ORGANISATION FOR THE FINANCIAL YEARS 2006/2007 AND 2007/2008

The detailed work program and budget of the LVFO for the Financial Years 2006/2007 and 2007/2008 including the budget notes is given in **Annex XXXIV**. The recurrent budget and the development budget and work program are summarized below.

6.1. The Recurrent Budget for the FY 2004/2005, 2005/2006 and 2006/2007

The Recurrent Budget of the organization for the FYs 2004/2005 and 2005/2006 was a reduction of the budget from US$ 716,831 to 345,113 following a need to fit the level which Partner States could at that time afford following the end of the World Bank/GEF budget support to the Organization. This meant that during the subsequent period the Organization had to operate a very tight budget and was only saved through cost sharing with IFMP (**Table 4**). The LVFO policy on budget adjustments has also been static. The budget proposed some policy changes in key areas of budget including: staff salaries; salaries of drivers of the executive staff of the Organization; and housing and telephone allowance for the Executive Staff of the Organization. The budget also proposed adoption of a policy to increase Partner States contribution by 5% every two years and to provide for development budget to replace equipment and facilities.

6.2. The LVFO Development Work Program and Budget for the FY 2006/2007 and 2007/2008

The development program of the LVFO for the FY 2006/2007 and 2007/2008 will consolidate efforts towards implementation of the LVFO Strategic Vision through continuation of Implementation of a Fisheries Management Plan for Lake Victoria aimed at ensuring Sustainable Economic Growth, Sustainable Resource use and development. The main activities to be undertaken under the IFMP, the FAO/TCP and the indicative budget are summarized in Table 5. The detailed budgets are included in Annual Work-plans of individual projects. They include:

(a) Providing support to PIU and National Coordination Offices;
(b) Organizing LVFO statutory body, Project Steering and other regional meetings;
(c) Continue development and harmonization of fisheries policies, laws and regulations;
(d) Promoting and supporting co-management;
(e) Promoting compliance to fish quality standards and improving fish products;
(f) Enhance adherence to fisheries laws and regulation through MCS;
(g) Continue resource, environmental and socio-economic monitoring;
(h) Promote aquaculture in the Lake Victoria basin;
(i) Establish and manage databases and train users of Samaki;
(j) Package and disseminate fisheries management information;
(k) Improve human resources capacity for fisheries management;
(l) Provide equipment and supplies to implementing institutions;

(m) Complete rehabilitation of fisheries research and fisheries management institutions;
(n) Procurement of patrol boats and research vessels;
(o) Construction of LVFO Headquarters;
(p) Construction of fish landing sites;
(q) Establish social infrastructure for fishers; and
(r) Develop LVFO self financing mechanism.

The CM deliberated on the recurrent budget and agreed that any increase in the budget would be considered after the institutional and functional analysis.

Action: The CM:

I. **Deliberated on the indicative program budget of the Organization;**
II. **Made partial approval of the budget of the LVFO Secretariat for FY 2006/2007 & 2007/2008 based on current Country contributions; and**
III. **Directed LVFO Secretariat to complete functional analysis prior to consideration by a Special Session on the CM by September 2006.**

Table 4: Recurrent Budget Summary in US$ for the FYs 2006/2007 and 2007/2008

		2005/2006		2006/2007		2007/2008	
		APPROVED BUDGET		BUDGET		ESTIMATES	
		Partner States	IFMP & Others	Partner States	IFMP & Others	Partner States	IFMP & Others
A	**INCOME**	**300,000.00**	**234,790.00**	**300,000.00**	**534,079.00**	**300,000.00**	**567,502.00**
B	**EXPENDITURE**						
1	Staff Salaries & Wages	183,728	33,500	183,728	173,296	183,728	180,923
2	Contribution to Gratuity	38,916	0	38,916	26,244	38,916	27,388
3	Group Medical	17,335	0	17,335	13,310	17,335	13,310
4	Public Liability Insurance	1,000	0	1,000	0	1,000	0
5	Vehicle Insurance	0	4,278	0	7,000	0	7,000
6	Housing Subsidy	26,749	0	26,749	37,659	26,749	39,185
7	Telephone for Executives	3,000	0	3,000	1200	3,000	1200
	Telephone for Other Staff	0	0	0	5700	0	5700
8	Home Leave	6,000	0	6,000	0	6,000	0
9	Audit Expenses	3,300	0	3,300	0	3,300	0
10	Honoraria	1,000	0	1,000	0	1,000	0
11	Hospitality	1,000	0	1,000	0	1,000	0
12	Staff Recruitment	13,472	0	13,472	18,650	13,472	18,650
13	Travel	0	13,048	0	13,720	0	18,346
14	Transport Operations	0	16,538	0	32,000	0	37,000
15	Office Operations	500	21,426	500	50,000	500	61,000
16	Information Dissemination	0	23,000	0	25,300	0	25,300
17	Meetings	4,000	123,000	4,000	127,500	4,000	130,000
18	Special assignments/Other	0	0	0	2,500	0	2,500
	Total	**300,000**	**234,790**	**300,000**	**534,079**	**300,000**	**567,502**

