

**BEYOND JOHANNESBURG: DELIVERING OUR
FISHERIES COMMITMENTS
(UPDATED JULY 2006)**

The World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) took place in Johannesburg from 26 August to 4 September 2002. The summit set an ambitious agenda, with challenging goals and targets. Participants called for a focus on delivery: a step-change from words to action.

The UK Government is committed to delivering the outcomes of the summit, recognising that the event was a significant step on a long road to achieving sustainable development.

As part of this commitment, Defra has a dedicated fund, the WSSD Implementation Fund (WIF). Its purpose is to accelerate implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) commitments. The fund aims to provide seed funding/pump priming - as opposed to ongoing support - for projects, programmes and initiatives. Amongst other areas, it supports Defra's work on its WSSD commitments.

Defra first published WSSD delivery plans for the commitments on which it leads in May 2004 and has since updated them annually.

Defra's WSSD commitments are integrated into the UK Government Sustainable Development Strategy. The Strategy includes a table of the UK's international priorities for sustainable development including those arising from WSSD, Doha, Monterrey and the Millennium Development Goals. Progress is monitored as part of follow-up on the strategy as a whole.

Defra's Public Service Agreement (PSA) 1 target includes a international target to "promote sustainable development across government and in the UK and internationally, as measured by the UK's progress towards delivering the WSSD commitments, notably in the areas of sustainable consumption and production, chemicals, biodiversity, oceans, fisheries and agriculture"¹. The Department provides regular performance updates against its outstanding Public Service Agreement targets through its annual Departmental Report and its Autumn Performance Report published in spring and autumn respectively.

*This document '**Beyond Johannesburg: Delivering our Fisheries commitments**' is an update of the Fisheries delivery plan published in June 2005 and will support the implementation of Defra's PSA 1 target and Defra's strategic priorities². It will also contribute to the achievement of FCO targets on sustainable development and DfID targets on tackling illegal fishing in partnership with Defra and as a follow up to the High Seas Task Force.*

¹ www.defra.gov.uk/corporate/busplan/psa2004.htm

² Defra's 5 year strategy. See <http://defraweb/corporate/5year-strategy/index.htm>

SUMMARY

Background

1. The World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) took place in Johannesburg from 26 August to 4 September 2002. The UK Government is committed to delivering the outcomes of the summit, recognising that the event was a significant step on a long road to achieving sustainable development. This summary sets out how the UK intends to contribute to the delivery of WSSD fisheries commitments through actions at the domestic, EU and international level.

Objectives and Implementation

2. The overarching commitment at the 2002 WSSD was to develop sustainable fisheries. Within this, six key objectives were agreed. This section summarises UK action to deliver these objectives:
 - i. **Objective 1: To maintain or restore stocks to levels that can produce the maximum sustainable yield: for depleted stocks on an urgent basis and where possible not later than 2015**

The focus for the UK will be to work at the EU level to seek to agree policies that will deliver long term sustainability of fish stocks. An EU cod recovery plan was implemented in 2003 and further management plans are already agreed or under discussion. 2006 will see the publication of a European Commission Communication on maximum sustainable yield (MSY) which will inform the EU-level debate on the subject. At a domestic level, we will be looking to introduce a second pilot to tackle discarding.
 - ii. **Objective 2: To monitor and regulate fishing capacity in line with fishing opportunities**

Actions to regulate fishing effort are agreed principally at the EU level. The UK is planning a small decommissioning scheme³ in 2007 to help reduce effort on a key targeted stock and we will also consider a range of other options, such as changes to fishing method, to adapt the UK fleet in order to better match stock availability.
 - iii. **Objective 3: Ratification and implementation of UN and other international agreements**

UK ratification of the 1995 UN Straddling Fish Stocks Agreement (UNFSA) and related instruments is now complete. Following the review of UNFSA, a key focus in 2006 will be the UN General Assembly where the UK will work

³ The scheme will be aimed at beam trawlers that target Western Channel sole and will only be run when a management plan for that fishery is agreed with the Commission

with other countries to agree on improvements to the operation of the UNFSA.

iv. **Objective 4: To prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing**

IUU fishing is one of the main obstacles to the achievement of sustainable world fisheries. The UK will work with other countries and external bodies over the coming years to implement the High Seas Task Force proposals to combat IUU fishing, as published in March 2006. A dedicated UK co-ordination unit, part-funded by the WSSD Implementation Fund, has been established to take the work forward.

v. **Objective 5: To progressively eliminate subsidies contributing to IUU fishing and overcapacity**

The UK operates within an EU framework on subsidies and state aid. We will work through the EU to seek a successful outcome to WTO negotiations with regard to the elimination of distorting subsidies. Separately, the UK will continue to press for a freeing-up of international trade.

vi. **Objective 6: To ensure that fisheries policies take into account the needs of transitional and developing countries**

Under the proposed programme of work related to IUU fishing, the UK is considering provision of fisheries support in sub-Saharan Africa. The UK will also be establishing a programme of work on EU Fisheries Partnership Agreements.

