



AKTEA report of activity 2006 to 2007

AKTEA network was constituted in May 2006 in Ancona (Italy). During the first year the network has mainly concentrated on the official registration of the network under the French law and opened a bank account.

The network is officially recognised by French authorities under the law of 1901 concerning Associations. The creation of the Association was published in the official journal of France the 17th of March 2006. The network has opened a bank account at “Crédit Agricole” in Brest.

Others activities

A meeting was organised between AKTEA and the Scandinavian Network in September 2006 where they discussed the future collaboration between the two networks and the identification of actions to be conducted at European level.

The facilitator and the chair of the network met in September 2006 and they discussed the actions to be conducted by the network and spoke about the organisation of the next AKTEA meeting in Northern Ireland. The objective was to consolidate the AKTEA network by calling European Women organisations to join the network. A letter from the Chair asking the organisations to become members of the network was sent out. Then the chair asked the commission how the network could obtain official recognition by European Union. The European Commission replied to this saying that they recommended the network to integrate the different Regional Advisory Council (RAC) as well the Advisory Committee on Fisheries and Aquaculture (ACFA).

Participation in conference or others events

The network was invited to give a speech on women role in fisheries in Europe at the Fisheries Commission of European Parliament which visited the Brittany Region. The local fisheries women's association, fisher women on an individual level and the network explained to the MEP which type of problems the women face in artisanal fisheries around Europe. The network explained that the recognition of the European Directive 86/613 by all European members' states is one of the main actions of the network. Fisher women of Italy, Greece, Ireland and others don't have access to the collaborative spouse status which permits them to access to a retirement pension as a wife of a fisher or shellfish farmer. Training for women and revaluation of some jobs done by women (net mending, fish vendors) is necessary if we want to develop fisheries areas. Translational networks need support from European and National authorities were another idea presented during this discussion. Communication within the network is difficult as European fisher's women don't speak foreigner's languages. Translation is difficult to obtain as the network doesn't have the financial capacity to do it.

Conferences

The network was invited by Bretagne region to participate at the European Conference on “Social aspects of EU maritime policy”. During this conference the network spoke about the official recognition of jobs practiced by women (shell fishing gathering, net mending, etc...).



Women working within the fisheries enterprise need training to accomplish their tasks better. Accident insurance for fishers working on boats having another European country's flag was also mentioned as well as the work contract of persons working on commercial boats.

Others

AKTEA proposed some actions to members concerning European Fisheries Funds. AKTEA members could prepare their own position and send it to the national authorities in charge of the establishment of the national strategic plan.

Publication of AKTEA newsletter in September 2006.

Organisation of AKTEA conference

In July 2006, NIWIF submitted a proposal to the Northern Ireland authorities for the organisation of the 2nd meeting of the network. The proposal was accepted to be financed. NIWIF started the practical organisation of the meeting in collaboration with AKTEA.

The board prepared the main issues of the 2nd AKTEA meeting which were sent to all the members. AKTEA members were given two months to send back to the secretariat changes, modifications or additions to the programme, which was finalise during the middle of March. Simultaneously letters were sent to the European Commission informing them about the meeting and inviting them to participate.

Collaboration between NIWIF and AKTEA secretaries was necessary for the success of the conference. Material and practical problems were faced and solved together.