Table 5. The indicative development budget for the FYs 2006/07 and 2007/8 in Euro ((1 € = 1.2 $). The Development Budget is based on estimates under IFMP and the FAO Aquaculture Project

Activity	Expected Output	Budget 2006/07	Budget 2007/8
Provide support to PIU and National Coordination Offices	The PIU and National Coordination offices operating efficiently	671,787	656,250
Organize LVFO, Project Steering and other regional meeting	Scientific, Fisheries Management Committee meeting held bi-annually, Executive Annually to agree on management measures	88,000	106,000
Continue development and harmonization of fisheries policies, laws and regulations	Policies, laws, regulation for development and management developed, harmonized adopted, and implemented	92,000	72,000
Promote co-management of fisheries	Community institutions for management of fisheries established and operational	1,294,050	1,237,200
Promote compliance to fish quality standards and improve fish products	Development and training in improved Dagaa processing, fish handling & use of ice	35,000	35,000
Enhance adherence to fisheries laws and regulation (MCS)	Capacity building in MSC, patrol programs undertaken and publicized	1,133,850	1,092,600
Continue of resource, environmental and socio-economic monitoring	Data on fisheries, fish stocks & socio-economic factors collected, analyzed & packaged	735,000	600,000
Promote aquaculture in the Lake Victoria basin	A strategy and action plan for aquaculture developed in the Lake Victoria basin developed	360,000	0
Establish and Manage databases and promote and train in use of Samaki	Communication networks established between implementing institutions	50,000	50,000
Package and disseminate fisheries management information	Promotional materials produced, printed and distributed. Radio and TV programs aired	203,400	203,400
Improve human resources capacity for fisheries management	Staff of LVFO institutions trained	122,813	97,000
Provision of equipment and supplies	Procure vehicle, office & field equipment, books, journals & establish comm. networks	282,000	162,000
Rehabilitation of fisheries research and fisheries management institutions	Rehabilitation of six fisheries research and fisheries management institutions completed	200,000	200,000
Procurement of Patrol Boats and research vessels	Two research vessels and four patrol boats procured	2,785,000	95,000
Construction of LVFO Headquarters	Construction of the new LVFO headquarters completed	800,000	0
Construction of fish landing sites	At least 18 fish landing sites constructed/improved	180,000	3,630,000
Establish social infrastructure for fishers	Fifteen units of social infrastructure developed. Five in each Partner States	120,000	180,000
Develop LVFO self financing mechanism	A sustainable financing mechanism for the LVFO developed	30,000	20,000
Grand total		**9,182,900**	**8,436,450**

6.4. Extension of IFMP and Preparation of a follow up project (IFMP2)

The start-up phase of IFMP1 ran for 18 months from March 2003 to September 30th 2004. Full implementation of the project started in October 2004 with approval of the first Annual Program Estimate (APE 1). When IFMP was approved, it was apparently not foreseen that there would be a protracted preparatory process before full implementation of management measures. The first three years of project implementation has included major preparatory activities especially formation of programs and working groups, preparation of SOPs, guidelines and manuals and establishment of a management institutional framework through formation of BMUs and improving their capacity to a level where they can fully participate in fisheries management. Given the complexity of the project and the remaining planned activities, it is recommended that the project is extended for up to two years to allow for completion of planned activities and preparation of follow on project.

The CM deliberated and agreed on the need to extend IFMP by 18 months and to prepare a follow on project. The EC noted progress made as contained in the MTR draft report.