Roles

- Achievement of WSSD objectives requires concerted action by UK Fisheries Administrations⁴, national governments, international organisations, fishermen and others. Successful delivery of the UK's planned actions will require UK Government Departments and Fisheries Administrations to work together and with key stakeholders and delivery agents.
- As mentioned in footnote 2, fisheries management is a devolved responsibility in the UK. Defra leads on EU Common Fisheries Policy issues including certain international aspects. The Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO)

⁴ Within the UK, fisheries is a devolved responsibility and the administration of UK fisheries is carried out by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), the Scottish Executive Environment and Rural Affairs Department (SEERAD), the National Assembly for Wales Agriculture Department (NAWAD) and the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development for Northern Ireland (DARD). Departments in the Isle of Man, Jersey and Guernsey are responsible for administering fishing activity in their respective areas subject to various international agreements. UK overseas territories are independently governed, but their interests in Regional Fisheries Management Organisations are represented by FCO, and they are encouraged to make every effort to operate fisheries in line with Government objectives.

and Department for International Development (DfID) also have a strong and in some cases leading role on aspects of international fisheries policies. The Department for Trade and Industry (DTI) has an interest in the development of markets and trade.

5. Defra will co-ordinate the monitoring of progress of the planned actions on WSSD fisheries commitments.

DELIVERY PLAN

Key Aim of Plan

6. This plan sets out how the UK intends to contribute to the delivery of WSSD fisheries commitments.
7. The overarching commitment at the 2002 WSSD was to develop sustainable fisheries⁵. Within this, key objectives are:
 - i. To maintain or restore stocks to levels that can produce the maximum sustainable yield: for depleted stocks on an urgent basis and where possible not later than 2015;
 - ii. To monitor and regulate fishing capacity in line with fishing opportunities;
 - iii. Ratification and implementation of UN and other international agreements;
 - iv. To prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing;
 - v. To progressively eliminate subsidies contributing to IUU fishing and overcapacity; and
 - vi. To ensure that fisheries policies take into account the needs of transitional and developing countries.

Scope

8. This plan covers the UK's contribution to the achievement of WSSD fisheries objectives only. There are interdependencies between fisheries objectives and those on oceans and international biodiversity, for which there are separate delivery plans⁶.

Context

9. The UK recognises that achievement of WSSD fisheries objectives will require action at home and abroad. This plan sets out actions at the domestic, EU and international level.

⁵ Paragraph 30 of the WSSD Plan of Implementation (POI) within the oceans section (paragraphs 29-34) contains the key fisheries commitments. Chapters in the POI on Small Island States and Africa also contain fisheries references: these are consistent with the main fisheries commitments and are not highlighted here.

⁶ This plan should be read in conjunction with the delivery plans on WSSD oceans and international biodiversity as some of the actions contained within these will impact on fisheries.

10. At an international level, the UK works through international agreements and arrangements made with the EU, the UK and its overseas territories. It takes action and influences through high level organisations such as the UN General Assembly, G8, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), World Trade Organisation (WTO), Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), World Bank and Global Environmental Facility (GEF), various Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs), bilateral agreements and through independent lobbying of other countries and organisations.
11. Many of the actions to be taken by the UK will be taken at the EU level. This is because EU fish stocks are managed as a Community resource and fisheries management in EU waters is governed by the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP). EU influence extends into the international sphere, since the European Commission represents the EU in Regional Fisheries Management Organisations (RFMOs) and other international bodies and negotiates agreements with non-EU countries. These agreements fall into three categories: those with developed neighbours (Norway, Russia, Iceland), with less developed partners (Africa, Asia especially) and with other “special cases” (Greenland/Faeroes and the Antarctic fisheries). The UK has a role in the development of the EU’s fisheries policies.
12. Within the UK, fisheries is a devolved responsibility and the administration of UK fisheries is carried out by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), the Scottish Executive Environment and Rural Affairs Department (SEERAD), the National Assembly for Wales Agriculture Department (NAWAD) and the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development for Northern Ireland (DARD).
13. Departments in the Isle of Man, Jersey and Guernsey are responsible for administering fishing activity in their respective areas subject to various international agreements. UK overseas territories are independently governed, but their interests in Regional Fisheries Management Organisations are represented by FCO, and they are encouraged to make every effort to operate fisheries in line with Government objectives.

