



1 June 2023

Call for Expression of Interest: Regional PMP/AB TWG

Membership to the Regional Technical Working Group (RTWG) on Progressive Management Pathway for Aquaculture Biosecurity (PMP/AB)

(GCP/GLO/352/NOR: Responsible use of fisheries and aquaculture resources
for sustainable development - Component 3)

Background

The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations is implementing Component 3 of the Project GCP/GLO/352/NOR: Responsible use of fisheries and aquaculture resources for sustainable development.

Component 3 has an expected outcome that Country competent authorities and aquaculture stakeholders enhance capacities to improve health of aquatic animals and plants, reduce disease burden and minimise transboundary spread of diseases through PMP/AB. There are four outputs:

- Output 3.1: Enhanced capacities on risk assessment and risk communication and understanding of disease burden.
- Output 3.2: Strengthened implementation of biosecurity action plans (at farm and national levels).
- Output 3.3: Improved preparedness and contingency planning and response to disease emergencies.
- Output 3.4: Management, administration and implementation support for Outcome 3.

During the last few years, the FAO, WOA, NACA and industry and academic/research partners have developed the “Progressive Management Pathway for Aquaculture Biosecurity or PMP/AB” which is an extension of the ‘Progressive Control Pathways’ (PCP) used for controlling major livestock and zoonotic diseases. It focuses on building management capacity through combined bottom-up/top-down approaches with strong stakeholder engagement. It aims at promoting the application of risk management at the producer and industry levels, as part of a coordinated national approach.

The PMP/AB has been welcomed and endorsed by the FAO COFI/Sub-Committee on Aquaculture (10th, 11th and 12th sessions). In particular, the 10th session recommended the establishment of a Technical Working Group of the PMP/AB which now serves as the main mechanism to implement the PMP/AB under the auspices of Project 352.

NACA and FAO are collaboratively working on the development of the Regional Aquatic Organism Health Strategy (RAOHS) to support the implementation of PMP/AB in the Asia-Pacific region. The Regional Technical Working Group (RTWG) for PMP/AB will be established to undertake the following tasks:

1. **Provide strategic direction and leadership** in the implementation of activities relevant to **Outputs 3.1, 3.2 and 3.3**
2. **Specifically**, the RTWG will, at the regional level:
 - a. take a lead in the roll-out of PMP/AB, starting with the development and/or revision/updating of RAOHS using available FAO PMP/AB guidance for application documents and relevant tools;
 - b. ensure a well-defined and guided policy on health management of aquatic organisms within the PMP/AB context;
 - c. provide guidance in enhancing awareness about PMP/AB, the overall PMP/AB communication stream and visibility and capacity building needs;
 - d. convene a subRTWG that will deal with specific technical areas, as necessary;

- e. meet on a regular basis (within a 10-month period)
- f. prepare a 10-month work plan (July 2023 to April 2024) with concrete deliverables and time-line.

Applications for membership to the PMP/AB RTWG is open to candidates with the following qualifications: degree in aquaculture, biology, fishery science, veterinary medicine, or related field; academic and professional work and experience related to health management of aquatic organisms (finfish/crustacean/mollusk/seaweed), aquaculture biosecurity, aquatic health information system, education and learning tools, policy and governance, diagnostics, surveillance, field and laboratory work.

Expressions of interest may be sent via email to Jie HUANG, Director-General of NACA (jie.huang@enaca.org), with cc to Melba Reantaso, Team Leader of NFIMF, FAO (Melba.Reantaso@fao.org), **on or before 20 June 2023** and should contain the following: **(i)** motivation letter, **(ii)** curriculum vitae or bio-data, **(iii)** list of publications or projects.

Selected candidates will be informed by the end of June 2023 and the first meet-and-greet meeting of the official PMP/AB RTWG will be held in first week of July 2023.