Action: The CM:

I. **Noted the above development;**
II. **Recommended extension of IFMP;**
III. **Thanked European Commission for funding IFMP;**
IV. **Directed LVFO secretariat to initiate preparation of a follow on project of IFMP; and**
V. **Requested the EC to fund the follow on project.**

6.5. Sustainable Funding of the LVFO

LVEMP1 assisted LVFO member countries in a study to explore opportunities and mechanisms for funding fisheries activities from the fisheries sector. The results of the study indicated that the fisheries sector had the capacity to fund its own activities. The proposal was endorsed by the LVEMP Policy Steering Committee at its meeting held in Jinja on 30th October 2003 for implementation by the Partner States.

The LVFO CM noted the importance of sustainable funding of LVFO activities.

Action: The CM:

I. **Took note of the above development; and**
II. **Directed the Secretariat to expedite a study on sustainable funding for the LVFO.**

6.6. Functional and Institutional Analysis of the LVFO

The PSC considered a need to review the structure and functions of the LVFO in view of the changing operational requirements of the Organization

and recommended that a review of the Organization be undertaken. The Project Manager of IFMP informed members that provision has been made to carry out a functional analysis of the Organization. The PSC directed that the functional analysis should, among others include clear linkages to the LVBC and other EAC Institutions and financial analysis.

It was suggested that a Special Session of the CM would be arranged once the functional and institutional analysis is completed to adopt the report before FY 2007/2008, for budgetary purposes.

Action: The CM:

I. **Took note of the above requirement;**
II. **Directed LVFO Secretariat to expedite the functional and institutional analysis; and**
III. **Directed LVFO to convene a special Session of the CM to adopt the report of the Functional and Institutional Analysis by January 2007.**

7. AOB

The Council of Ministers considered the frequency of their regular sessions and proposed that consideration should be given to have them annually.

8. DATES AND VENUE OF THE SEVENTH REGULAR SESSION OF CM

The seventh Regular Session of the LVFO Council of Ministers will take place in Kenya in 2008 on a date and venue to be determined by the Host State in consultation with LVFO Secretariat.

10. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

The Report of the Six Regular Session of the LVFO Council of Ministers was adopted at Speke Resort Conference Centre, Munyonyo-Kampala, Uganda, on 30th June 2006.

Head of Delegation for Tanzania .....

Hon. Anthony Diallo (MP).
Chairperson, LVFO Council of Ministers,
Minister of Natural Resources & Tourism,
United Republic of Tanzania

Head of Delegation for Uganda: .....

Hon. Eng. Hilary Onek (MP)
Vice-Chairperson, LVFO Council of Minister,
Minister of Agriculture, Animal Industry & Fisheries, Uganda,
Republic of Uganda

Head of Delegation for Kenya: .....

Hon. Joseph Konzollo Munyao EGH, (MP)
Member, LVFO Council of Minister,
Minister of Livestock and Fisheries Development, Kenya,
Republic of Kenya

LIST OF ANNEXES

ANNEX I: LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

TANZANIA

Hon. Anthony Diallo, (MP),
Minister,
Vice-Chairperson, Council of Ministers, LVFO,
Ministry of Natural Resources & Tourism,
P.O. Box 9372, **Dar es Salaam,** Tanzania.

Mr. Pamba Salehe,A.,
Permanent Secretary,
Chairperson, Policy Steering Committee, LVFO,
Ministry of Natural Resources & Tourism,
P.O. Box 9372, **Dar es Salaam.**
Tel.: +255 222 11 88 82
Fax: +255 222 11 46 59

Mr. Nanyaro Geoffrey .F.,
Chairperson, Executive Committee, LVFO,
Director, Fisheries Division,
P.O. Box 2462, **Dar es Salaam**.
Tel.: +255 222 122930
Fax: +255 222 110352
Mob.: +255 741 327 484
Email: gfnanyaro@yahoo.com

Prof. Bwathondi, Phillip O.J.,
Member, Executive Committee, LVFO,
Director General, TAFIRI,
P O Box 9750, **Dar es salaam.**
Tel: +255 222 650043
Fax: +255 222 650043
Mobile: +255 784 530685/744 808571
Email: bwathondi@yahoo.co.uk

Mr. Hoza Rashid Bakari,
Desk Officer (FD)
Principal Fisheries Officer,
Fisheries Division,
P.O. Box 2462, **Dar es Salaam**.
Tel.: +255 222 122930
Fax: +255 222 110352
Mob.: +255 784 274616
Email: rbhoza@yahoo.com

UGANDA

Hon. Eng. Hilary Onek (MP),
Minister,
Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries,
P. O. Box 102,
Entebbe, Uganda.