Degree of challenge

14. “Sustainable fisheries”, the overarching WSSD commitment, is very high level; progress towards it is best measured by assessing progress on each of the six underlying objectives. Progress depends strongly on the co-operation of other countries and organisations to help deliver the objectives. Progress on some aspects has been slow to date. The degree of challenge to the delivery of the objectives and the overarching commitment is therefore high. Monitoring progress can be difficult due to the uncertainties inherent in

fisheries science and progress on Objective 1 is particularly difficult to measure because of the ongoing debate on the definition of, and ways of achieving, "maximum sustainable yield". There is, therefore, a focus on putting in place policies and approaches which encourage and help countries to take appropriate action, for example through a precautionary approach. Proxy measures and milestones are therefore also applied to help to deliver the substance behind the commitments⁷.

Summary of the UK's planned actions

15. Objective 1: To maintain or restore stocks to levels that can produce the maximum sustainable yield: for depleted stocks on an urgent basis and where possible not later than 2015

The focus for the UK will be to work at the EU level to seek to agree policies that will deliver long term sustainability of fish stocks, including policies to reduce the impact of fishing on the marine environment. The bilateral agreement between the EU and Norway, coastal states agreements and the annual December Fisheries Council are the main fora for such agreements. 2006 will see the publication of a European Commission Communication on maximum sustainable yield (MSY) which will inform the EU-level debate on the subject. An EU-wide cod recovery plan was implemented in 2003 and further plans are already agreed⁸ or under discussion⁹. Further management plans will be established or reviewed in the EU, between the EU and Norway and between North East Atlantic coastal states. At a domestic level, highlights in 2006-7 will be the launch of a second pilot to tackle discarding and further action by the Scottish Executive's SeaFAR advisory group to ensure further progress towards management of fisheries at MSY rates.

16. Objective 2: To monitor and regulate fishing capacity in line with fishing opportunities

The UK monitors the balance of fishing fleet capacity with available stocks; this information is collated in an annual report which is sent to the European Commission¹⁰. Actions to regulate fishing effort are agreed principally at the EU level; key instruments for reducing effort on vulnerable commercial stocks are the EU recovery or management plans. As regards the regulation of capacity, the UK is planning a small decommissioning scheme¹¹ in 2007 to help reduce effort on a key targeted stock. We will also consider a range of

7 For example through ratification by countries of the 1995 UN Straddling Fish Stocks Agreement (UNFSA) and practical work on strengthening RFMOs as well as action on IUU

8 For Northern hake and Southern hake and Nephrops

9 Western Channel sole and North Sea sole and plaice

10 As required under Articles 12 and 13 of Commission Regulation (EC) 1438/2003

11 The scheme will be aimed at beam trawlers that target Western Channel sole and will only be run when a management plan for that fishery is agreed with the Commission

other options, such as changes to fishing method, to adapt the UK fleet in order to better match opportunity. We will do this in the context of our policy not to provide short term subsidies which might discourage businesses from planning for the long-term.

17. **Objective 3: Ratification and implementation of UN and other international agreements**

Improving international fisheries governance is a key part of achieving sustainable fisheries. EU and UK ratification of the 1995 UN Straddling Fish Stocks Agreement¹² (UNFSA) and related instruments is now complete. Following the review of UNFSA, a key focus in 2006 will be the UN General Assembly where we will aim to encourage as many countries as possible to sign up to changes agreed to the UNFSA and to discuss actions that could be taken to deter destructive fishing practices in areas beyond national jurisdiction, particularly where no Regional Fisheries Management Organisations are in place.

18. **Objective 4: To prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing**

IUU fishing is one of the main obstacles to the achievement of sustainable world fisheries. Recognising this, a small group of fisheries Ministers and directors-general of international conservation organisations¹³ decided to take the lead in actively promoting practical solutions through a High Seas Task Force (HSTF). The HSTF was chaired by the UK and a report containing nine proposals to combat IUU fishing was launched in Paris in March 2006¹⁴. The UK will work with other countries and external bodies to implement the HSTF proposals over the coming years; a dedicated UK co-ordination unit, part-funded by the WSSD Implementation Fund, has been established to take the work forward.

