



LAKE VICTORIA FISHERIES ORGANIZATION
(THE EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY)



**REPORT OF THE 7TH REGULAR SESSION LVFO COUNCIL OF MINISTERS,
SEA CLIFF HOTEL, DAR-ES-SALAAM, TANZANIA,
27TH FEBRUARY 2009**

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Abbreviations

APE	Annual Program Estimates
BMU	Beach Management Unit
CAS	Catch Assessment Survey
CM	Council of Ministers
CPUE	Catch Per Unit Effort
EAC	East African Community
EC	Executive Committee
ECD	European Commission Delegation
ESA	European Space Agency
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of United Nations
FIQA	Fish Quality and Assurance
FMC	Fisheries Management Committee
FMDST	Fisheries Management Decision Support Tool
FS	Frame Survey
GEF	Global Environmental Fund
GLFC	Great Lakes Fisheries Commission
GLOW	Great Lakes of the World
HIV/AIDS	Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immune Deficiency
HUT	Helsinki University of Technology
ICO	Information Communication and Outreach
IDO	Information Communication Officer
IFMP	Implementation of a Fisheries Management Plan
IJC	International Joint Commission
ISTTA	International Short Term Technical Adviser
LVBC	Lake Victoria Basin Commission
LVEMP	Lake Victoria Environmental Management Project
LVFO	Lake Victoria Fisheries Organization
LVFRPII	Lake Victoria Fisheries Research Project Phase II
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MRAG	Marine Resources Assessment Group
MSC	Marine Stewardship Council
MSY	Maximum Sustainable Yield
NORAD	Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation
PIU	Project implementation Unit
RAF	Regional Office for Africa
RCMRD	Regional Centre for Mapping of Resources for Development
RPOA-Capacity	Regional Plan of Action to manage fishing capacity
RTF	Regional Task Force
RWGs	Regional Working Groups
SA-RWG	Stock Assessment Regional Working Group
SC	Scientific Committee
SOPs	Standard Operating Procedures
STTAs	Short Term Technical Adviser
TCP	Technical Cooperation Project
TORs	Terms of Reference
UNU	United Nations University
WGs	Working Groups



Table of Contents	Pages
1. Opening Session	1
2. Status of Implementation of the Council's Decision	6
2.1. Status of the Stocks and management recommendations	11
2.2. Dagaa mesh selectivity study and management options for the fishery.....	16
2.3. The Implementation of the RPOA-Capacity	16
2.4. Ecolabelling Process of the Lake Victoria fisheries	18
3. Functional and Institutional Analysis of the LVFO Secretariat	18
4. Functional Analysis of the broader LVFO	19
5. Review of the Fisheries Management Plan for Lake Victoria (FMPII)	21
6. Draft Aquaculture Strategy and Investment Plan	22
7. Progress in Infrastructure Capacity Building	22
8. Regional Stakeholders Conference on Lake Victoria	24
9. Cross-border Fishing Conflicts on Lake Victoria	24
10.1. Audited Financial Statements for FY 2006/2007	25
10.2. Draft Financial Statements for FY 2007/2008.....	25
10.3. Draft Budgets for the Financial Years 2008/2009 and 2009/2010	25
10.4. The Status of Country Contributions as at 19th February, 2009	28
11. Staff Matters	28
11.1. Appointment of the Executive Secretary and Deputy Executive Secretary	28
11.2. Daily Subsistence and Safari Day Allowances	29
11.3. Comparative Staff Grading and Salaries in EAC Institutions	30
11.4. Proposed Staff Grading and Salaries.....	30
11.5. Proposed Designations by Grade	31
11.6. Consolidation of allowances.....	32
11.7. Consideration of Contracts for Professional Staff of the Organization.....	32
12. Dates and Venue for the 8th Regular Session of the LVFO Council of Ministers	32
12. Adoption of the Report of the LVFO Executive Committee	33





**REPORT OF THE 7TH REGULAR SESSION OF LVFO COUNCIL OF MINISTERS
SEA CLIFF HOTEL, DAR-ES-SALAAM, TANZANIA
27TH FEBRUARY 2009**

The 7th Regular Session of the LVFO Council of Ministers was held at Sea Cliff Hotel, Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania on 27th February 2009. The Meeting was attended by the members of the LVFO Council of Ministers, Policy Steering Committee and Executive Committee; and the Executive and Deputy Executive Secretary of LVFO. Others who attended as Observers were Deputy Executive Secretary, LVBC; Executive Secretary IUCEA, Regional Authorizing Officer of the EU-EDF, Kampala, Uganda, Representative of Fish Processors Association. The LVFO Country Focal Officers, IFMP Technical Assistants, and other LVFO Secretariat staff attended as organizing team. The list of participants is attached (**Annex I**)

The Policy Steering Committee elected the Minister, Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries, Uganda, as the Chairperson and the Minister, Ministry of Fisheries Kenya as the Vice-Chairperson.

1. Opening Session

1.1. Adoption of Agenda and Program

The agenda and program for the meeting was adopted as attached (**Annex II**)

1.2. Statement of the Executive Secretary, LVFO

Mr. Dick Nyeko, the Executive Secretary LVFO, said that he was glad to preside over the smooth transfer of power of the Chairmanship of the Council of Ministers. He emphasized that LVFO still strives to preserve the fisheries for the benefit of the present and future populations. He observed that the global increase in food prices coupled with the ever growing population in the EA region pose a challenge to the LVFO to meet the increasing demand for fish. He reiterated the need for effective management of the Lake to ensure optimum productivity to achieve objectives of food security, improved livelihoods, income generation and employment. He emphasized the need for promotion and investment in aquaculture to meet the ever growing demand for fish and to conserve the environment. He called upon the members to adopt the species specific fishery management plans and the Nile perch recovery plan embedded in the FMP, adding that this would ensure expeditious recovery of the stocks. He said that the pre-assessment of the Nile perch fishery noted the need to link the markets with sustainable management as this is a condition for full assessment. He looked forward to recommitment to the management of the stocks by taking illegalities out and establishment of protected marine parks. He said that commercial aquaculture using various technologies is welcome and he noted the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (CCRF) provides for practicing responsible aquaculture. In the case of shared water bodies, like Lake Victoria the CCRF specifies steps to be followed in establishment of aquaculture and introduction of exotic species. The Council of Ministers of 2004 pronounced itself on promotion of aquaculture and the Joint communiqué affirms this commitment. He recognized the need to do it scientifically in order to meet all requirements including EIA and adherence to international standards. He called upon members to implement all RPOAs, that is on IUU and Capacity. He stressed the need to address other aspects that affect fisheries such as pollution; vulnerability of fishers through multidisciplinary



approaches. He welcomed all members and wished them good, candid, open, fruitful and friendly discussions.

1.3. Statement of the IUCEA Representative

Prof. C. Nyaigotti-Chacha thank the Chairman and the LVFO for inviting his organization to participate in your meeting. As a sister institution, the Inter University Council of East Africa (IUCEA) has always appreciated the cordial working relationship that exists between our two organizations. On behalf of the IUCEA Governing Board, I bring you fraternal greetings from our member universities.

As we continue relating and cooperating, we note that a number of research activities that are undertaken by researchers from IUCEA member universities do address some of the primary objectives of LVFO. This is particularly in the areas of environment around Lake Victoria, marine and aquaculture research. We will therefore continue to work with you to ensure food security for the East African people as well as creation of new knowledge that will inform on areas of concern to your organization.

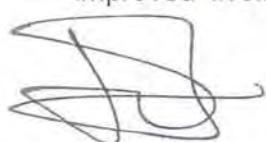
Following the recent EAC Retreat in Kigali where, the EAC institutions were encouraged to cooperate for synergies and rapid realization of the EAC objectives, IUCEA pledges to strengthen further the cooperation between our two organizations through all available avenues. He thanked the Chairman for involving him in the deliberations.

1.4. Statement of the LVBC Representative

Dr. Msuya, representative of the Executive secretary Lake Victoria Basin Commission thanked the chairperson for inviting them to participate in the 7th regular session of the Council of Ministers for LVFO. The LVBC would like to recall the decision of the EAC Council of Ministers to declare Lake Victoria and its Basin, as a potential Economic Growth Zone to be jointly developed by all EAC Partner States. In this regard, the LVBC and LVFO have got tremendous responsibilities to fulfill the expectations of the Partner States. LVBC and LVFO have already embarked on a joint strategic planning and the first meeting was held in Kisumu early February 2009. The meeting deliberated and agreed on fundamental operational linkages. The recommendations will be presented to the respective Council of Ministers for approval and immediate implementation. We look forward to joint concerted efforts towards making this great shared resource a shining example on the continent in terms of sustainable management and development of the natural resources for poverty eradication.

1.5. Statement of the Regional Authorizing Office -IFMP

Mr. Collin Makanga, representing the RAO, Kampala thanked LVFO and the CM for giving RAO an opportunity to attend the meeting. He informed that his office is keen to see that the critical activities supported by the IFMP project on infrastructure are completed during the remaining time. He urged the organization to have in place plans for proper use and maintenance of the landing site and social infrastructure being constructed under the project and hoped that the plans would contribute to improved livelihoods. He thanked the CM for adopting a collective approach to



address fisheries issues and hoped this same approach would be used to plan a way forward to ensure that the current decline of Nile perch as reported in Hydro-acoustic Surveys is addressed. He added that fish being a major export gets a lot of attention by International community and practical solutions should be applied in order to ensure increase in fish export. He emphasized the need for Partner States to implement management measures on eradication of illegal fishing methods and to adhere to the agreed minimum standards, slot size and fishing gears. He reiterated the importance of scientific research to decision making and improvement of the livelihoods of the population along the Lake Victoria Basin with a view of alleviating poverty and increasing exports volumes and earnings the Partner States.