Hon. Mukisa, Fred, (MP)
Minister of State, Fisheries,
Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry & Fisheries,
P. O. Box 102, **Entebbe**..
Tel: +256 41 322026
Fax: +256 41 321010
Mobile +256 772 4069
Email: fishery@hotmail.com

Mr. Gabindadde-Musoke
Vice-Chairperson, Policy Steering Committee, LVFO,
Permanent Secretary,
Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry & Fisheries,
P. O. Box 102, **Entebbe**..

Mr. Nyeko, Dick,
Vice-Chairperson, Executive Committee, LVFO,
Commissioner Fisheries,
P.O. Box 4, **Entebbe**.
Tel: +256 41 322026
Fax: +256 41 323653
Mobile +256 772 721455
Email: fishery@hotmail.com

Dr. Balirwa , John S.,
Member, Executive Committee, LVFO,
Director, NAFIRRI,
P.O. Box 343, **Jinja.**
Tel: +256 43 121369
Fax: +256 43 120192
Mobile +256 772 620505
Email: director@ firi.go.ug;/
firi@firi.go.ug

Dr. Tumwebaze, Rhoda,
Desk Officer (FD),
Principal Fisheries Officer,
P.O. Box 4, **Entebbe.**
Tel.: +256 41 323546,
Fax: +256 41 323653,
Mob.: +256 772 927889
Email: ifmpum@infocom.co.ug
rtumwebaze@hotmail.com
t60rhodha@yahoo.com

Ms. Emiru, Jane
Secretary
Fisheries Department,
P.O. Box 4, **Entebbe**.
Tel: +256 41 322026
Fax: +256 41 323653
Mobile +256 772 339610
Email: jemimahpraise@yahoo.com

Ms. Oryang, Norah,
Senior Assistant Secretary,
Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry & Fisheries,
P. O. Box 102, **Entebbe**..
Tel: +256 41 320803
Fax: +256 41 321010
Mobile +256 772 671 236

KENYA

Hon. Joseph Kozollo Munyao, (MP,
Minister,
Chairperson, Council of Ministers, LVFO,
Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries Development,
P.O. Box 30028, **Nairobi**, Kenya.

Dr. Miaron, Jacob Ole (PhD),
Permanent Secretary,
Member, Policy Steering Committee, LVFO,
Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries Development,
P.O. Box 34188, **Nairobi**.
Tel: +254 20 27 32 093
Fax: +254 20 24 01 63
Mobile: +254

Mrs. Gitonga, Nancy K.,
Member, Executive Committee, LVFO,
Director, Fisheries Department,
P.O. Box 58187, **Nairobi**.
Tel: +254 20 3744530
Fax: +254 20 3744530
Mobile: +254 722 967739
Email: samaki@saamnet.com

Mr. Ayugu, Bernard Karani,
Senior Deputy Director,
Fisheries Department,
P.O. Box 58187, **Nairobi**.
Tel: +254 20 3744530
Fax: +254 20 3744530
Mobile: +254 724 560164
Email: samaki@saamnet.com

Dr. Kazungu,Johnson M.,
Member, Executive Committee, LVFO,
Director, KMFRI,
P.O. Box 81651, **Mombasa.**
Tele.: +254 11 475157
Fax: +254 41 475157
Mob.: +254722 723386
Email: jkazungu@kmfri.co.ke

Ms. Nyandat, Beatrice,
Desk Officer (FD),
Fisheries Department, Kenya,
P.O. Box 58187, **Nairobi**..
Tel: +254 20 3742320/49
Fax: +254 20 3744530/3744530
Mobile: +254 720 854571
Email: samaki@saamnet.com/
Tieny30@yahoo.co

EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY

Dr. Okurut, Tom O.,
Executive Secretary,
EAC/LVBC,
P.O. Box 1096, **Arusha**, Tanzania.
Tel: +255 272 50 4253/8
Fax: +255 272 50 4255
Mobile: +255 744 574352
Email: tomokurut@eachq.org.