19. **Objective 5: To progressively eliminate subsidies contributing to IUU fishing and overcapacity**

The UK operates within an EU framework on subsidies and state aid. EU subsidies are no longer available for the building of new fishing vessels, following an agreement in 2002. The UK continues to emphasise the importance of not permitting other forms of subsidy which might contribute towards increased capacity or maintain capacity at unsustainable levels. We

12 Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks

13 Ministers from Australia, Canada, Chile, Namibia, New Zealand and the UK. DGs from the Earth Institute, IUCN-World Conservation Union and WWF International.

14 <http://www.high-seas.org/docs/HSTFfinal/HSTF-Final-Report-09-03-06.pdf>

will work through the EU to seek a successful outcome to WTO negotiations with regard to the elimination of distorting subsidies. Separately, the UK will continue to press for a freeing-up of international trade.

20. **Objective 6: To ensure that fisheries policies take into account the needs of transitional and developing countries**

Under the proposed programme of work related to IUU fishing that DfID is conducting in partnership with Defra, the UK is considering provision of fisheries support regionally and nationally in sub-Saharan Africa. Work would focus both on effective means for tackling illegal fishing, and on underlying management systems that challenge illicit exploitation. Regional work will be implemented through Namibia and Southern African Development Community, while a national programme may be established with Sierra Leone. Work is also ongoing to avoid any new non tariff barriers to trade of fish. The UK will also be establishing a programme of work on EU Fisheries Partnership Agreements, starting in 2006 with a study on the impacts on developing countries of FPAs.

21. Detailed actions, with target dates and milestones are set out in Annex 1.

Implementation

Delivery of planned actions

22. Achievement of WSSD objectives will require concerted action by UK fisheries administrations, national governments, international organisations, fishermen and others. Successful delivery of the UK's planned actions will require UK Government Departments and Fisheries Administrations to work together and with key stakeholders and delivery agents. Annex 1 lists delivery agents against each action. A full list of principal stakeholders and delivery agents is provided in Annex 4.

23. Actions taken by the various Departments and Devolved Administrations will occur within their respective governance frameworks, largely within existing fisheries workstreams. The aim is to embed WSSD commitments within existing policy frameworks.

Roles and responsibilities

24. As mentioned above, fisheries management is a devolved responsibility in the UK. Defra leads on EU Common Fisheries Policy issues, including certain international aspects. The Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) and the Department for International Development (DfID) also have a strong and in some cases leading role on aspects of international fisheries policies. The

Department for Trade and Industry (DTI) has an interest in the domestic and international development of markets and trade.

Monitoring and evaluation

25. Defra will co-ordinate the monitoring of progress of the planned actions. It will do so through regular contact with delivery agents and through the following:

- The **WSSD Monitoring Group** - it monitors Defra's role in delivering, and co-ordinates reporting on, the second bullet of Defra's PSA 1 namely: "The UK's progress towards delivering the World Summit on Sustainable Development commitments, notably in the areas of sustainable consumption and production, chemicals, biodiversity, oceans, fisheries and agriculture";
- The cross-Departmental **UK Sustainable Development Strategy / PSA 1 Programme Board** - it monitors progress against delivering the commitments in UK's Sustainable Development Strategy.
- The **Sustainable Development Commission** (the Government's independent watchdog on sustainable development) reports to the Prime Minister and the First Ministers of Scotland and Wales. It monitors cross-government and departmental progress towards sustainable development.

WSSD Implementation Fund

26. We will seek to secure funding from the WSSD Implementation Fund (WIF)¹⁵ where appropriate to accelerate UK work to deliver WSSD objectives. Our work to combat IUU is supported by the WIF until the end of March 2008, and we may bid for additional WIF funding to support this workstream. Other priorities for funding are likely to focus on encouraging sustainable consumption of fish and reducing the impacts of fishing on the marine environment. There may be some projects which we seek to take forward jointly with the oceans and biodiversity strands of WSSD delivery, for example to reduce the impact of fishing on the marine environment and marine biodiversity.

Risk Management

27. We monitor risks for this plan. Most of these are managed as part of existing workstreams within Government Departments. Specific risks to the current key elements of the plan are summarised below.

