

Resolution on NPSSFW(I) Network [These Guidelines are to be followed as necessary in due course]

A. Regarding Affiliation to the National Platform

Any organisation willing to be affiliated to the National Platform for Small Scale Fish Workers (Inland) will have to apply for affiliation in given application form stating its acceptance of the Mission Statement and agreement to abide by the discipline of the National Platform for Small Scale Fish Workers (Inland).

The National Committee of the National Platform for Small Scale Fish Workers (Inland) is the sole authority to grant affiliation.

B. Regarding Preferred Form of Organisation

Considering different forms of organisations like associations, cooperatives etc. the National Platform for Small Scale Fish Workers (Inland) resolves that trade union of fish workers is the most suitable primary organisation to protect life and livelihood of small scale fish workers. As such the National Platform for Small Scale Fish Workers (Inland) will take relentless efforts to primarily develop small scale fish workers' trade unions all over the country.

Small scale fish workers' trade unions may work with cooperatives or associations of fish workers and play mutually complimentary role.

The National Platform for Small Scale Fish Workers (Inland) will strive to emerge as the National Federation of small scale fish workers' trade unions.

C. Regarding Structure of the Network

Primary Affiliates: Organisations of fish workers working at the grassroots level, preferably trade unions, shall be the primary affiliates to NPSSFW(I). At initial stage, however, other kinds of fish workers' community based organisations like cooperatives or associations who are taking steps towards formation of trade unions may also be affiliated, if they complete the process of formation of trade unions in a prescribed period.

State Centres: One or more affiliated organisations from a given state may form state centres of NPSSFW(I) to accomplish tasks assigned by and coordinate activities of the network.

Regional Hubs: Considering the vastness of our country and the fact that fishing communities are almost in every corner of the country, it is impossible to direct all activities from a single centre. Therefore, it is proposed that 6 regional hubs of NPSSFW(I) will be constituted to have regional cooperation and coordination in defending the interests of small scale fishing communities. The suggested hubs will operate in the Northern, Eastern, Southern, Western, Central and North-Eastern states.

Regional hubs will be constituted by representatives of primary fishing community organisations of the region in consultation with the National Council of NPSSFW(I).



National Council: National Council is the highest organisational body of NPSSFW(I). All affiliates of NPSSFW(I) will be represented in the National Council at least by one representative. The National Council will be constituted by the National Conference. The National Council may co-opt up to five (5) members if deemed necessary for the functioning of the National Council. The National Council will elect office bearers to attend to the regular business of the committee.

Office Bearers:

There may be –

1 Chief Convener – to head the organisation and lead and represent it as a whole.

1 National Coordinator – to coordinate activities of the platform nationally.

6 National Conveners (one each from every region) – to lead and coordinate regional activities and maintain liaison with national centre.

1 Delhi Office Coordinator – to be in charge of the Platform's Office at Delhi to attend to jobs related to the platform in the national capital.

National Conference:

National Conference is the highest policy making body of NPSSFW(I). It constitutes the National Council.

It is proposed that –

1.All affiliated organisations shall have themselves represented in the National Conference.

2. The National conference may co-opt by invitation such persons who have rendered indispensable service to the small scale fish workers National Platform or organisations.

3. The National conference shall take such steps as are necessary to facilitate sufficient representation of women fish workers.

Advisors:

NPSSFW(I) will honour experienced persons with special ability to help in directing and running the organisation as advisors to the organisation.

Preparation for Federation of Small Scale Fish Workers -

Appointment of a committee to take steps towards formation of a Federation of Small Scale Fish Workers and draw a draft constitution for the same.