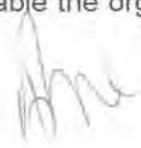
1.6. Statement of the Incoming Vice-Chairperson

Hon. Paul Nyongesa Otuoma, incoming Vice-Chairperson of the Council of Ministers of LVFO and Minister of Fisheries Development, Republic of Kenya, thanked the Government and the people of the United Republic of Tanzania for the warm welcome and hospitality accorded to all the delegates. He said that it was the first Council of Ministers Session he had attended to discuss issues on Lake Victoria and get abreast with the status of implementation of the previous Council directives. He reiterated, as in previous fora, that Lake Victoria fisheries presents a great opportunity to show-case of an unprecedented economic growth centre if viable programs are carefully developed and supported by the Partner States; the development partners and the communities. He commended the LVFO for organizing a Regional Stakeholders Conference that allowed them all to participate and hear research findings on the lake from region's scientists and managers. He said that for Lake Victoria to become an economic centre for the region, the declining Nile perch stocks have to be addressed. He requested the Partner States to undertake seriously interventions to ensure "Zero tolerance" of illegalities.

He recalled the Partner States' commitment, during the Regional Conference, to mobilize resources that will support institutional development to address sustainability of the Nile Perch Fishery. He advised the allocation of resources to the implementation of the RPOA-Capacity. He said the Kenya is committed to fast track the development of aquaculture, and he was pleased to note that a regional aquaculture investment plan has been developed as directed by Council during the Conference last October. He urged the Partner States to invest resources in Aquaculture Research and Development and encourage fish farming as business. Given that Lake Victoria is a transboundary resource, he said that policy issues touching on security need to be harmonized and urged Partner States to hasten the process of harmonizing fisheries licensing regimes on the lake to minimize fishing conflicts. He urged the Partner States to implement the strategy on cross border fishing and fish trade and give regular reports to the LVFO.

He acknowledged noted issues of contribution of fisheries to national economies and under funding for Fisheries strongly coming out in all the three Partner States and requested Governments to increase funding for the sector if the Lake Victoria fishery is to be sustained. He also emphasized the need to follow up proposal of setting up an endowment fund for the Organization as this would provide a smooth transition from donor funding to self sustainability. He urged that communities take up fisheries as a business to enable them to come out of the poverty trap.

He congratulate all for the launch of the LVFO Headquarters that will enhance the image of LVFO, strengthen the capacity of LVFO Secretariat as a coordinating centre of excellence and enable the organisation to improve its effectiveness and efficiency.



He reiterated Kenya's continued commitment towards the sustainable management of the Lake Victoria resources for their communities to see the benefits of sustainable management.


1.7. Opening Remarks by the Out-Going Chairperson

Hon. John P. Magufuli, the Outgoing Chairman of the LVFO Council of Ministers and Minister of Livestock Development and Fisheries of the United Republic of Tanzania welcomed delegates to Tanzania and to the 7th Regular Session of the LVFO Council of Ministers and wished them an enjoyable stay in Dar es Salaam. He reminded the Members of the Council of their responsibility to ensure long term protection, conservation, sustainability development, management and utilisation of the Lake Victoria fishery resources and its ecosystem for the benefit of the present and future generations of East African and International Community. He recalled that they are aware of the various problems impacting negatively on the management of the fisheries resources of Lake Victoria, notoriously, illegal fishing which is on the increase despite joint meetings and communiqués by Partner States. He referred to the letter he wrote in October 2008 to the Presidents of the Partner States and copied to high level statesmen and politicians on the decline of the Nile perch stocks and the illegal cross border fish trade. He expected that the riparian countries have taken steps to fight IUU fishing and illegal crossborder trade.

He outlined the action Tanzania took after the meeting in the spirit of the Joint Communique as follows: (i) Sensitizing leaders at different levels and fishing communities through public meetings, and the media on the importance of sustainable fisheries resources protection, management, development and utilization;(ii)Notifying all fish supplying agents to fish processing plants not to supply to fish of less than 50 cm total length;(iii) To undertake a one month special operation to be known as "*Operesheni Safisha na Linda Ziwa Viktoria*", which commenced on 1st - 31st January, 2009 aiming at fishers to surrender all illegal gears voluntarily, stop trade in undersized fish, stop illegal transboundary fish trade and fishing in breeding and nursery areas. After 31st January 2009 fishers who shall associate in illegal practices or undermine the operation shall be sanctioned. The operation shall be done for six months continuously. From 1st November 2008 to 23rd February 2009, all fish processing plants started reflecting fish of less than 50 cm total length. He added that Tanzania had come up with a special fund for the operations. He thanked members of he Council, the EAC , Executive committee, FAO, EU World Bank SIDA and other development partners for the support. He mentioned achievements made by LVFO during his tenure and promised to give full support to his successor, Hon. Hope Mwesigye, the Minister of Agriculture and Animal Industry and Fisheries Uganda. He wished all fruitful deliberations.

1.8. Statement of the In-coming Chairperson

Hon. Hope Mwesigye (MP), Chairperson of the LVFO Council of Ministers and Minister of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries Republic of Uganda, formally welcome the delegates to 7th Council of Ministers' meeting of the Lake Victoria Fisheries Organization (LVFO) here at Sea Cliff Hotel, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. She said that the meeting came at a time when there are enormous challenges in management and development of the fisheries of Lake Victoria. She said that it is timely as decision making organ of LVFO to act immediately and it the Council's statutory and moral obligation to save the fisheries from collapse and to assure the livelihoods of millions of people who depend on these fisheries.



The Chairperson noted that challenges of exploiting and managing such multinational shared resources require a framework such as LVFO notwithstanding, the diversity in cultures, resource exploitation, political, legal, socioeconomic, and infrastructure that impact on such resources. She said that if LVFO is made more inclusive and responsive, the fisheries resources can be sustainably and equitably managed in a concerted and agreeable manner. She looked at her assumption of duty as an opportunity for the Council Members to take on the current challenges and reverse the ailing situation of the fisheries stocks. She was optimistic collapse of Nile perch stocks will be averted to assure industries of the raw materials.

She said for the fishing communities, decisions of the Council shall allow better guidance, management and sustainable for improved livelihoods. She recognised fisheries as a key area in the region for meeting the millennium development goals. She said for the technical managers and scientists, the decisions shall allow for enhanced and appropriate resources relative to the task. She assured, especially the EU and FAO, which have over time funded different initiatives, that the region now has reasonable capacity both technological and human to bring under control the decline in fisheries.

She thanked the outgoing Chair and Vice Chair for their role in bringing the issue of the ailing fisheries stocks of Lake Victoria to the fore, and sounding the drums for action across the three countries. She noted that over this period the region successfully completed and implemented the EU funded Implementation Fisheries Management Plan, which built human capacity and physical infrastructures. She added that issues of living conditions of the attendant communities, health such as HIV/AIDs, education, poverty, crossborder conflicts and other social-economic issues shall be addressed by the LVFO organs through regional and national collaborations. She promised to build on the achievements and successes of her predecessor using regional approach to the problems of Lake Victoria. She thanked the LVFO development partners especially the EU and FAO for their continued contribution to the sustainable utilization and management of Lake Victoria Fisheries, and to LVFO. She thanked the LVFO Secretariat for the coordinating role and technocrats and scientists for guiding the management and exploitation of the fisheries of Lake Victoria. She wished the Council a very good and productive meeting.



2. Status of Implementation of the Council's Decision

The PSC took note of the progress made in implementing the previous Council's Decisions and made recommendations as summarized in Table 1 below.

Table 1: Status of Implementation of the Decisions of the LVFO Council of Ministers

Ser. No.	LVFO Council Decision	Status of Implementation	Comments of EC
1.	LVFO Secretariat to Coordinate the harmonization of fisheries policies (LVFO/CM06/RS6/3.3.2.i)	The harmonization of Fisheries Policies is an ongoing process. Kenya's fisheries policy is awaiting Parliamentary approval; Uganda has a fisheries policy and is in the process of drafting a fisheries bill. Tanzania has a fisheries policy under review. The national legislations of Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda were reviewed in February – March 2008 and proposed harmonized measures for the implementation of RPOA-Capacity. Legal empowerment of BMUS was enacted in all the three Partner States.	Action plan using existing framework for harmonization of fisheries policies should be put in place
2.	LVFO to develop Strategies for the implementation of RPOA-Capacity and report in the next Council ((LVFO/CM07/SS4/3. IV)	The operations of the RPOA-Capacity started in January 2008 and strategies for implementation were developed by the RTF. These included: Production of a RPOA-Capacity popular version and translation of the document into local languages (Swahili, Dholuo and Luganda); Review of Legislative measures and identification of indicators for monitoring and management of fishing capacity at all levels; Training of BMUs and Field Staff in pilot areas on data collection for capacity management. The project was supported by FAO. The 2 nd phase will start in March 2009.	Partner States should report on the country status on fishing capacity management quarterly
3.	Partner States to support the efforts to strengthen the role of BMUs in surveillance activities (LVFO/CM06/RS6/3.3.6. II) - Development of fisheries by-laws by BMUs	Development of BMU bylaws in all the Partner States was done to assist the BMUs in management of the fisheries including MCS. The 281 BMUs in Kenya developed by-laws which have been approved; In Tanzania, the 433 BMUs developed by-laws but only 254 have been approved by the respective Districts. Uganda has 365 BMUs of which 333 developed by-laws and only 89 were approved at the Sub county level.	Draft manual for MCS and criteria for landing sites gazettement should be developed;