¹⁵ <http://www.sustainable-development.gov.uk/international/implementation-fund/index.htm>

<i>Risk Description</i>	<i>Potential Implications</i>	<i>Likelihood</i>	<i>Impact</i>	<i>Risk Rating</i>	<i>Mitigation Actions</i>
Delivery agents do not follow plan	Timing slips and commitments are not met	M	H	H	Regular contact with delivery agents to check on progress
EU/ international negotiations result in an outcome that does not support the achievement of WSSD fisheries objectives	Progress towards achievement of WSSD objectives slows	M	H	H	Thorough preparation and lobbying of other parties
Funding is not secured for key projects	No funding to support the implementation of commitments	M	M	M	Work with key parties to ensure case put forward for funding is best possible

Communication

28. Since UK action on WSSD fisheries commitments is embedded in existing workstreams, there will be a number of internal and external channels in Fisheries Administrations, DfID and FCO for communication of this action. In addition, Defra's marine and fisheries website will include information on its work to achieve the WSSD commitments.
29. DfID recently commissioned a website at Chatham House on all aspects related to illegal fishing – www.illegal-fishing.info. This draws from earlier successful work related to illegal logging (www.illegal-logging.info). DfID is also actively pursuing a number of consultations and events with civil society stakeholders related to addressing key constraints to fisheries management in developing countries and, especially, how best to control IUU fishing. DfID is with Defra leading a process of proactive political advocacy and support for the adoption of specific (High Seas Task Force) measures that constrain IUU fishing.
30. Reference to Overseas Territory fisheries management is included in the FCO sustainable development strategy, and WSSD fishery commitments are taken into account by FCO officials representing Overseas Territories at International Fisheries Organisations.



Annex 1 - Detail of planned actions:

Objective	Sub-objectives (delivery agents in brackets)	Milestones	Target dates
I. Restoring and maintaining fish stocks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement stock recovery measures adopted under the CFP (Defra/Devolved Administrations) • Achieve TACs and quotas and other mechanisms to promote sustainable fishing and to assist the recovery of relevant commercial stocks (Defra/Devolved Administrations) • Support European Commission in development of multi-annual stock management plans (including recovery plans where necessary) and in moving towards an ecosystem based approach (Defra/Devolved Administrations) • Support European Commission in negotiation of multilateral agreements for management of straddling stocks (Defra/Devolved Administrations) 	December EU Fisheries Council Review of EU cod recovery plan Commission proposal for West of Scotland Herring Management Plan Coastal States agreement on North East Atlantic herring Coastal States agreement on mackerel NEAFC agreement on deep sea species	December 2006 July 2006 onwards November 2006 November 2006-February 2007 November 2006 2007



Objective	Sub-objectives (delivery agents in brackets)	Milestones	Target dates
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Press for Fisheries Partnership Agreements which satisfy stock management needs and the needs of developing countries (Defra/Devolved Administrations/DfID) 	Let research contract on impact of the change from access agreements to FPAs Discussion with European Commission to follow up FPA Seminar	July/August 2006 end 2006
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follow-up to Commission paper setting out how the EU will fulfil its WSSD commitments, particularly on Maximum Sustainable Yield (Defra/SEERAD) 	Publication of European Commission paper	Autumn 2006
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide input to the review of EU technical conservation legislation (Defra, Devolved Administrations) 	Publication of EU review	Autumn 2006
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participate in Regional Fisheries Management Organisations to promote international fisheries conservation in line with EU policy (SEERAD/Defra/DfID/FCO) 	Continued reform of NAFO NAFO AGM NEAFC AGM ICATT AGM Second meeting for setting up the South Pacific RFMO Future of NEAFC WG	Sept 2006 Sept 2006 November 2006 November 2006 November 2006 Spring 2007
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NEAFC regulation of Rockall haddock fishery (Defra, SEERAD) 	Negotiations with Russia to agree joint science programme	November 2006



Objective	Sub-objectives (delivery agents in brackets)	Milestones	Target dates
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Second pilot on reducing discards (Defra) 	Launch of pilot	2006-7
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support the development and implementation of a network of Marine Protected Areas which support the aims of sustainable fisheries management and promote habitat recovery, in line with the WSSD oceans commitment to establish representative networks of marine protected areas by 2012 (Defra) 	Trial	September 2006 onwards
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote regulation of fishing effort in EU fisheries management plans to ensure sustainable exploitation of fish stocks in UK waters (Defra/Devolved Administrations) 	Review of Deep Water Species Regulation	November 2006
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish a collaborative “Sustainable Marine Bioresources” research programme (Defra) 	Establish Fisheries Science Stakeholder Group	July 2006
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Co-ordinate MariFish, a network of major funders of European marine fisheries research (Defra) 	Progress report to European Commission Research priorities workshop	July 2006 December 2006
II. Monitoring and regulating fishing capacity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effort limitation originally introduced in EU cod recovery plan to be extended to other vulnerable stocks where appropriate (Defra/Devolved Administrations) 	Ongoing review. Discussion at EU Fisheries Council in December	December 2006