EUROPEAN COMMISSION DELEGATION

Mr. Seruyange, Patrick,
Operations Officer, European Union,
P.O. Box 5244, **Kampala,** Uganda.
Tel.: +256 41 701000
Fax: +256 41 233708
Mob.: +256 772 461078
Email: patrick.seruyange@cec.eu.int
patrick.seruyange@ec.europa.eu

REGIONAL AUTHORISING OFFICER

Mr. Haguma Joe Willy,
Principal Finance Officer,
NAO/RAO, MFPED,
P.O. Box 8147, **Kampala,** Uganda.
Tel: +256 41 342367
Fax: +256 41 342370
Mo.: +256 772 481449
Email: joe.haguma@finance.go.ug

HIGH COMMISSIONER

Mr. Mboyi, , Nyandallo Mathias,
Minister Plenipotentiary,
Tanzania High Commission
P.O. Box 47790-00100
Reinsurance Plaza,
Nairobi, Kenya.
Tel: +254 20 311948/50 - 312027
Fax: +254 20 218269
Mo.: +256 735 601732
Email: highcom@tanzaniahc.or.ke

FAO
Mr. Ssentongo, George William
FAO Fisheries Consutlant
FAO of the United Nations
6th Floor Old Mututal Centre,
CNR J. Moyo Ave/Third St.
P.O. Box 3730, **Harare**, Zimbabwe.
Tel: +263 4 791407/253656

Fax: +263 4 700724
Mo.: +263 91 268 380
Email: george.ssentongo@fao.org

FISH PROCESSORS
Ovia Katiti Matovu
Chief Executive Officer,
Uanda Fish Processors and Exporters Associationj,
P.O. Box 25476
Kampala, Uganda
Email: UFPEA@infocom.co. ug.

HIGH COMMISSION

Amb. Japheth Getugi,
Ambassador,
Kenya High Commission,
41, Nakasero Road,
Kampala, Uganda.
Tel: +256 41 258232/6
Fax: +256 41 235321
Email: Kenlicom@africaonline.co.ug.

Amb. Muburi-Muita, H.E.Z..
Ambassador,
Kenya High Commission,
127 Mafinga Str.
Kinondoni, P.O. Box 5231,
Dar es Salaam, Tanzania
Tel: +255 222 668225/6
Fax: +255 222 668221/3
Mo.: +255 744 001213
Email: khc@africaonline.co.tz

Amb. Kamanu, Simon,
Commercial Attache,
Kenya High Commission,
41, Nakasero Road,
Kampala, Uganda.
Tel: +256 41 258232/6
Fax: +256 41 235321
Mo.: +256 782 188803
Email: commerce@africonline.co.ke

IUCN

Mr. Muhweezi, Alex ,
Country Director,
IUCN,
Plot 39 Babiiha,
P.O. Box 10950, **Kampala**, Uganda.
Tel: +256 41 233738
Fax: +256 41 342298
Mo.: +256 772 221 499
Email: Alex Muhweezi@iucn.org

LVFO SECRETARIAT

Mr. Maembe, Thomas Wanyika,
Executive Secretary, LVFO,
P O Box 1625, **Jinja,** Uganda.
Tel: +256 43 120205/6
Fax: +256 43 123123
Mobile: +256 772 353354
Email: lvfo-sec@lvfo.org
maembe@lvfo.org

Dr. Ogutu-Ohwayo, Richard,
Deputy Executive Secretary, LVFO,
P O Box 1625, **Jinja,** Uganda.
Tel: +256 43 120205
Fax: +256 43 123123
Mobile +256 772 421094
Email: ogutu-ohwayo@lvfo.org
ohwayoogutu@yahoo.com

Dr. Scullion,Jim
Project Manager, IFMP Project/LVFO,
P.O. Box 1625, **Jinja,** Uganda
Tel: +256 43 120205-7
Fax: +256 43 123123
Mob: +256 772 481231
E-mail: jscullion@lvfo.org
jscullion@infocom.com

Mrs. Kirema-Mukasa Caroline T.,
Senior Economist, LVFO,
P O Box 1625, **Jinja,** Uganda.
Tel: +256 43 120205/6
Fax: +256 43 123123
Mobile: +256 752 615262
Email: mukasa@lvfo.org

Dr. Mkumbo, Oliva,
Senior Scientist, LVFO,
P O Box 1625, **Jinja,** Uganda.
Tele.: +256 43 120205/6
Fax: +256 43 123123
Mob.: +256 782 519779
Email: ocmkumbo@lvfo.org
ocmkumbo@hotmail.com

Mr. Kiyizi, Norbert S.
Administrative Officer [Finance and Administration],
LVFO Secretariat,
Tele.: +256 43 120205/6
Fax: +256 43 123123
Mob.: +256 752 527071
Email: nskiyizi@lvfo.org,

Mr. Chuwa ,Valerian H.,
Internal Auditor, LVFO,
P.O. Box 1625, **Jinja,** Uganda.
Tele.: +256 43 120205/6
Fax: +256 43 123123
Mob.: +256 782 981235
Email: vchuwa@lvfo.org
vchuwa@hotmail.com