Ser. No.	LVFO Council Decision	Status of Implementation	Comments of EC
4.	Partner States to support the efforts to strengthen the role of BMUs in surveillance activities (LVFO/CM06/RS6/3.3.6. II)	Draft BMU-MCS Manual was prepared to guide BMUs in MCS operations and the document will be submitted to the FMC for consideration	
5.	LVFO to develop Strategies for the implementation of RPOA-Capacity and report in the next Council (LVFO/CM07/SS4/3. IV)	The FPLIP RWG harmonized the licensing system based on particular Species and includes: registration of fishers and fishing inputs (boats, engines and fishing gears).The system was tested in Tanzania in Feb 2008.Kenya will test the system before adoption; and Uganda will conclude the integration of the new harmonized system between January and March 2009.	Harmonization of Fisheries Licensing The Council to give 6 months for Tanzania and Kenya to adopt the harmonized system
6.	LVFO Secretariat to Coordinate the harmonization of fisheries policies (LVFO/CM06/RS6/3.3.2.i) -Harmonization of gazettelement of Fish landing beaches	The FPLIP RWG reviewed the gazettelement of fish landing beaches, and developed criteria and will be considered by the FMC.	
7.	The LVFO Secretariat to initiate eco-labeling process of the fisheries of Lake Victoria (LVFO/CM06/RS6/2.11.IV)	The Pre-assessment for ecolabelling of the Nile perch fishery by Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) was undertaken in April - May 2008 by Moody Marine consultant with GTZ funds, and recommended for the recovery plan for Nile perch. The plan is included in FMP2	
8.	Research Institutions to complete mesh sizes selection study for Dagaa (LVFO/CM06/RS6/2.4.III)	The mesh size selectivity studies were finalized in October 2006. Findings were presented to the 9th Regular Session of SC held in September 2007. SC presented the findings and the 11th Regular Session of the FMC in June 2008 considered the findings. The findings are further discussed in this report (Section	
9.	LVFO to establish the incidental catch percentage below and above the slot-size limits	The incidental catch has been established by re-drawing the selectivity curves from gear selectivity experiments. About 60% of the catch by 5" mesh size is	

Ser. No.	LVFO Council Decision	Status of Implementation	Comments of EC
	(LVFO/CM07/SS4/3.V) & (LVFO/CM06/RS6/2.7.I)	below the low slot size and 20% by the 7" mesh size. To avoid capturing immature fish, 7" mesh size is recommended.. The report is provided for information (LVFO/COUNCIL09/INF-DOC02)	
10.	Research Institutions to carry out research to provide guidance on the need for an upper slot size for Nile perch (LVFO/CM06/RS6/2.8.I)	The same report as above (LVFO/COUNCIL09/INF-DOC02) present the implications and the difficulties in implementing the upper slot size but no specific study conducted	
11.	Research Institutions to Conduct a study to revisit impact of vertical joining of gill nets (LVFO/CM06/RS6/3.3.9.6.IV)	No study on impact of vertical joining of gill nets has been conducted due to non-availability of funds.	The LVFO research institutions to conduct studies related to decking of nets/Guidelines should be considered and approved
12.	LVFO to expedite formation of higher level BMU associations and National Fisheries Management organizations by Sept. 2007 (LVFO/CM06/RS6/3.3.4.IV)	Draft Guidelines for higher BMU network and fisheries co-management committees were prepared and submitted for approval. No progress on formation of National Fisheries Management Committees. National governments urged to expedite the process and report to the next EC meeting	Partner States urged to expedite formation of Fisheries Management Committee and report progress to the next EC meeting
13.	Develop a policy and mechanism for funding BMUs and improve their capacity (LVFO/CM06/RS6/3.3.12.3.V)	A study on sustainable funding for BMUs was conducted and the report will be submitted to FMC	Report/draft policy on sustainable funding mechanism for BMUs should be presented to stakeholders and to FMC for consideration
14.	'The Partner States to Follow-up recommendations contained in the report of Regional Workshop in empowering women of Lake Victoria Fisheries' (LVFO/CM06/RS6/3.3.12.4(a).II) (Empower women in BMUs	A Training Module in business skills for women was prepared and piloted in two communities in each country.	The LVFO Secretariat to develop a comprehensive plan of action for empowering women in BMUs; and Conduct a detailed study Empower fishing communities around the lake to articulate and make demands

Ser. No.	LVFO Council Decision	Status of Implementation	Comments of EC
	participation for improved livelihoods)		for HIV/AIDS and other Social-economic services.
15.	Facilitate the formation of a Regional Fish Processors Association; Collaborate with Industrial Fish Processors in the management of the Nile perch fishery (LVFO/CM06/RS6/3.3.12.5.II)	The Directors/Commissioner of Fisheries Department/Division held meetings with the industrial fish processors in November 2007, December 2008 and February 2009. A regional association of Industrial fish processors was formed in January 2009.	
16.	Complete the development of the Strategy to control and manage HIV/AIDS among fishing communities and Partner States to facilitate the mainstreaming of HIV/AIDS programs in fishing communities into national programs (LVFO/CM06/RS6/3.3.5.II&III)	The Strategy was adopted by the Special Session of the CM in March 2007 in Nairobi, Kenya and is being implemented with support from LVBC /AMREF Partnership program. The Prevalence study could not be conducted due to delays in clearance of the protocols because of ethical issues.	The LVFO Secretariat should provide regular progress reports on the actions by LVBC/AMREF on HIV/AIDS IUCEA offered consultancy for the HIV/AIDS prevalence studies and the LVFO Secretariat was advised to follow-up.
17.	Complete development of Samaki database and ensure it is operational and users are trained (LVFO/CM06/RS6/3.3.11.I)	The Samaki database was redesigned and developed into EAFish Information System. The technical problems in the development of SAMAKI database resulted to re-development of that database to EAFish Information System. There is need to domesticate the databases in the institutions of LVFO for EAFish to be considered fully operational, but the Secretariat to report to next EC meeting the financial implications to revert to the original name.	The LVFO Secretariat should domesticate EAFish in the LVFO Institutions. However, the EC directed the Organization to report to the next EC the financial implications of reverting to the original name.
18.	Develop a regional policy on information and data ownership and sharing (LVFO/CM06/RS6/3.3.11.II)	A draft policy was developed and will be subjected to further consultation before submitted for consideration and approval.	The LVFO Secretariat should conclude and present the draft policy on information and data ownership for consideration and approval

Ser. No.	LVFO Council Decision	Status of Implementation	Comments of EC
19.	LVFO Secretariat to develop a Strategy and Action Plan to promote saving and investment culture among fishers (LVFO/CM06/RS6/3.3.12.3.III)	The process of developing a strategy and action plan is underway. Some BMUs have formed SACCOs and in some Partner States village banks are being established.	The LVFO Secretariat should conclude and present the strategy and action plan for a saving and investment culture among fisheries for consideration and approval
20.	Partner States to enhance implementation of RPOA-IUU (LVFO/CM06/RS6/3.3.12.3.I)	During the Regional Stakeholders Conference the Partner States recommitted themselves to the implementation of RPOA-IUU. - The Partner States are implementing measures to remove illegal gears and illegal trade in undersized fish	Partner States should give action reports quarterly to allow for following up implementations in line with the RPOAS for IUU.
21.	Carry out a functional analysis of the Organization including staff salaries, personnel requirements of the LVFO and capital development requirements. The broader Institutional and Functional Analysis of the entire Organization after that of the Secretariat to be completed by the end of September 2008 (LVFO/CM07/SS4/5.II&III)	The Functional Analysis of the LVFO Secretariat and the Functional Analysis of the Organization were completed and are included as information documents.	The Partner States should hold in-country consultations and the LVFO Secretariat should coordinate regional harmonization of the draft reports/plans for functional analysis and sustainable funding mechanism of LVFO. Deadlines in planned activities should be specified to enable follow-ups.
22.	Conduct study on sustainable funding for the LVFO (LVFO/CM06/RS6/4.5.II)	A study on Sustainable financing of LVFO Institutions and development of Business plan the Organization was completed and will be presented to the FMC for consideration. The LVFO Council of Ministers in their Joint Communique of the Regional Stakeholders Conference on 29th October 2009 recommended the establishing of an Endowment/Revolving/Trust Fund at the LVFO Secretariat where processors and other stakeholders can contribute funds for	The Partner States should hold in-country consultations and the LVFO Secretariat should coordinate regional harmonization of the draft reports/plans for functional analysis and sustainable funding mechanism of LVFO. Deadlines in planned activities should be

Ser. No.	LVFO Council Decision	Status of Implementation	Comments of EC
		sustainable management of Lake Victoria and BMUs activities. The Endowment Fund will be inaugurated after consideration by the respective Organs of LVFO.	<p>specified to enable follow-ups. The Partner States should hold in-country consultations and the LVFO Secretariat should coordinate regional harmonization of the draft reports/plans for functional analysis and sustainable funding mechanism of LVFO.</p> <p>There is need to harmonize the LVFO functional analysis with the EAC structures.</p> <p>Deadlines in planned activities should be specified to enable follow-ups.</p>
23.	LVFO to organize Regional Conferences to sensitize the political and administrative leaders every five years (LVFO/CM06/RS6/3.3.12.2.I)	A Regional Stakeholder Conference was held in October 2008 on the theme: Fish for All is Everyone's Responsibility.	There is need to change the period of stakeholders conference to 3 years and development of a continuous communication and engagement strategy of all stakeholders on the issues of the lake

Note: LVFO/CM06/RS6 refers to LVFO Council of Ministers 2006; 6th Regular Session
LVFO/CM07/SS4 refers to LVFO Council of Ministers 2007; 4th Special Session

Action: The Council of Ministers (CM):

- I. Requested the Partner States and the LVFO Secretariat to implement the above recommendations;
- II. Thanked the IUCEA for the offer to provide expertise on HIV/AIDS program and direct the Secretariat to follow up; and
- III. Directed the LVFO Secretariat to conclude and present the strategy and action plan for a saving and investment culture among fishers for consideration and approval

2.1. Status of the Stocks and management recommendations

2.1.1. Assessment of the Stocks

The status of the stocks as assessed by the Stock Assessment RTF was as summarized below:





- a) The hydroacoustic and trawl surveys both indicated a clear decline for Nile perch stock from 676,000 t in 2006 with an abrupt decline to 518,000 t in 2007, and it had decreased to 227,650 by 2008. Dagaa stocks increased with biomass more than doubling from 355,000 t in 2000 to 1.06 m t in 2007. Tilapia is not well covered due to limitations of the sampling methods to cover shallow-inshore waters.
- b) The mean length and size at 1st maturity in Nile perch declined over the period; from 78 cm TL females, & 58 cm TL for males (in 2000) to 58 cm TL for females and 52.5 cm TL for males (in 2007).
- c) Fishery indicators suggest that CPUE and total landings have declined for Nile perch from most boat gear categories, except for motorized/sails with longlines. (Example, for Sesse motor/sails gillnets the CPUE declined from 29.2 kg per day in 2005 to 19.8 kg per day in 2007)

The EC noted the summary on status of stocks and recommended the following:

- a) Priority should be given to the removal of illegalities by June 2009 and the Partner States should target reduction of illegalities by June 2009 to minimum of 50% and 100% by December 2009 using 2008 FS results as benchmark;
- b) Closed areas should be instituted and pegged on licensing;
- c) Closed seasons should be taken as drastic measures, and proposed for November to December in the event (a) and (b) above fails and could target closure of harvesting, processing and trade in fish and fishery products;
- d) The Fishers have to be sensitized and mobilized, and economic incentives provided for compliance;
- e) The vertical joining of gillnets is illegal in all the Partner States and should be treated like all illegalities in the fishery

The PSC took note of the status of the stocks and emphasized that drastic measures should be implemented and recommend to the CM accordingly.