Objective	Sub-objectives (delivery agents in brackets)	Milestones	Target dates
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decommissioning scheme aimed at beam trawlers that target the Western Channel sole management area¹⁶ (Defra) 	Delivery of scheme	2007
III. Ratification and implementation of international fisheries agreements and arrangements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UN General Assembly (Defra) Ratification by St Helena and her dependencies (Ascension Islands and Tristan da Cunha) of the South East Atlantic Fisheries Organisation (FCO) 	Meeting in New York	October 2006
IV. Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated fishing	UK to support & facilitate implementation of HSTF recommendations (Defra/FCO/DfID):		
	(i) Establish enhanced international monitoring, control and surveillance network (to be part-funded by the WSSD Implementation Fund)	Project initiation	October 2006
		Network fully in place	April 2009
	(ii) Develop international fishing vessel information system (FISHVIS)	Scoping study by Australia & New Zealand	During 2006
		FISHVIS in place	2009
(iii) Increase international participation in United Nations Fish Stocks Agreement	Agreed HSTF engagement strategy	July 2006	
(iv) Promote better high seas governance (to be part-funded by the WSSD Implementation Fund)	Develop a model for improved governance by Regional Fisheries Management Organisations (RFMOs)	Model by March 2007	

¹⁶ This scheme will only be run when a management plan for that fishery is agreed with the European Commission



Objective	Sub-objectives (delivery agents in brackets)	Milestones	Target dates
	(v) Adopt and promote guidelines on flag state performance	Active lobbying	July 2006 – March 2008
	(vi) Promotion of UN Fisheries & Agriculture Organisation’s (FAO) model port state controls scheme	Consideration of UK’s and Overseas Territories’ arrangements Port State Control scheme in NEAFC Case study on EU port state controls and demand-side mechanisms relevant to international development issues	During 2006 October 2006 2006-7
	(vii) Filling gaps in scientific knowledge and assessment (to be part-funded by the WSSD Implementation Fund)	UK to establish IUU tracking unit Agreed HSTF strategy on scientific issues	July 2006 November 2006
	(viii) Work to address the needs of developing countries	Project in Sierra Leone Sub-Saharan African conference on IUU fishing	2007 2007
	(ix) Promote better use of technological solutions	Agreed HSTF engagement strategy	Early 2007

Objective	Sub-objectives (delivery agents in brackets)	Milestones	Target dates
V. Subsidies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Help to secure a successful outcome on fisheries subsidies at WTO negotiations (DTI/Defra/DfID/FCO) • Provide UK input to discussion on EU proposals on approach to subsidies in international fora (DTI/Defra/DfID/FCO) 	Submission of EU paper on subsidies to WTO	2006/7
VI. International development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Namibia-led / SADC ministerial and conference • Downstream activities defined at conference 	Meeting Agreed priorities and programme proposal	November 2006 January 2007
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support programme for Sierra Leone defined and agreed (see IV viii above) 	Fisheries Sector Strategy Paper Agreed long-term Technical Assistance programme	July 2006 November 2006
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Help ensure better coordination to support fisheries development and management of capacity in developing countries: ongoing (DfID in partnership with multilaterals and other donors and developing countries Governments) 	[linked to the above]	



Objective	Sub-objectives (delivery agents in brackets)	Milestones	Target dates
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assist developing countries in implementing the CCRF: implementation of remainder of agreed £21m Sustainable Fisheries Livelihoods Programme to 2006 (DfID in partnership with FAO and West African Governments) 	Programme completion Next steps defined	April 2007 December 2006
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote coherence in international fisheries policy (including follow up of Council Conclusions on third country agreements, `work with OECD and with Commission’s Rolling Programme on Policy Coherence): ongoing (Defra lead with DfID and FCO supporting interest; DfID lead on Rolling Programme work) 	Programme of work on FPAs established between DfID and Defra Joint DfID/Defra study on Impact of access agreements	July 2006 May-August 2006
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participate in and influence RFMOs to provide an equitable share of resources to developing countries: annual meeting and others as required (FCO lead, DfID supporting interest) 	RFMO panel and reform process (Canada funded and UK-led; based at Chatham House)	May 2006 -Feb 2007