Eng. Mwesigwa, Hans J.W. B.,

Civil Engineer, LVFO,
P O Box 1625, **Jinja,** Uganda.
Tele.: +256 43 120205/6
Fax: +256 43 123123
Mob.: +256 772 431465
Email: hansmwes@lvfo.org;
hansmwes@yahoo.com

Mrs. Birabwa, Elizabeth . A.,
Information & Communications, LVFO,
P O Box 1625, **Jinja,** Uganda.
Tele.: +256 43 120205/6
Fax: +256 43 123123
Mob.: +256 772 589002
Email: eabirabwa@lvfo.org

Mr. Abura, Samson.,
Information & Database, LVFO,
P O Box 1625, **Jinja,** Uganda.
Tele.: +256 43 120205/6
Fax: +256 43 123123
Mob.: +256 782 643204
Email: sbabura@lvfo.org

Mrs. Balirwa, Ferry K.,
Secretary (ES), LVFO,
P O Box 1625, **Jinja,** Uganda.
Tele.: +256 43 120205/6
Fax: +256 43 123123
Mob.: +256 772 353322
Email: ferry@lvfo.org

Mr. Inyalio, Justine,
Accounts Assistant, LVFO,
P O Box 1625, **Jinja,** Uganda.
Tele.: +256 43 120205/6
Fax: +256 43 123123
Email: justine@lvfo.org

Ms. Ajambo, Annet,
Office Assistant, LVFO,
P O Box 1625, **Jinja,** Uganda.
Tel: +256 43 120205-6
Fax: +256 43 123123
Mob.: +256 772 542365

ANNEX II: AGENDA

1. National Consultations
2. Consultation of the Council of Ministers
3. Opening Session

3.1. Opening remarks by the Chairperson
3.2. Welcoming Statement by the Host
3.3. Consideration and Adoption of the Agenda and Program
3.4. Statement of the Executive Secretary, LVFO
3.5. Statement of the EAC Representative
3.6. Statement of the FAO Representative
3.7. Statement of Other Development Partners
3.8. Statement from the Representative Fish Processors and Exporters Association
3.9. Election of Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson
3.10. Statement of the Out-going Chairperson
3.11. Statement of the In-coming Chairperson

4. Consideration of the Report of the Policy Steering Committee

2.1. Status of Implementation of the Decisions of the Council of Ministers
2.2. Progress in Implementation of the Work Program and Projects of the LVFO
2.3. Staff Matters
2.4. Financial Matters
2.5. The work Program and Budget of the Lake Victoria Fisheries Organisation for the Financial Years 2006/2007 and 2007/2008

5. A.O.B.

4. Dates and Venue of the Sixth Regular Session of the LVFO Council of Minister

6. Adoption of the Report of the LVFO Council of Minister

ANNEX III: PROGRAM

No.	Activity	Time
1.	National Consultations	09:00 -10:30
	Coffee/Tea break (served at consultations)	10:30 -11:00
2.	Consultation of Members of Policy Steering Committee	10:00 -11:00
3.	Opening Session	11:00 - 11:30
	1.1. Opening remarks by the Chairperson 1.2. Welcoming Statement by the Host 1.3. Consideration and Adoption of the Agenda and Program 1.4. Statement of the Executive Secretary, LVFO 1.5. Statement of the EAC Representative 1.6. Statement of Other Development Partners 1.7. Statement from the Representative of the Fish Processors and Exporters Association 1.8. Election of Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson 1.9.Statement of the Out-going Chairperson 1.10.Statement of the In-coming Chairperson	
4.	Consideration of the Report of the Policy Steering Committee	11:30-13:00
	Luncheon	13.00-14:00

LIST OF OTHER ANNEXES PROVIDED UNDER A SEPARATE COVER

The Annexes listed below are distributed under a separate cover and form an integral part of this report.