Action: The CM:

- I. **Directed Fisheries Management Institutions to monitor Self-policing of the fish processors through factory sampling and random sampling of trucks and container boats used in fish trade by processors;**
- II. **Requested Partner States to intensify the eradication of all illegal gears and capture and trading in immature fishes by June 2009 to minimum of 50% and 100% by December 2009 using 2008 FS results as benchmark;**
- III. **Requested Governments to solicit extra budgetary funds and LVFO Secretariat to dedicate resources for (II) above**
- IV. **Requested Partner States to demarcate and institute closed areas and peg them to conditions of licensing by fishery;**
- V. **Requested Partner States to institute closed season as last resort in the event that II & III above do not work;**
- VI. **Requested Partner States to enforce the Statutory requirements banning vertical joining of gillnets;**
- VII. **Directed Research Institutions to monitor the Nile perch stocks to assess the impact of management measures on the stocks and fishing communities;**

For medium to long term measures the CM:





- I. Requested Member Countries to establish strong and professional fisheries monitoring and patrol units;
- II. Requested Member Countries to have a complete package for the Lake for MCS policing by professional units with regular reporting to LVFO;
- III. Directed LVFO to hold Extra-ordinary meeting by May 2009

2.1.2. Measures to Address the Decline of the Nile Perch Fisheries

The Fisheries Management Committee during their regular sessions noted the impact of the decline of the Nile perch catches on the industry and national economy. The FMC directed LVFO to organize a regional meeting between the Directors/Commissioner of Fisheries Management and the Industrial Fish processors to agree on a strategy to address the decline. The meeting was held on 15th November 2007 at Fairview Hotel, Nairobi, Kenya, and agreed on the following measures:

- a) The Partner States committed to implement and support self monitoring and control of the industrial fish processors. The Fish Processors agreed not to process Nile perch below 40 cm TL and to progress to the 50 cm TL by January 2009;
- b) The Fish Processors agreed to share information regularly with the Competent Authorities and LVFO;
- c) The LVFO Secretariat was directed to coordinate a case study to document the results of the self monitoring and control system;
- d) The Partner States agreed to setup a monitoring and control system for the local and regional trade, including the borders, to eradicate processing and trading of immature fish and to prevent fish rejected in one country to be taken to other countries;
- e) Researchers to establish how stocks are responding to enforcement and provide guidance on the appropriate gillnet mesh size and hook sizes for Nile perch;
- f) Partner States agreed to adopt licensing according to species; and
- g) Fish processors agreed to assist in identification of the source of monofilament nets and other illegal gears

Follow-up meetings of the Directors and Industrial Fish Processors were held on 5th December 2008 and 4th February 2009. The December meeting agreed to fully implement the Nile perch lower slot size measure of 50 cm TL, which started from 6th January 2009. The February 2009 meeting urged Governments to prioritize the curbing of illegal trade in undersized fish and report in the next meeting of mid March 2009.

The PSC observed that there were differentials in the implementation of the National measures and urged the Partner States to adopt the Tanzania approach that involve voluntary surrender of illegal gears based on awareness raising, intelligence information and enforcement involving regional and district administrators to achieve 'Zero- tolerance' within six months of implementation.

Action: The CM:

- I. Noted the recommendations of the Nairobi Regional meeting as summarized above;
- II. Requested Partner States to develop action plans to curb the catching and trading in undersize fish immediately and the



- Secretariat to organize a meeting to harmonize them by mid-April 2009 after the Acoustic survey results;
- III. Directed Management Institutions to provide monthly reports on the progress of the implementation of the action plans in (ii) above to the Secretariat for Action. The 1st report to be presented before the mid-April 2009 after the Acoustic survey results;
 - IV. Requested the Partner States in collaboration with the Industrial Fish Processors to implement the agreed measures; and
 - V. Directed Partner States that licensing of Fish Processors should include requirements for investment plan of their business.

2.1.3. Determine the 'incidental catch' of Nile perch below and above the slot size

The implementation of the Nile perch slot size (50-85 cm TL) is being enforced but the incidental catch arising from using the minimum legal mesh size of 5-inch gillnets is very high; 60% of fish in 5-inch nets, about 33% in 6-inch nets, 20% in 7-inch and 8% in 8-inch nets were below 50 cm TL. The catch per unit of effort was highest in 5-inch gillnets and dropped by about 70% in 6-inch nets and by about 80% in 7-inch nets (*LVFO/COUNCIL09/INF-DOC02*). The high catch of undersized fish in the 5-inch gillnets attracts fishers to use that mesh size and this will continue to pose problems for enforcement and compliance.

The SC discussed the selectivity of the minimum gillnet mesh size (5") in relation to the incidental catch and the existing regulation and observed as follows:

- a) The recommendation to lower the slot size regulation to 40 cm TL was rejected because the size is below that at first maturity;
- b) Nile perch above 50 cm TL in the lake are very few which is explained by the dominance of hooks of 10 to 12 sizes and undersized nets which target the small sizes of fish (the bigger the hook size the smaller the number);
- c) Targeting juveniles to meet market demand for fish will lead to depletion of the stocks. Decisions on harvesting should be based on the size at recruitment to the fishery;
- d) The legal minimum gillnet size be revisited to reduce the incidental catches and allow for proper recruitment to the Nile perch fishery.

The EC and PSC deliberated on the recommendations of the SC and noted the need to change the legal minimum mesh size of 5" to 7" targeting Nile perch fishery and should be a condition on licensing. The EC also recommended allowance of one year to allow for adjustment by fishers.

Action: The CM noted the very high incidental catch in the legal mesh sizes and:

- I. Approved the minimum legal mesh size of 7" instead of the current 5" for Nile perch fishery by December 2009 to allow fishers to adjust accordingly;
- II. Approved the use of hooks from sizes 4 to 9 for the Nile perch fishery immediately;
- III. Directed Research institutions to conduct a study on the impact of hook size and bait size on lower and upper slot size limits;



- IV. Directed the research institutions to carry out research on any shifts that might have occurred in size at first maturity and gear selectivity and their possible socio-economic impact; and
- V. Directed the Secretariat to look for funds to implement III & IV above

2.1.4. Control of undersized fish traded in domestic and Regional markets

The increase in local and regional trade of immature fish offset the benefits derived from self monitoring and control and demoralizes the processing industry. The MCS RWG in collaboration with the Industrial fish processors associations designed a regional strategy to deal with the illegal fish trade which includes targeting hot spots and exits at the borders. Stakeholders recognize the difficulties of eradicating the illegal trade and the meager funds for MCS activities.

The 11th FMC Regular Session held in June 2008, Mwanza noted the increase in illegalities on the lake despite the support to MCS. The FMC suggested that a new strategy be developed for BMUs to acquire a sense of ownership for the fisheries resources in order to monitor and fight illegalities. The FMC directed the LVFO Secretariat to bring the issue to the attention of the EAC Summit to get political support with requisite funding for MCS. In September 2008, The LVFO presented the issue to the EAC Council of Ministers held in Arusha, Tanzania. The FMC direct LVFO to hold a workshop to sensitize the political leaders on sustainability of the fisheries and 'putting fisheries in the political agenda. This was done during a Regional Stakeholders Conference held in October 2008, which basically targeted political leaders in the districts around Lake Victoria. The Chairman LVFO Council of Ministers on 7th November, 2008 wrote to the Heads of States to support urgent regional action to prevent collapse of Nile Perch stock.

The EC deliberated and urged Partner States to give priority to prevent, deter and eradicate illegal trade in undersized fish and fishery products within and across the borders.

The PSC requests the CM to note the above developments and recognize that other fisheries management measures will not succeed until stakeholders generates consensus to eliminate illegalities

Action: The CM requested Partner States to:

- I. Organize national stakeholders conference in order to raise awareness and political commitment
- II. Establish an intelligence information system that will expose key drivers of illegal fish trade and promote sharing of information amongst ourselves and with other relevant agencies;
- III. Increase national budgetary allocation for MCS; and
- IV. Sensitize the BMUs on the dangers and impact of illegalities to their livelihoods caused as a result of greed and selfishness by some members of their community.
- V. Remove all illegalities on the lake to a minimum of 50% by June 2009 and 'zero-tolerance' by December 2009, through:
 - a. Removal of all illegal gears from the lake and controlling their importation;
 - b. Provision of tax incentives for permitted gears so that legal gears are cheaper than illegal gears;
 - c. Licensing boats which meet legal size, fish inspection and fish quality standard;



- d. **Ensure there is Collaboration by Fisheries Authorities with Local Authorities and other agencies including customs, police and other security organs to combat illegalities;**

2.2. Dagua mesh selectivity study and management options for the fishery

The mesh selectivity experiments conducted, and other biological and socio-economic information reviewed (*LVFO/COUNCIL09/INF-DOC03*), provide information for setting the minimum mesh size for the dagaa (*Rastrineobola agentea*) fishery.

The SC deliberated on the key findings and recommended:

- a) The legal minimum size for dagaa fishery should be 5 mm but should be used beyond 2 km from shore line to reduce by-catch and protect juveniles. The 2 km distance should be demarcated to assist fishers to comply with the regulation;
- b) Closed areas in bays and areas where juveniles of dagaa and other fish species are abundant in each country should be established; and
- c) BMUs and fishers should be sensitized not to fish in near-shore areas

The Council of Ministers in their Joint Communiqué of 29th October 2008 directed the gazettment of some areas of the lake as Lacustrine Protected Areas (LPAs) closed to fishing to allow regeneration of stocks.