Annex 2 – Progress on key milestones in 2005 delivery plan

I. Restoring and maintaining fish stocks

Objective	Milestone	Progress
Sustainable exploitation of living aquatic resources, with particular regard to commercial fish stocks: EU	Stock recovery measures adopted under the CFP.	Updated recovery plans for cod (in the North Sea, West of Scotland, Irish Sea and Eastern Channel) and sole (in the Western Channel) agreed at December Council.
	Joint UK response to Strategy Unit recommendations	Published June 2005
Improve stakeholder engagement in EU fisheries management policy	North West Waters and Pelagic RACs established	Set up in 2005

II. Management of fishing capacity

Objective	Milestone	Progress
To monitor and regulate fishing capacity, to implement the UNFAO plan of action	Effort limitation to be extended to other vulnerable stocks where appropriate	Updated recovery plans (as above)

III. Ratification and implementation of international fisheries agreements and arrangements

Objective	Milestone	Progress
Implementation of UN Fish Stocks Agreement in UK Overseas Territories	Review of measures for UNFA in Overseas Territories. Ratification of South East Atlantic Fisheries Organisation Convention on behalf of St Helena	Review of measures in OTs complete. Await confirmation of ratification of SEAFO on behalf of St Helena

IV. Illegal, Unregulated and Unreported Fishing

Objective	Milestone	Progress
Prevent, deter and eliminate IUU fishing	FAO Ministerial Declarations	Published in March 2005
	Ministerial Task Force report on IUU in 2006	Report launched in March 2006; UK now working with others to follow up on recommendations; UK IUU Coordination Unit established (part-funded by WSSD Implementation Fund)

V. Subsidies

Objective	Milestone	Progress
Agree new rules in WTO on fisheries subsidies regime that take developing countries into account	UK committed to achieving successful outcome to Hong Kong Ministerial, December 2005	WTO discussions on fisheries subsidies continue

VI. International development

Objective	Milestone	Progress
Ensure UK/EU policies impacting on developing countries are coherent with international development goals	DfID-funded conference on policy coherence at OECD	Completed and report available
	Engagement with European Commission on FPAs	Ongoing
Support equitable share of straddling and highly migratory fish stocks for developing coastal states	Negotiations in RFMOs and at UN	Negotiations are ongoing

Support developing country capacity in fisheries	Appraisal of fisheries support programme to Sierra Leone (collaboration between World Bank and EU)	Complete
Help developing countries implement the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries	Annual monitoring to end-of-programme (Sustainable Fisheries Livelihoods Programme) in October 2006	Annual monitoring has been taking place

Annex 3 – Other achievements since 2002 summit

I. Restoring and maintaining fish stocks

2002: Reform of CFP framework regulation, enabling adoption of emergency measures to limit environmental degradation, stock recovery plans, management of fishing effort, long term management plans and adoption of ecosystem approach in EU fisheries management

2002: Launched two major projects to develop and test indicators which will help the UK to adopt an ecosystem based approach

2003: North Sea herring recovers to within safe biological limits for the first time since stocks collapsed in 1970s

2003: Reduced quotas and fleet restructure brings mortality rates for North Sea haddock and whiting down to levels consistent with MSY

2003: Established Fisheries Science Partnership in England to enable fishermen and scientists to work together to improve information on stocks

2003: EU cod recovery plan implemented, including limit on number of fishing days at sea

March 2004: Prime Minister's Strategy Unit published *Net Benefits*

2004: FAO report on global fish stocks

2004: EU and Norway agree to start negotiations for joint management arrangements for four new stocks in North Sea

2004: European Commission Communication on improving scientific advice adopted

2004: Long term management plans consistent with WSSD commitment to manage in accordance with MSY agreed with Norway for North Sea herring, North Sea haddock and Northern Shelf saithe

2004: Scottish industry-science partnership established to assess state of Northern shelf anglerfish stocks

2004: North Sea Regional Advisory Council (RAC) set up

2005: North West Waters and Pelagic RACs set up

June 2005: UK Fisheries Administrations respond to *Net Benefits* in the report *Securing the Benefits*

June 2005: Scottish Executive publishes a *Sustainable Framework for Scottish Sea Fisheries*

October 2005: Defra respond to Strategy Unit recommendations in *Charting a New Course*

2005: Long term management plan for North Sea cod agreed with Norway, consistent with WSSD commitment to manage in accordance with MSY

2005: Bilateral agreement between EU and Norway for regulation of North East Atlantic herring

2005: First agreement between North East Atlantic coastal states for regulation of Blue Whiting

2005: Catch limits for North Sea langoustine fisheries established at F0.1 level, as interim proxy for MSY

December 2005: UK submitted a proposal on improving the process for deciding Total Allowable Catches and quotas to the European Commission

