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**WESTERN CENTRAL ATLANTIC FISHERY COMMISSION (WECAFC)****FOURTEENTH SESSION****Panama City, Panama, 6-9 February 2012****Resolution of the members of the Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission on strengthening the implementation of international fisheries instruments**

*The Members of the Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission:*

*Recalling* the relevant provisions of the Statute of the Commission,

*Mindful* that the international community deplores the fact that fish stocks, including straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks, in many parts of the world are overfished or subject to sparsely regulated and heavy fishing efforts, as highlighted in recent United Nations General Assembly Resolutions on Sustainable Fisheries including Resolution A/Res/64/72 of 4 December 2009 and A/Res/65/38 of 7 December 2010,

*Noting* with deep concern the declining global catch of fisheries, the increased percentage of overexploited, depleted or recovering stocks, the fact that the situation seems more critical for some highly migratory, straddling and other fishery resources that are exploited solely or partially in the high seas, and the overall reduction of 30 percent during the past decade in capture fisheries voluntary international fisheries instruments and their effective implementation,

*Mindful* that the international fisheries instruments are based upon and applied consistently with the legally binding 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, including the voluntary 1995 FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries which itself serves as a basis for the development of relevant instruments,

*Noting* the progress made towards implementing relevant international fisheries instruments by

international fisheries instruments, including the