The PSC considered the recommendations for the management of the Dagua fishery and concluded as follows:

- a) According to the scientific report, fishing inshore with 5mm and 10mm both have similar impact on catching juveniles and recommended prohibition of fishing inshore in waters within 2 km;
- b) The '2 km no fishing zone' should be a condition for licensing in the Dagua fishery.
- c) The 10 mm mesh size for harvesting dagaa should be harmonized in all Partner States legislations and should take effect within a year.

Action: The CM:

- I. **Requested Partner States to harmonize the 10 mm minimum mesh size nets for dagaa fishery on Lake Victoria;**
- II. **Directed Fisheries Authorities to license dagaa fishers with condition to fishing outside 2 km distance from the shoreline;**
- III. **Directed research institutions to identify critical habitats and recommend closed areas and periods for dagaa fishery and report in the next SC; and**
- IV. **Requested Partner States to implement the decisions of the Council of Ministers on 'Lacustrine protected areas'.**

2.3. The Implementation of the RPOA-Capacity

The Regional Plan of Action for Management of Fishing effort and Capacity (RPOA-Capacity) Project is being implemented in phases. In the first phase (January to March 2008), activities included production and translating of RPOA-Capacity popular Version in English, Kiswahili, Dholuo and Luganda; holding national/ regional field



consultations and workshops on measures to manage fishing capacity, Identification of indicators for monitoring fishing capacity; review of national legislation to incorporate measures for Capacity, testing of the proposed harmonised licensing system and piloting training to initiate a BMU program to monitor fishing effort and capacity. The second phase will start in March 2009 and will address policy issues of RPOA-Capacity, contribute to capacity building mentoring of BMUs and field staff and provide guidance on the use of data collected in the management of fishing capacity.

The 11th FMC Regular Session noted the progress made in the operationalisation of RPOA-Capacity and recommended the following:

- a) Limit issuance of fishing licenses on entry, number of fishers, fishing vessels, gears and fishing time;
- b) Limit issuing of fishing license to a specific species;
- c) Legislate the new aspects of the licensing and registration system;
- d) Control manufacturing and trade in illegal gears including registration of fishing gear manufacturers, dealers and importers;
- e) Domesticating International Agreements into regional Policy frameworks;
- f) Provide legal recognition for BMUs in management of fishing capacity;
- g) Provide legal mandate on Sustainable funding mechanisms for fisheries;
- h) Establish policy and legal instrument for Information generation and sharing;
- i) Establish closed areas;
- j) Establish more deterrent court penalties;
- k) Enhance MCS; and
- l) Provide for alternative livelihood options.

The Council of Ministers in the Joint Communiqué of 29th October 2008 called for governments to develop mechanism for shared resource exploitation and shared management including the limitation of access and use of user rights.

The PSC deliberated and noted the need to control capacity especially for the Nile perch fishery and recommended studies on:

- a) New criteria for licensing of the fishery;
- b) Open access and user rights for shared resources

Action: The CM:

- I. **Noted the implementation of RPOA-Capacity measures as recommended above;**
- II. **Requested Partner States to ensure value addition to the bycatch and pelagic species such as dagaa and Haplochromines for human consumption is undertaken;**
- III. **Requested Partner States to Strengthen BMUs networks at the grassroots levels through sensitization and close mentoring;**
- IV. **Requested Partner States to use graphical demonstration and other means to sensitize on impact of illegalities;**
- V. **Requested Partner States to Sensitize opinion leaders and lower level local government officials to work in harmony with BMUs;**
- VI. **Directed LVFO Secretariat to develop sustainable funding mechanism to BMUs;**
- VII. **Directed LVFO Secretariat to explore buying out excessive capacity and provision of other incentives through development of a special fund and programs to reduce effort; and**
- VIII. **Requested Partner States to comply with the decisions of the Council of Ministers and implement accordingly**



2.4. Ecolabelling Process of the Lake Victoria fisheries

The Pre-assessment study (LVFO/COUNCIL09/INF-DOC04) concluded that: certification of the Nile perch fishery is possible but is dependent on addressing the following issues: (i) The Nile Perch stock is depleted but there is good recruitment. (ii) There is need to establish a recovery plan for Nile perch since full assessment require clear measures demonstrating that the fishery is recovering. (iii) Continued support and capacity building of BMUs is essential since effective BMUs are critical to the success of the fishery. Two years are required to address the gaps identified before full assessment. The 11th FMC Regular Session considered for adoption the recommendations of the Regional stakeholders' workshop on the pre-assessment as follows:

- a) Develop Nile perch recovery plan and protection measures to include closed seasons/closed areas; and the Areas have to be defined;
- b) Develop species specific management plans for Nile perch, Dagaa and Tilapia and these could be tiered at different geographical levels (District, National & Regional) and should be incorporated into the FMP;
- c) LVFO to approach Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) to lobby for the ecolabelling of Nile perch as an introduced species, which has settled and adapted to the ecosystem;
- d) Agree on precautionary targets or reference points as baseline targets to monitor the recovery of the species, and this should be updated by the Stock Assessment RWG;
- e) Research institutions should set priority areas to fit in the stock recovery program. Specific studies on trophic modelling, habitat mapping, and effect of the loss of longline and baits to the resources and the habitat;
- f) Integrate pre-assessment approach as a regular internal audit process; and
- g) Implement the RPOA-Capacity and IUU to resolve issues identified by the pre-assessment.

The FMC noted that the FAO/COFI meeting in 2007 recommended the ecolabelling of the Nile perch fishery as an established fishery and this was approved by the FAO Committee for Inland Fisheries. The Partner States are requested to raise this issue during the next COFI meeting since LVFO Secretariat is an observer.

The PSC noted that the 'Nile perch recovery plan' has been developed and is imbedded in the FMP II and requires immediate funding.

Action: The CM:

- I. Noted the report on Pre-Assessment study; and
- II. Directed the SC to consider the report and advise on further actions required to the next EC

3. Functional and Institutional Analysis of the LVFO Secretariat

As was directed by the Council of Ministers, an analysis of the Secretariat staff positions and job descriptions against workload was carried out (LVFO/COUNCIL09/INF-DOC05). It recommended restructuring, establishment of new posts and improvement of staff remuneration because of disparities in comparison with other EAC institutions. The study noted that the country contributions are not adequate to cover all the requirements of the Secretariat.

The SC and FMC reviewed the study report and concluded that:



- a) The expansion of the LVFO Secretariat is practical and requires increase in country contributions to the level of US \$ 320,000 to enable it to meet recurrent costs;
- b) The salaries and allowances of the LVFO Secretariat staff should be aligned with that of other EAC Institutions;
- c) Salary scale should be established and progressive increments introduced at a level that is attractive to skilled personnel;
- d) Avenues for further funding should be explored to support development programs of the Organization; and
- e) The need to expand the remit to include aquaculture and post harvest fisheries was acknowledged and it was concurred that posts for an aquaculturist and post harvest expert be established at the Secretariat.

Further to the SC and FMC conclusions, the Secretariat has identified the positions of Internal Auditor, Information, Communication and Outreach Officer, Database Administrator, Accounts Assistant, Stores Assistant and Boat Operators (Skipper, Technician and Deckhand) as additional priority for the smooth operation of the Organization. Other professional and general positions recommended in the report will be tabled in future when funding permits. The Secretariat also proposes a consolidated allowance (housing, entertainment education, transport, and spouse) at a rate of 25% of the basic salary.

The PSC deliberated on the recommendations of the study and the proposal submitted by the EC and agreed to the changes. However, due to budgetary implications, the PSC advised an increment of country contribution to US \$ 130,000 effective FY 2009/2010 to meet the requirements.

Action: The CM considered the Functional analysis of the LVFO Secretariat and approved:

- I. **The proposed increase in country contribution from US \$ 100,000 to US \$ 130,000 effective FY 2009/2010 to cater for the changes;**
- II. **The proposed changes in establishment of the LVFO Secretariat including salary scales, and remuneration;**
- III. **Deferred increase of country contribution proposed at US \$ 320,000 pending the next Regular Session of the Council considering FY 2010/2011 and 2011/2012; and**
- IV. **Requested Partner States to institute a retention fund to support management measures in the Ministries responsible for fisheries.**

4. Functional Analysis of the broader LVFO

As directed by the Council of Ministers a broader function analysis of the LVFO was undertaken in June/July 2008 (LVFO/COUNCIL09/INF-DOC06).The study reviewed the context, mandate and linkages with the EAC and its institutions including, thematic, geographical and political expansion of LVFO. The study findings were reviewed by SC and FMC and observed the following:

- a) Lake Victoria fisheries should be designated a special status, which merits a specialized, focused, and high ranking regional institution to manage it;
- b) A clear distinction should be made between core and project activities, with the former related to maintaining LVFO's essential Lake management obligations. Partner States must find ways to fund the core activities on a reliable and sustainable basis;
- c) Staff arrangement that separates the core and project funded team members is recommended;

- d) The need to streamline and rationalize the fisheries management and research functions has become evident. Merging the Management and Scientific Committees is considered the best option;
- e) Widening the LVFO remit politically by granting Rwanda and Burundi observer status;
- f) Maintaining the LVFO remit geographically would retain the LVFO special focus on the lake as that best responds to most Convention Objectives and reflects the current situation. However, as East African unity progresses, the logic of expanding LVFO to include other water bodies might emerge;
- g) LVFO's involvement in Aquaculture and Post harvest sub-sectors should be primarily demand-driven by the private sector;
- h) A new output-based system be devised to reward efforts directly, and that this should replace the current indirect and distorting arrangement. A standard payment per periodic report produced by regional working group chairs or members might be appropriate, or alternatively a time-based input or annual honorarium for a pre-established work schedule;
- i) A rational approach would be to reflect the underlying structure of LVFO and its management and research dichotomy as per Convention *Article 9 subsection 9*, the FMC and SC may propose to EC the establishment of such subcommittees or working groups as they consider necessary in accordance with *Articles IV.3 and VIII.6 (e)*;
- j) There could be an LVFO/LVBC seminar, possibly under the auspices of the EAC Secretariat, to establish a cooperative modus operandi and resolve demarcation issues, and that this should happen soon. Hierarchy issues should not intrude as they are clear in the legal mandate.(ii) LVFO should join the Lead Partners Inter-Agency Forum of regional organizations dealing with Lake Victoria;
- k) Processors should accordingly be involved at senior committee level in LVFO – ie at the Executive or Technical level;
- l) Reinforcing the national BMU Committee in any way possible must be a key future task for LVFO, and funding participation of these national BMU committees (travel subsistence etc) is recommended as a priority.