NO	DOCUMENT TITLE	ANNEX
1.	Regional Status Report on Lake Victoria Frame Survey for 2000, 2002 and 2004	IV
2.	Draft LVFO Regional Plan of Action for the Management of Fishing Capacity in Lake Victoria and its Basin	V
3.	LVFO Progress Report, 2004 to 2006	VI
4.	The IFMP annual report for APE 1 (October 2004 to September 2005)	VII
5.	Standard Operating Procedures for Fisheries Frame Surveys	VIII
6.	Standard Operating Procedures for Catch Assessment Survey Data	IX
7.	Standard Operating Procedures for Trawl Surveys	X
8.	Standard Operating Procedures for Hydro-Acoustic Surveys	XI
9.	Standard Operating Procedures for Gillnets	X II
10.	Standard Operating Procedures for Biological and Ecological Studies the Fishes	XIII
11.	Standard Operating Procedures for Socio-economic Research and Monitoring	XIV
12.	Harmonized Guidelines for Beach Management Units (BMUs)	XV
13.	Guidelines for the Monitoring Control and Surveillance (MCS)	XVI
14.	The Institutional Structure and Programs of the Organization	XVII
15.	Operational Manual for Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS)	XVIII
16.	Code of Practice for Fish and Fishery Products	XIX
17.	Inspectors Guide to Assessing Compliance with Code of Practice for Fish and Fishery Products	XX
18.	Manual for Standard Operating Procedures for Inspection and Quality Assurance in Capture Fisheries and Aquaculture, First edition 2005	XXI
19.	SAMAKI Database Manual	XXII
20.	Draft Information, Communication and Outreach Strategy and Action Plan for Lake Victoria Fisheries	XXIII
21.	The Entebbe Declaration, Feb 2005	XXIV
22.	The State of the Fisheries Resources of Lake Victoria and their Management: Proceedings of the Regional Stakeholders' Conference, December 2005	XXV
23.	Proceedings of Lake Victoria 2000: A New Beginning Conference	XXVI
24.	African Journal of Tropical Hydrobiology and Fisheries, Vol. 11, (Special Issue)	XXVII
25.	Draft H uman R esource D evelopment S trategy a nd A ction P lan f or L ake Victoria Fisheries	XXVIII
26.	Lake Victoria Fisheries Organization: Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30th June 2004	XXIX
27.	Management Report by the Auditor General for the FY Ended 2005	XXX
28.	Audit Report of IFMP Start-up Workplan	XXXI
29.	End of Work Program Audit Report for the Period Ended 30 September 2004, March 2005	XXXII
30.	The Workprogram and Budget of the Lake Victoria Fisheries Organization for the Financial Years 2006/2007 and 2007/2008	XXXIII
31.	Regional Representation at the LVFO Secretariat	XXXIV

Civil Engineer, LVFO,
P O Box 1625, **Jinja,** Uganda.
Tele.: +256 43 120205/6
Fax: +256 43 123123
Mob.: +256 772 431465
Email: hansmwes@lvfo.org;
hansmwes@yahoo.com

Mrs. Birabwa, Elizabeth . A.,
Information & Communications, LVFO,
P O Box 1625, **Jinja,** Uganda.
Tele.: +256 43 120205/6
Fax: +256 43 123123
Mob.: +256 772 589002
Email: eabirabwa@lvfo.org

Mr. Abura, Samson.,
Information & Database, LVFO,
P O Box 1625, **Jinja,** Uganda.
Tele.: +256 43 120205/6
Fax: +256 43 123123
Mob.: +256 782 643204
Email: sbabura@lvfo.org

Mrs. Balirwa, Ferry K.,
Secretary (ES), LVFO,
P O Box 1625, **Jinja,** Uganda.
Tele.: +256 43 120205/6
Fax: +256 43 123123
Mob.: +256 772 353322
Email: ferry@lvfo.org

Mr. Inyalio, Justine,
Accounts Assistant, LVFO,
P O Box 1625, **Jinja,** Uganda.
Tele.: +256 43 120205/6
Fax: +256 43 123123
Email: justine@lvfo.org

Ms. Ajambo, Annet,
Office Assistant, LVFO,
P O Box 1625, **Jinja,** Uganda.
Tel: +256 43 120205-6
Fax: +256 43 123123
Mob.: +256 772 542365

ANNEX II: AGENDA

1. National Consultations
2. Consultation of the Council of Ministers
3. Opening Session
3.1. Opening remarks by the Chairperson
3.2. Welcoming Statement by the Host
3.3. Consideration and Adoption of the Agenda and Program
3.4. Statement of the Executive Secretary, LVFO
3.5. Statement of the EAC Representative
3.6. Statement of the FAO Representative
3.7. Statement of the Regional Authorising Officer
3.8. Statement of the European Commission
3.9 Statement of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN)
3.10. Statement from the Representative Fish Processors and Exporters Association
3.11. Election of Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson
3.12. Statement of the Out-going Chairperson
3.13. Statement of the In-coming Chairperson

