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MARE/B3/SR

Call for Applications for membership of the Joint Scientific Committee (JSC) in support of the EU – Guinea Bissau Fisheries Partnership Agreement

Background

The Fisheries Partnership Agreement (FPA) between the European Union and the Republic of Guinea-Bissau was adopted by Council Regulation (EC) No 241/2008 of 17 March 2008¹. According to Article 10 of the FPA a Joint Committee set up between the two Parties shall be responsible for monitoring the application of this Agreement.

A new Protocol to the FPA was signed and entered into provisional application on 24 November 2014². In accordance with Article 4 of the Protocol, the two Parties shall cooperate to develop certain issues relating to the state of resources in Guinea-Bissau fishing zones; to this end a Joint Scientific Committee shall meet at least once a year.

Therefore, a Scientific Committee of highly qualified scientific experts needs to be established in order to advise the FPA Joint Committee on matters pertaining to the conservation and management of living aquatic resources, including biological, economic, environmental, social and technical considerations raised by the Joint Committee. The JSC is attended by scientists nominated by each party to the FPA.

The European Commission is therefore calling for applications with a view to appoint experts from the EU side in support of the EU – Guinea Bissau Fisheries Partnership Agreement for the Joint Scientific Committee (JSC) membership.

EU Members of this JSC are required to contribute to the overall work of the JSC participating in the relevant Expert Working Groups providing paper contributions and analysis as appropriate.

The European Commission may also request EU JSC members to attend stakeholder meetings, such as meetings of the Advisory Councils, Regional Member State fora, working groups and workshops of the Regional Fisheries Management Organizations and of Sea Conventions relevant for this FPA, and, where relevant, any other scientific working group organised by the EU or Guinea Bissau on matters linked to the FPA.

¹ OJ L75 of 18.3.2008, p. 49

² Council Decision 2014/782/EU of 16 October 2014

The Committee shall consist of 5 EU members appointed in a personal capacity. A JSC reserve list will be also established.

The European Commission shall select the EU JSC members in a personal capacity for a mandate on period according to the duration of enforced Protocol to the EU – Guinea Bissau Fisheries Partnership Agreement. EU and Bissau-Guinean Members of the JSC shall give the FPA Joint Committee an independent opinion free from outside influence and shall respect the conditions of confidentiality. EU and Bissau-Guinean Members shall commit to act independently and in the public interest.

Selection criteria

The European Commission will take the following criteria into account when assessing applications:

1. Proven competence and experience in the following areas:
 - a. Main areas of competence and experience
 - i. dynamics of Western African coast fish populations and more particularly on
 - cephalopods (octopus and squids),
 - crustaceans (coastal and deep-water shrimps),
 - demersal finfish (hakes and associated species),
 - small-pelagic species (anchovies, sardinellas, sardines, mackerels and horse mackerels),
 - highly migratory species (Tunas and tuna-like species and associated species)
 - ii. dynamics of Western African and Gulf of Guinea coastal and marine ecosystems and more particularly on
 - Large Marine Ecosystem of the Canaries current,
 - Large Marine Ecosystem of the Guinea current
 - iii. dynamics of domestic and international fishing fleets in Western African fisheries
 - iv. fishing gear technology
 - v. conservation and technical conservation measures
 - vi. assessment of fish stock and fisheries
 - vii. scientific data collection in support of EU-CFP, CECAF or ICCAT
 - b. Other possible areas of competence and experience
 - i. International, EU and west-African domestic fisheries management frameworks (including control and enforcement measures
 - ii. Ecosystem based approach to fisheries management
 - iii. fishery economics and economic analysis of the fishing sector in the EU and in Western African States
2. Candidates should possess either:
 - a. at least a university degree, followed by a research degree and at least 5 additional years relevant professional work experience in fisheries scientific research and expertise.
 - b. at least a university degree and at least ten years relevant professional work experience in fisheries scientific research and expertise.
3. The need to strike a balance within the group of EU experts in terms of expertise, gender and geographical origin:

- a. The European Commission will assess applications by taking into account the need for a broad coverage of the scientific issues concerning the FPA between the European Union and the Republic of Guinea Bissau.
- b. In addition, the European Commission will strive for a membership comprising experts from disciplines that reflect the diversity of scientific issues and approaches related to fisheries science within the scientific issues concerning the FPA between the European Union and the Republic of Guinea Bissau together with a balanced gender and geographical origin from among the proposals received.

4. Proficiency in Portuguese/French:

- a. which are customary in the sphere of fisheries within the Portuguese and French speaking EU – Western African partner States' FPA, to a level that allows the selected candidates to participate in discussions and draft reports in these languages.
- b. Knowledge of a second/third language or more languages is considered as an asset.

Expenses

Travel and subsistence expenses incurred by EU participants in the activities of the JSC shall be reimbursed by the European Commission. EU JSC members shall be entitled to compensation in accordance with the provisions in force at the European Commission within the limits of the available budgetary appropriations.

Application procedure

Applications must be completed in English/French, clearly indicating the applicant's nationality and including the necessary documentation. All applicants must document their professional experience and expertise in full by means of:

- a. a curriculum vitae summarizing the academic and publication record as well as professional experience (All curricula vitae should be submitted in the European format);
- b. any additional information to assist the European Commission in assessing the suitability of the candidate;
- c. a letter of motivation in support of their application; and
- d. matrix filled in for the expert's fields of expertise and geographical coverage of the field

The duly signed applications must be sent by 30 January 2015 at the latest to the following e-mail address: MARE-JSC-GUINEABISSAU@ec.europa.eu

The date of the application will be the date of sending the e-mail. For any further information please contact the address above.

The list of EU members of the JSC as well as the reserve list shall be published in the Register of expert groups. (Members who do not wish to have their names disclosed may apply for derogation from this rule. The request not to disclose the name of a member of an expert group shall be considered justified whenever publication could endanger his or her security or integrity or unduly prejudice his or her privacy.) It will be also published on the Fisheries website.

Personal data will be collected, processed and published in accordance with the provisions of Regulation (EC) No 45/2001.