The PSC considered the recommendations of the Study and observed as follows:

- a) *Article XIII*, recognizes contracting Parties could adopt, enforce and maintain in effect laws and regulations prohibiting the introduction of non-indigenous species to Lake Victoria. Burundi and Rwanda could introduce exotic species in their waters which can pollute the waters of Lake Victoria and their joining of LVFO will have an added advantage in the management of Lake Victoria resources;
- b) Full membership of the LVFO could be considered by the next Council upon application and invitation of the Partner States of Burundi and Rwanda to formally participate as observers by the Council of Ministers; and
- c) However, It was noted that the admission of Rwanda and Burundi for full membership be considered as no adverse consequences of their membership is foreseen and would be in tandem with the EAC criteria for institutional compliance.

Action: The CM reviewed the Functional analysis of the LVFO and directed:

- I. The admission of Rwanda and Burundi to LVFO as full members to be deferred;
- II. The adoption of the thematic and geographical coverage of LVFO in particular aquaculture and post-harvest fisheries;
- III. Regional Fish Processors Association to be invited in the LVFO SC and FMC as Observers whenever required following *Article XII.3* of the Convention; and

IV. The furtherance of the functional relationship and linkages with EAC and its institutions especially LVBC and IUCEA

5. Review of the Fisheries Management Plan for Lake Victoria (FMPII)

A draft Fisheries Management Plan for Lake Victoria, Phase II (LVFO/COUNCIL09/APPROV-DOC01) contains ten specific result areas with regard to management needs and current situation in the fishery, as follows:

- a) Policies, legislation, plans and technical guidelines;
- b) Fisheries institutions financed and operating effectively;
- c) Attitudes, skills and knowledge of fisheries stakeholders improved;
- d) Improved infrastructure and services for enhanced health and safety of fisheries stakeholders;
- e) Data and information collected analyzed, packaged, disseminated and used for fisheries management and development;
- f) Fishing effort regulated and access to fisheries resources equitably distributed;
- g) Compliance to fisheries legislation improved;
- h) Threats to fish stocks and biodiversity identified and interventions recommended;
- i) Fish handling, processing and marketing improved to guarantee safety, quality, and value of fish products;
- j) Potential for Aquaculture in the Lake basin determined.

The FMP II draft contains fishery specific management plans for Nile perch, Tilapia, Dagaa and Haplochromines with major components comprising: (i) Current status and trend in the fishery, (2) Fishery specific management objectives, (3) management measures, (4) Enforcement of management measures, and (5) Monitoring of the specific plans implementation. The fishery specific plans will be reviewed each year to ensure that major changes in the stock are noted and management actions are taken immediately.

The FMC and SC advised that the aquaculture, environment and post harvest fisheries be elaborated and this was done. The LVFO Secretariat used the FMPII document to prepare a 'Working Proposal' for a 'Fisheries Management Plan II' Project (LVFO/COUNCIL09/APPROV-DOC02). The draft project document is presented for consideration and approval.

The PSC deliberated and appreciated the species specific management measures and the recovery plan contained in both the FMPII and the Project proposal. The PSC directed the Secretariat to call for donors' meeting to source for funding FMPII as per *Article XV.4* of the LVFO Convention

Action: The CM:

- I. Approved the FMP II Project proposal and Implementation plan;
- II. Directed LVFO Secretariat to prepare session for the PSC to further enrich the document by mid-April 2009;
- III. Directed the LVFO Secretariat to develop specific stand alone programs on Post-harvest Fisheries and Institutional Support to LVFO;
- IV. Directed the LVFO Secretariat to call for a Donors' meeting to source for funding by June 2009; and
- V. Thanked EU for support of IFMPI and request support for IFMPII



6. Draft Aquaculture Strategy and Investment Plan

The FAO TCP Support to the Aquaculture Subsector in the Riparian Countries around Lake Victoria (TCP/RAF/3102A) Project approved in March 2006 was on implementation from April 2007 and is to be finalized in April 2009. The project initiated the development of national and regional aquaculture strategies. The Regional Aquaculture strategy was finalized as per LVFO Council's Joint Communiqué of 29th October 2008, where Partner States were called to give priority, expertise and funding to develop a regional strategic plan for Aquaculture development by December 2008. The LVFO Secretariat has elaborated the draft regional aquaculture strategy and investment plan for consideration and adoption (LVFO/COUNCIL09/APPROV-03).

The PSC deliberated and noted the impetus for commercial aquaculture development in the region will be accelerated when the investment plan is funded. The EC directed the Secretariat to call for donors' meeting to source for funding IFMPII as per *Article XV.4* of the LVFO Convention.

Action: The CM Noted the developments and:

- I. Approved the Draft Regional Strategy and Investment Plan for Aquaculture; and
- II. Directed the LVFO Secretariat to hold the consultative meeting by mid-April 2009 to consolidate the plan.

7. Progress in Infrastructure Capacity Building

7.1. Construction of LVFO Headquarters

The completed LVFO Headquarters was officially launched on 5th December 2008. The former headquarters has been returned to the Government of Uganda.

7.2. Renovation of Fisheries Management and Research Institutions

Renovations of all the institution offices in the Partner States have been completed.

7.3. Construction of Fish landing sites and Social Infrastructure

7.3.1. Landing Sites

In Uganda tenders were advertised and evaluation completed.

In Kenya, tenders were advertised and evaluation report awaits approval.

In Tanzania, tenders dossier was submitted for approval before advertising.

7.3.2. Social Infrastructure

Most of the Social infrastructures have been completed and include:

- a) In Kenya, a nursery school has been constructed at Madundu Beach in Rarieda District, and three classrooms at Orinde Primary School; two Community Social Halls were constructed at Honge Beach in Bondo District and Bala Rawi Fish Landing Site in Rachuonyo District. Still under construction are three classrooms at Bukoma in Bunyala district;
- b) In Tanzania two classrooms, an office and a two-in-one teachers' residence at Nyakakarango Community Primary School, in Biharamulo district; A



dispensary is under construction at Mazinga Island in Muleba district and an Out Patients Department building also under construction at Lugata Dispensary, Kome Island in Sengerama District. and

- c) In Uganda Shallow well and 5 stance pit VIP latrines have been constructed at Bumeru 'A' and Mpanga fish landing sites in Bugiri district. Meanwhile two 5 stance pit VIP latrines have been constructed at Busabala in Jagusi Island-Mayuge district, Namatale in Buvuma Island and Kalyambuzi in Koome Islands both in Mukono district.

7.4. Procurement of National and Inter-district Patrol Vessels

The IFMP committed to supply 35 riparian districts in the region with one outboard engine and one fibreglass canoe for each district for MCS activities.

The first lot of canoes and outboard engines were handed over to the national teams in Uganda, Kenya and Tanzania during APE 4.

LVFO entered into a contract with the FTI, Entebbe for the supply of 21 additional canoes of the same specifications and these are under construction with regular monitoring visits.

Four Patrol boats were delivered to LVFO (Kenya – Urafiki, Tanzania – Mhifadi and Uganda – Ushirika and LVFO Secretariat – Umoja). The Chairman of CM directed that Tanzania and LVFO Secretariat exchange the names of the boats, accordingly.

7.5. Status of the New Research vessels under construction

The two Research Vessels are under construction and scheduled to be ready for delivery by June 2009.

The SC noted the progress and urged the Secretariat to make a close follow-up to ensure the work is completed as planned. Provision has been made to renovate the RV Victoria Explorer – the TAFIRI research vessel which has been used for regional activities.

An assessment has been conducted to identify the necessary repairs required and these include: a new engine (250 HP); Auxiliary Generator; Power Take Off; SSB Radio and Echo sounder for navigation and security.

The Secretariat would urge Partner States to adhere to *Article XIV.1.b* of the Convention regarding access to research vessels for the Organizational activities.

The PSC noted the construction and thanked the European Commission for the support to the communities of Lake Victoria and advise Partner States to put them to good use and ensure proper maintenance.

Action: The CM noted the above developments in construction and procurement and:

- I. Directed LVF Secretariat to ensure the process for landing sites construction is expedited and completed by June 2010;**
- II. Thanked the Government of Uganda and NaFIRRI for hosting the LVFO Headquarters before LVFO Secretariat completed its own headquarters.**



8. Regional Stakeholders Conference on Lake Victoria

A Regional Stakeholders Conference on Lake Victoria was held in October 2008 with theme "Fish for all is everyone's responsibility". The Conference specifically targeted the political leaders of districts around the lake. Recommendations were made on various thematic areas presented. The Council of Ministers issued a Joint communiqué (LVFO/COUNCIL09/INF-DOC07) specifying actions for sustainability of the fisheries resource such as curbing illegal trade in undersized fish and measures for the recovery of the Nile perch fishery among others.

The PSC deliberated and urged Partner States to cooperate with other sectors at national level to address issues identified in the Communiqué including the Ministries responsible for water and Environment; Sanitation, Public Health, Local Government and Finance.