4. Consideration of the Report of the Policy Steering Committee

2.1. Status of Implementation of the Decisions of the Council of Ministers
2.2. Progress in Implementation of the Work Program and Projects of the LVFO
2.3. Staff Matters
2.4. Financial Matters
2.5. The work Program and Budget of the Lake Victoria Fisheries Organisation for the Financial Years 2006/2007 and 2007/2008

5. A.O.B.

4. Dates and Venue of the Sixth Regular Session of the LVFO Council of Minister

6. Adoption of the Report of the LVFO Council of Minister

ANNEX III: PROGRAM

No.	Activity	Time
1.	National Consultations	09:00 -10:30
	Coffee/Tea break (served at consultations)	10:30 -11:00
2.	Consultation of Members of the Council of Ministers	10:00 -11:00
3.	Opening Session	11:00 - 11:30
	1.1. Opening remarks by the Chairperson 1.2. Welcoming Statement by the Host 1.3. Consideration and Adoption of the Agenda and Program 1.4. Statement of the Executive Secretary, LVFO 1.5. Statement of the EAC Representative 1.6. Statement of the FAO Representative 1.7. Statement of the Regional Authorising Officer 1.8. Statement of the European Commission 1.9. Statement of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) 1.10. Statement from the Representative of the Fish Processors and Exporters Association 1.11. Election of Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson 1.12 Statement of the Out-going Chairperson 1.13. Statement of the In-coming Chairperson	
4.	Consideration of the Report of the Policy Steering Committee	11:30-13:00
	Luncheon	13.00-14:00

LIST OF OTHER ANNEXES PROVIDED UNDER A SEPARATE COVER

The Annexes listed below are distributed under a separate cover and form an integral part of this report.

NO	DOCUMENT TITLE	ANNEX
1.	Regional Status Report on Lake Victoria Frame Survey for 2000, 2002 and 2004	IV
2.	Draft LVFO Regional Plan of Action for the Management of Fishing Capacity in Lake Victoria and its Basin	V
3.	LVFO Progress Report, 2004 to 2006	VI
4.	The IFMP annual report for APE 1 (October 2004 to September 2005)	VII
5.	Standard Operating Procedures for Fisheries Frame Surveys	VIII
6.	Standard Operating Procedures for Catch Assessment Survey Data	IX
7.	Standard Operating Procedures for Trawl Surveys	X
8.	Standard Operating Procedures for Hydro-Acoustic Surveys	XI
9.	Standard Operating Procedures for Gillnets	X II
10.	Standard Operating Procedures for Biological and Ecological Studies the Fishes	XIII
11.	Standard Operating Procedures for Socio-economic Research and Monitoring	XIV
12.	Harmonized Guidelines for Beach Management Units (BMUs)	XV
13.	Guidelines for the Monitoring Control and Surveillance (MCS)	XVI
14.	The Institutional Structure and Programs of the Organization	XVII
15.	Operational Manual for Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS)	XVIII
16.	Code of Practice for Fish and Fishery Products	XIX
17.	Inspectors Guide to Assessing Compliance with Code of Practice for Fish and Fishery Products	XX
18.	Manual for Standard Operating Procedures for Inspection and Quality Assurance in Capture Fisheries and Aquaculture, First edition 2005	XXI
19.	SAMAKI Database Manual	XXII
20.	Draft Information, Communication and Outreach Strategy and Action Plan for Lake Victoria Fisheries	XXIII
21.	The Entebbe Declaration, Feb 2005	XXIV
22.	The State of the Fisheries Resources of Lake Victoria and their Management: Proceedings of the Regional Stakeholders' Conference, December 2005	XXV
23.	Proceedings of Lake Victoria 2000: A New Beginning Conference	XXVI
24.	African Journal of Tropical Hydrobiology and Fisheries, Vol. 11, (Special Issue)	XXVII
25.	Draft Human Resource Development Strategy and Action Plan for Lake Victoria Fisheries	XXVIII
26.	Lake Victoria Fisheries Organization: Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30th June 2004	XXIX
27.	Management Report by the Auditor General for the FY Ended 2005	XXX
28.	Audit Report of IFMP Start-up Workplan	XXXI
29.	End of Work Program Audit Report for the Period Ended 30 September 2004, March 2005	XXXII
30.	The Workprogram and Budget of the Lake Victoria Fisheries Organization for the Financial Years 2006/2007 and 2007/2008	XXXIII
31.	Regional Representation at the LVFO Secretariat	XXXIV