2005-6: Pilot on reducing discards conducted in the North Sea

January 2006: Mari-Fish ERANET science partnership launched

April 2006: Convention of North Atlantic Fisheries Organisation amended

May 2006: Publication of the UK Government and Scottish Executive responses to the Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution report *Turning the Tide*¹⁷ on addressing the damage caused to marine ecosystems by fishing

II. Management of fishing capacity

2002: EU action plan on management of fishing capacity adopted; agreement secured to end EU subsidies for new vessels after 2004

2002: Review of Common Fisheries Policy set overall limit on EU fleet

2003 : Agreement at EU level that effort limitation in cod recovery plan would be extended to other vulnerable stocks where appropriate

2001, 2003: Decommissioning grant schemes – 18% cut in tonnage of UK whitefish fleet

June 2006: EU agreement on the European Fisheries Fund for 2007-2013; the ban on EU grants for new vessels has been maintained and provisions for re-engining come with safeguards against increased capacity

III. Ratification and implementation of international fisheries agreements and arrangements

December 2001: UK ratification of the 1995 UNFSA¹⁸ Agreement and related instruments on behalf of the Overseas Territories Pitcairn, Henderson, Ducie and Oeno Islands, Falkland Islands, South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands, Bermuda, Turks and Caicos Islands, British Indian Ocean Territory, British Virgin Islands and Anguilla

¹⁷ <http://www.rcep.org.uk/fishreport.htm>

¹⁸ Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks

November 2003: EU ratification of UN Fish Stocks Agreement (UNFSA)

December 2003: The UK ratified the 1995 Agreement (as above) in respect of Great Britain & Northern Ireland

December 2003: UNFA part VII trust fund established

2004, 2005: United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) resolutions.

May 2006: Review of UNFSA

IV. Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated fishing

May 2003: Commission Communication on EU Action Plan on IUU fishing

December 2003: OECD Ministerial Task Force announced

May 2006: HSTF event at UNFSA meeting in New York

May 2006: Inception meeting on international fishing vessel information system and enhanced international monitoring, control and surveillance network (HSTF)

V. Elimination of subsidies

2002: Agreement secured to end EU subsidies for new vessels after 2004

July 2004: WTO achieved Framework Agreement on the Doha Development Agenda (DDA) negotiations, which moved forward the negotiations as a whole.

End 2004: UK pressed for WTO negotiations to recognise the needs of developing countries.

VI. International development

August 2003: Mid term review completed for Sustainable Fisheries Livelihoods Programme. Annual monitoring to end-of-programme in October 2006.

July 2004: EU Council Conclusions on Third Country Agreements. Included incorporation of impact assessment into EU fisheries agreements with third countries.

June 2006: £700,000 allocated by UK (DfID) over 2 years to Namibia/SADC initiative to tackle IUU in Sub-Saharan Africa

Continuous negotiations in Regional Fisheries Management Organisations (RFMOs) and at UN around equitable share for straddling and highly migratory fish stocks for developing countries.

Levels of investment in fisheries capacity in international development budgets monitored through donor agency reports to FAO COFI (meeting in March 2005)

Annex 4 - Principal stakeholders and delivery agents

Government Departments and agencies:

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra)
Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO)
Department for International Development (DfID)
Department for Trade and Industry (DTI)
Her Majesty's Treasury (HMT)
Department for Transport (DfT)
Scottish Executive Environment and Rural Affairs Department (SEERAD)
Welsh Assembly Government (WAG)
Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, Northern Ireland (DARD)
Marine Fisheries Agency (MFA)
Local Authority Sea Fisheries Committees
Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science (CEFAS)
Fisheries Research Service, Scotland (FRS)
Environment Agency for England and Wales
Scottish Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA)
Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC)
Environment and Heritage Service, Northern Ireland (EHS)
English Nature (EN)
Countryside Council for Wales (CCW)
Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH)

The industry:

National and regional fish producers' organisations
Individual fishermen/companies and associations
Fish processors
Retailers
Ports and port services

Countries and international organisations:

UK Overseas Territories and Crown Dependencies (including the Isle of Man, and the Channel Islands)
National Governments - in particular countries party to Third Country Agreements – in the developed and developing world
European Union: institutions and Member States
International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES)
Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)
Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) - United Nations
Oslo-Paris Convention (OSPAR)
International Monetary Fund (IMF), World Bank, Global Environment Facility etc (HMT and DfID stakeholders in international development)
International Maritime Organisation (IMO)

Others:

Environmental organisations and other Non-Governmental Organisations

Recreational and sport fishermen.

The general public (including in their capacities as communities, consumers and tourists)