Action: The CM:

- I. **Noted the Conference recommendations;**
- II. **Recommended for multi-sectoral approach to address the concerns impacting negatively on the fisheries, the life support system and livelihoods; and**
- III. **Directed LVFO Institutions in collaboration with other relevant institutions to implement the Joint Communiqué.**

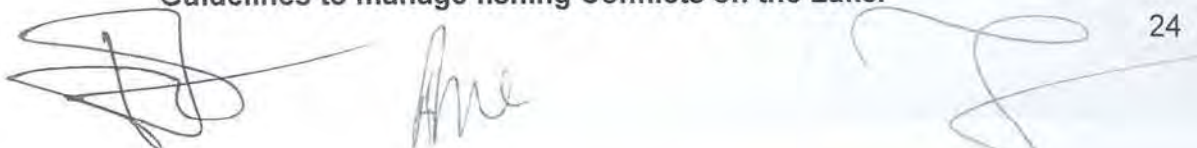
9. Cross-border Fishing Conflicts on Lake Victoria

Fishing conflicts along the common borders occur from time as non-national fishers access lucrative fishing grounds in neighboring Partner States. In 2002, the Council of Minister adopted a strategy on cross-border fishing and fish trade, which the EAC Summit endorsed in 2004. The Partner States are supposed to implement the strategy and provide regular reports to the LVFO Secretariat. The Partner States have not reported any incidence of conflict to the LVFO Secretariat; the information is generally obtained from the media. The issue is complicated for it has a political connotation as it hinges on the sovereignty of the Partner States, which is outside the remit of the LVFO.

The PSC deliberated and noted past efforts to address cross-border fishing conflicts. It further observed that the LVFO has Organs to address the root causes of these conflicts amicably between State Parties to the Convention. It further observed that whereas the occurrence of such conflicts may not be known in time and space, procedures or guidelines need to be put in place for State Parties to communicate and address such conflicts through the LVFO platform. The EC directed LVFO Secretariat to prepare guidelines to manage fishing conflicts. It is noted that the LVFO Convection 'Article XVII' states that nothing in the Convention shall be interpreted as affecting the existing territorial limits of the contracting Parties or of their Sovereignty in respect of the portions on Lake Victoria falling within their respective boundaries. The PSC observed the need for Partner States to sort out territorial concerns through other mandated fora.

Action: The CM noted the above development and:

- I. **Requested Partner States to make regular reports to the Secretariat on cross-border fishing and fish trade to enable immediate redress;**
- II. **Requested Partner States to implement the strategy on cross-border fishing and fish trade;and**
- III. **Directed the Secretariat to develop Procedures for reporting and Guidelines to manage fishing Conflicts on the Lake.**



10. Financial Matters

10.1. Audited Financial Statements for FY 2006/2007

The Organization received a clean report for the Financial Statements for the financial year ended 30th June 2007. The External Auditors recommendations on compliance and follow-up have been implemented. The audited Financial Statements and the Management Letter are submitted for information and deliberation (*LVFO/COUNCIL09/INF-DOC08*).

10.2. Draft Financial Statements for FY 2007/2008

The Organization's Draft Financial Statements for the FY ended 30th June 2008 were submitted for external audit in compliance with Rule 13.5 of the Organization's Financial Rules and Regulations. The External Auditor is planning to conduct audit on the draft accounts in March 2009. The Draft Financial Statements are attached for information (*LVFO/COUNCIL09/INF-DOC09*).


Action: The CM:

- I. Considered Audited Financial Statements for FY 2006/2007;**
- II. Noted the Draft Financial Statements for FY 2007/2008; and**
- III. Congratulated the Secretariat for clean Audit report for FY 2006/2007.**

10.3. Draft Budgets for the Financial Years 2008/2009 and 2009/2010

In compliance with the Organization's Convention, Article X (3) (b), a draft budget is presented in the table below. The draft budget takes into account the recommendations from the consultancy report on the Financial and Institutional Analysis of the Secretariat.

The Draft Budget has part 'A' which presents the Recurrent Income and Expenditure Budget; and part 'B' shows the Draft Development Income and Expenditure.



Budget Summary for the Financial Years 2008/2009 and 2009/2010

A: Draft Recurrent and Development Income

Recurrent Incomes for FY 2008/2009 and FY 2009/2010 are estimated at US \$ 300,000 and US \$ 390,000 respectively from the partner states. The deficit income budgets of USD 456,961 and US \$ 561, 263 for the respective financial years will be financed by the ECD/IFMP.

Development Incomes for FY 2008/2009 and FY 2009/2010 are estimated at US \$ 5,926,010 and US \$ 5,686,059 respectively from the development partners as shown below:

A.1 DRAFT RECURRENT INCOME			
No.	Source of Funds	2008/2009	2009/2010
1	Republic of Kenya	100,000	130,000
2	United Republic of Tanzania	100,000	130,000
3	Republic of Uganda	100,000	130,000
4	ECD-IFMP	456,961	561,263
	SUB-TOTAL	756,961	951,263
A.2 DRAFT DEVELOPMENT INCOME			
No	Source of Funds	2008/2009	2009/2010
1	ECD / IFMP	5,675,773.00	5,393,306.00
2	FAO/UNO	71,023.00	100,000.00
3	AMREF / SIDA	129,214.00	112,753.00
4	COMESA	20,000.00	30,000.00
5	OTHERS	30,000.00	50,000.00
	SUB-TOTAL	5,926,010	5,686,059
	TOTAL INCOME	6,682,971	6,637,322

B: Draft Recurrent and Development Expenditure Budgets

B.1 DRAFT RECURRENT EXPENDITURE							
No.	Activity	2008/2009			2009/2010		
		Partner state	Deficit covered by IFMP*	Total (US\$)	Partner state	Deficit covered by IFMP*	Total (US\$)
1	Staff Salaries	178,000	88,950	266,950	221,280	136,920	358,200
2	Consolidated Allowance	32,000	13,332	45,332	67,800	13,659	81,459
3	Gratuity	40,913	13,343	54,256	57,920	25,200	83,120
4	Medical Care	14,000	26,180	40,180	12,000	12,588	24,588
5	Motor Vehicle Repairs	3,000	56,250	59,250	3,000	56,287	59,287
6	Insurance Policies	2,000	35,000	37,000	2,000	20,000	22,000
7	Communication expenses	5,087	28,000	33,087	3,000	28,000	31,000
8	Leave Travels	3,000	-	3,000	3,000	0	3,000
9	Audit Expenses	4,000	-	4,000	4,000	0	4,000
10	Budget Expenses	3,000	15,000	18,000	3,000	0	3,000
11	Honoraria	1,000	5,000	6,000	1,000	5,000	6,000
12	Hospitality	1,000	5,000	6,000	1,000	10,000	11,000
13	Training	2,000	25,000	27,000	2,000	25,000	27,000
14	Staff Recruitment	-	1,506	1,506	0	4,000	4,000
15	Office Expenses	2,000	24,000	26,000	1,000	41,434	42,434
16	Travel & Transport	2,000	25,400	27,400	2,000	93,175	95,175
17	Statutory meetings	3,000	60,000	63,000	3,000	60,000	63,000
18	Security	2,000	24,000	26,000	2,000	24,000	26,000
19	Miscellaneous	2,000	11,000	13,000	1,000	6,000	7,000
	SUB- TOTAL	300,000	456,961	756,961	390,000	561,263	951,263
B.2 DRAFT DEVELOPMENT EXPENDITURE							
Activity Description		2008/2009			2009/2010		
1	Fisheries Management(ECD / IFMP)		3,094,773	3,094,773		1,480,306	1,480,306
2	Research Vessels (ECD / IFMP)		699,750	699,750			0
3	Landing Sites (ECD / IFMP)		1,881,250	1,881,250		3,913,000	3,913,000
4	RPOA Fishing Capacity building (FAO/UNO)		71,023	71,023		100,000	100,000
5	HIV/AIDS Programmes (AMREF/SIDA)		129,214	129,214		112,753	112,753
6	Nile perch Value Addition (COMESA)		20,000	20,000		30,000	30,000
7	Other Activities		30,000	30,000		50,000	50,000
	SUB-TOTAL	0	5,926,010	5,926,010	0	5,686,059	5,686,059
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		300,000	6,382,971	6,682,971	390,000	6,247,322	6,637,322

The Draft Recurrent expenditure for FY 2008/2009 and FY 2009/2010 are estimated at US \$ 756,961 and US \$ 951,263 respectively. During the FY 2008/2009 and FY 2009/2010, the Partners States' contribution towards the expenditure will be US \$ 300,000 and US \$ 390,000 respectively. The remaining respective recurrent expenditure will be covered ECD-IFMP project.

The Draft Development expenditure for FY 2008/2009 and FY 2009/2010 are estimated at US \$ 5,926,010 and US \$ 5,686,059 respectively and will be funded by the development partners as shown above.

In order to bridge the recurrent deficit budget, after the end of IFMP, Country Contributions will have to be increased to US \$ 320,000 assuming no new posts are filled by the Organization.

The development expenditure of the Organization will be covered as per *Article XV. 4* where the Organization may receive subventions donations and ligancies from any suitable body whether Governmental or Non-governmental provided that the terms of their use are compatible with the terms of the organization.

Action: The CM noted and approved the Draft Recurrent budgets and Draft Development Budgets for FY 2008/2009 and FY 2009/2010.

10.4. The Status of Country Contributions as at 19th February, 2009

Country	Arrears from FY 2007/2008	Dues for 2008/2009	Total Dues 2007/2009	Remittances in 2008/2009	Out-standing Balance per Country	Advance Remittances for FY 2009/2010
Kenya	312.81	100,000.00	100,312.81	132,031.72	0	31,718.91
Tanzania	31.25	100,000.00	100,031.25	92,191.78	7,839.47	
Uganda	125,232.42	100,000.00	225,232.42	132,138.06	93,094.36	
Total	125,576.48	300,000.00	425,576.48	314,456.56	100,933.83	31,718.91

Action: The CM noted the status of the Country contributions and:

- I. Thanked all the Partner States for discharging their gratuity liabilities;
- II. Thanked the Republic of Kenya for timely payment of country contributions; and
- III. Requested the Republic of Uganda (US \$ 93,094.36) and United Republic of Tanzania (US \$ 7,839.47) to update their accounts

11. Staff Matters

11.1. Appointment of the Executive Secretary and Deputy Executive Secretary

The contracts of the previous Executives, Deputy Executive Secretary Dr Ogutu Ohwayo Richard and Executive Secretary Mr Thomas Wanyika Maembe ended on 10th December 2007 and 30th June 2008 respectively. According to the adopted Policy of rotation the current Executive Secretary was appointed from the Republic of

Uganda and the Deputy Executive Secretary from the Republic of Kenya. The current Executive Secretary Mr. Dick Nyeko and the Deputy Executive Secretary Mr Mathias Wanyama Wafula took office on 1st July 2008 and 1st May 2008 respectively for a period of five years non renewable.

