

**International Symposium on “*Marine fisheries, ecosystems, and societies in West Africa: half a century of change*,” Dakar, Senegal, June 26 – 28 2002**

**Session on “*Development of the fisheries and their catches*,” Wednesday, June 26 2002.**

**Chronicles of catches from marine fisheries  
off the Eastern Central Atlantic for 1950-2000**

Luca GARIBALDI<sup>1</sup> and Richard GRAINGER<sup>1</sup>

**Abstract**

FAO capture fishery production statistics for the Eastern Central Atlantic are analysed in order to describe trends and changes in development phases of fisheries exploiting the main resources during the period 1950-2000. Catch trends since 1970 are analysed and described by the coastal CECAF statistical divisions on the basis of the recently revised ISSCAAP species groups. Shares of catches by Distant Water Fleets (DWFs) are also described. A dramatic development of fisheries is evident during the period from a situation where 90% of the main resources were classified as having undeveloped fisheries to the present when 68% are classified as mature or in decline.

---

<sup>1</sup> Fisheries Information, Data and Statistics Unit, FAO, Via delle Terme di Caracalla, 00100 Rome, Italy; Tel.: +39 (06) 570 56 380; Fax: +39 (06) 5705 3605; E-mail: [Richard.Grainger@FAO.ORG](mailto:Richard.Grainger@FAO.ORG).