

WKFICON – Workshop on Fish Condition

2015/2/SSGIEOM15

A **Workshop on Fish Condition** (WKFICON) chaired by Josep Lloret, Spain, Claire Saraux, France and Pierluigi Carbonara, Italy, will be established and will meet at Girona, Spain in 17-18 November 2016 to:

- a) Review information on condition indicators of exploited fish;
- b) Data collection: species, condition indicators and sampling strategy;
- c) Possibilities of inclusion of fish condition in stock assessments;
- d) Consideration of fish condition as a measure of ecosystem status (ecosystem based approach);

WKFICOI will report by **16 December 2016** for the attention of ACOM, SCICOM and WGBIOP.

Supporting Information

Priority:	Body condition is defined as the quantity of nutrient reserves, which represent the quantity of metabolizable tissues exceeding those required for daily nutritional demands. Condition indices thus inform on the quantity of energy extracted from the environment and can give important insights on foraging behavior or prey distribution for instance. Body condition indices are also used as indicators of an individual's well-being which can affect its survival and reproductive capacity. Measuring body condition is thus of outmost importance for physiologists and ecologists to understand population dynamics affected by mortality and reproduction
Scientific justification and relation to action plan:	This workshop will provide the opportunity to regroup the ICES/GFCM community working on this field, in order to review the condition indices from the literature and discuss their applicability. As such metric could serve to measure habitat quality and the health of stocks, it is a promising biological parameter to be included in an ecosystem approach for fisheries management. The workshop will provide an arena to discuss how it could help refining stock status and whether it can be included in management advice.
Resource requirements:	None.
Participants:	In view of its relevance to the ICES quality assurance, the Workshop is expected to attract interest from Mediterranean and Atlantic areas, ICES and GFCM. Participants will be experts from leading labs and universities working in fish condition.
Secretariat facilities:	None.
Financial:	None.
Linkages to advisory committees:	ACOM
Linkages to other committees or groups:	WGBIOP, SCICOM, RCMs, WGCAMEDA, SGMED.
Linkages to other organisations:	GFCM and STEFC