11.2. Daily Subsistence and Safari Day Allowances

The Organization's current rates of allowances payable to Statutory Members and Staff members were approved for use during the First Special session of the Council of Ministers held at the Sheraton Hotel in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania on the 10th December 1999. Comparable rates in the partner states are higher and have become difficult for the Organization to meet eligible per diem and daily subsistence allowances payable to members during statutory meetings and participations in other programs.

The table below shows the current allowance rates and the proposed rates.

Personal Category	SDA in East Africa		DSA in East Africa		DSA Outside East Africa	
	Current	Proposed	Current	Proposed	Current	Proposed
The Council of Ministers	150	200	300	500	300	600
Policy Steering Committee	120	150	260	400	260	500
Executive Committee Member	100	120	240	350	240	450
Executive Secretary	15	150	240	400	240	500
Deputy Executive Secretary	12	120	200	350	200	450
Professional Staff	10	100	180	300	180	350
Technicians/Professional Subordinates		70		200		250
Secretaries	6	50	80	150	-	200
Drivers	5	30	50	100	-	150
Attendants	5	20	-	70	-	100

11.3. Comparative Staff Grading and Salaries in EAC Institutions

The LVFO salary Scheme compares as follows with other EAC Institutions: The EAC Secretariat, the LVBC, and IUCEA as below:

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>EAC</u>	<u>LVFO</u>	<u>LVBC</u>	<u>IUCEA</u>
Executive	Secretary General	6,846			
	Deputy Secretary General	6,006			
	Executive Secretary		2,917	6,006	4,830
	Deputy Executive Secretary		2,500	4,358	4,025
Professional	Accountant	3,561	2,083	2,326	3,355
	Counsel	4,358			
	Electronic Database Specialist		2,083		3,355
	Projects Officer				3,355
	Maritime Safety Officer			3,561	
	Senior Programme Officer			3,170	
	Legal Officer	3,170			
	Senior Scientist / Economist		2,083		
General	Administrative Officer				1,892
	Assistant Accountant				1,650
	Personal Secretary	1,846	700	910	1,892
	Receptionist	910	375		952
	Driver	347	250	347	536
	Office Attendant	277	119	277	385

It was found that LVFO salaries are much lower than those given by all other institutions as well as the EAC Secretariat, and the lowest salary for each individual position in all staff categories. The study recommended LVFO salaries should compare with that of other EAC Institutions.

11.4. Proposed Staff Grading and Salaries

The functional analysis study of the Secretariat that was requested for by the Council of Ministers in 2004 found that the LVFO Professional Staff fall in just one and the same grade. In comparison to other institutions, this is disadvantageous for both the staff and the Organization. Staff suffers from the lack of advancement prospects and the Organization does not have any way of newly acquired from the experienced staff, or low performance from high performance. Above all, the system de-motivates staff (particularly the professional staff) by freezing their employment grade throughout their engagement with the organization. The study recommended that the LVFO Secretariat adopts the '3 Grade Scale' for professional staff (P1-P3) and the '5 Scale Grade' (G1-G5) for general category that presents diverse occupation.

Based on the Report of the Functional and Institutional Analysis of LVFO Secretariat and in order to reduce disparities in salaries with other EAC Institutions and create a grading structure, the following new salary scheme is proposed.

Category	Grade	Monthly Salary (USD)
Executive	D2	4000
	D1	3500
Professional*	P3	2900
	P2	2700
	P1	2500
General*	G5	900
	G4	700
	G3	450
	G2	300
	G1	200

* The Scheme proposes an upward change of grade after contract period of satisfactory performance.

11.5. Proposed Designations by Grade

The Secretariat, in line with the consultant's report, proposes the following Positions, titles and grades below:

S/No.	Title	Grade	Remarks
1	Executive Secretary	D2	In post
2	Deputy Executive Secretary	D1	In post
3	Senior Economist	P1/P2/P3	In post
4	Senior Scientist	P1/P2/P3	In post
5	Information and Database Officer	P1/P2/P3	In post
6	Administrative Officer (Finance and Administration)	P1/P2/P3	In post
7	Communication and Outreach Officer	P1/P2/P3	Project
8	Internal Auditor	P1/P2/P3	Project
9	Database Administrator	P1/P2/P3	Project
10	Aquaculture Officer	P1/P2/P3	Project
11	Post Harvest Technologist	P1/P2/P3	Project
12	Accounts Assistant	G4/G5	Project

S/No.	Title	Grade	Remarks
13	Stores Assistant	G4/G5	Project
14	Skipper	G3/G4	Project
15	Technician	G2/G3	Project
16	Deck Hand	G2/G3	Project
17	Secretary - ES	G4/G5	In post
18	Secretary - DES	G4/G5	Project
19	Receptionist / Secretary	G2/G3	In post
20	Senior Driver/ES	G3/G4	In post
21	Senior Driver/DES	G3/G4	In post
22	Driver	G2/G3	To be replaced
23	Office Attendant	G1/G2	In post

11.6. Consolidation of allowances

The study found that multiple allowances currently existing create complexity to remuneration scheme and causes resentment from some categories of employees undermining gratuity and such other terminal benefits.

It is proposed that all other allowances (Housing, Entertainment, Spouse, Transport, Telephone and Education) be consolidated at 25% of basic salary to address these concerns and is below the EAC figure which is between 50% and 75%.

11.7. Consideration of Contracts for Professional Staff of the Organization

Under Staff Rules and Regulations, Rule 14.4, states that staff appointed for a specific term shall cease to be in the service of the Organization on the last day of the term specified in the letter of appointment unless such appointment is renewed. The contract of the Senior Scientist Dr Oliva C. Mkumbo is expiring on 24th August 2009 this year and that of Information and Database Officer Mr. Samson Abura on 4th July, 2010. The Officers have served their terms satisfactorily and deserves renewal of the contract for another three years.

The PSC took note of the proposed remunerations to the Secretariat staff and proposed increase in country contributions.

Action: The CM approved:

- I. Proposed Daily Subsistence and Safari Day Allowances;
- II. Proposed Staff Grading and Salaries;
- III. Proposed Designations by Grade;
- IV. Consolidation of allowances; and
- V. Renewal of contracts for the Senior Scientist, and Information and Database Officer.


12. Dates and Venue for the 8th Regular Session of the LVFO Council of Ministers

The PSC recommended that the 8th Regular Session of the LVFO Council of Ministers be held in Uganda and exact Venue and date to be communicated later

12 Adoption of the Report of the LVFO Executive Committee

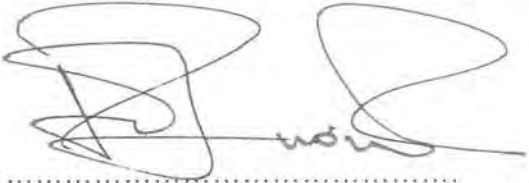
The report of the Seventh Regular Session of the LVFO Council of Ministers was adopted at the Sea Cliff Hotel, Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania on 27th February 2009.

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**LAKE VICTORIA BASIN
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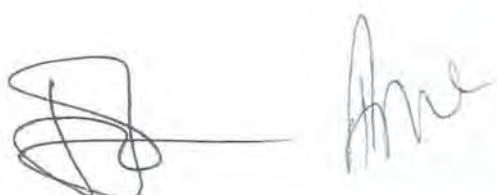
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**ANNEX II. Agenda and Program for the 10th Regular Session of the LVFO
Policy Steering Committee, Sea Cliff Hotel, Dar – Es Salaam,
Tanzania 26th February 2009**

1. Country Consultations
2. Informal Meeting to discuss Emerging issues and AOB
3. Opening Session
 - Adoption of the Agenda
 - Statement of the Executive Secretary, LVFO
 - Statement of the IUCEA Representative
 - Statement of the LVBC Representative
 - Statement of the Regional Authorizing Office -IFMP
 - Statement of the Representative Fish Processors and Exporters Association
 - Statement of In-coming Vice Chairperson
 - Statement of the Out-going Chairperson
 - Statement of the In-coming Chairperson
4. Plenary Session to consider:
 - Report of the Project Steering Committee
5. Report preparation
6. Adoption of the Report



Draft Program: LVFO Policy Steering Committee Meeting 26th February 2009
 Sea Cliff Hotel, Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania

	Item	TIME
1.	Registration	0830-0900
2.	National Consultations	0900-1300
	LUNCH BREAK	1300-1400
	Informal Meeting to discuss Emerging issues and AOB	1400-1600
	TEA/COFFEE BREAK	1600-1630
	Opening Prayers Opening Remarks by the Chairperson Welcoming Statement by the Host Statement of the Executive Secretary, LVFO Statement of the IUCEA Representative Statement of the LVBC Representative Statement of the Regional Authorizing Office -IFMP Statement of the Representative Fish Processors and Exporters Association Election of Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson Statement of the Out-going Chairperson Statement of the In-coming Chairperson <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Status of Implementation of the Council's Decision 2. Functional and Institutional Analysis of the LVFO Secretariat 3. Functional Analysis of the broader LVFO 4. Review of the Fisheries Management Plan for Lake Victoria (FMP2) 5. Progress in Aquaculture and Development Program 6. Progress in Infrastructure Capacity Building 7. Regional Stakeholders Conference on Lake Victoria 8. Cross-border Fishing Conflicts on Lake Victoria 9. Staff Matters 10. Financial Statements for the FYs 2006/2007 and 2007/2008 11. Draft Budgets for the Financial Years 2008/2009 and 2009/2010 12. The Status of Country Contributions as at 19th February, 2009 13. Deliberations on the LVFO EC Report 14. Dates and Venue for the Eleventh Regular Session of the LVFO Policy Steering Committee 15. Adoption of the Report of the PSC to CM 	1630-1800