

Executive Committee

Minutes

Wednesday, 18 September 2024 (13:30 – 16:00 CET)

Copa Cogeca (Meeting Room A), Rue de Trèves 61, 1040 Brussels

Interpretation in EN, ES, FR

Welcome from the Chair, Yobana Bermúdez

Click [here](#) to access the Chair's presentation.

The Chair welcomed the new Commissioner for fisheries on behalf of the MAC.

Adoption of the agenda and of the last meeting's minutes (03.07.24): adopted

Action points

- **State-of-play of the action points of the last meeting – information**
- Sustainability Indicators:
 - Once a formal invitation from the VeriFish project for engagement is received, a formal decision to be made at the next meeting or, beforehand, via a written consultation
 - Following a letter of invitation, an urgent written consultation took place from 22 to 29 July 2024 to confirm the Secretary General as member of the project's External Advisory Board
- Work Programme of Year 9 (2024-2025):
 - Secretariat to proceed with the formal submission of the draft work programme and of the draft budget to the European Commission
 - Formal submission of the draft work programme & draft budget: 27 July 2024
 - Commission has already approved the draft budget

Common Fisheries Policy

- **Presentation on the ongoing evaluation by Evelien Ranshuysen (MARE D3)**

Click [here](#) to access the presentation.

Evelien Ranshuysen (DG MARE) informed that the exchange with the MAC was the first of a series of dedicated sessions with all the Advisory Councils on the ongoing evaluation of the Common Fisheries Policy. Ms Ranshuysen recalled that, prior to any legislative action by the Commission, an evaluation is required. A call for evidence was published with 6 September 2024 as the deadline and a public consultation is scheduled to be launched in December 2024 running for 12 weeks. At the same time, other connected evaluations take place and will feed into the evaluation of the CFP Regulation. Under



the Fisheries and Oceans package of 2023, one of the key deliverables was a report on the functioning of the Common Fisheries Policy. The ongoing evaluation will build on other studies and evaluations, including those on the Landing Obligation, on the Sustainable Fisheries Partnership Agreements, and on the mid-term European, Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund and ex-post European Maritime and Fisheries Fund.

Ms Ranshuysen explained that, under the call for evidence on the evaluation of the Common Fisheries Policy, 87 responses were received, which would help inform the assessment. The evaluation would provide an evidence-based assessment of whether the regulation is still fit for purpose or where lessons can be learned for improving. It would consider why something has occurred and, if possible, how much has changed as a consequence. The evaluation would be based on the five criteria of the Better Regulation Guidelines (effectiveness, efficiency, relevance, coherence, EU added value).

Ms Ranshuysen pointed out that, even though a new Commissioner for fisheries had been designated, the public hearings for the confirmation of the new college were still pending. The President of the European Commission sent a mission letter to each Commissioner-designate. In the case of the mission letter to Commissioner-designate Kadis¹, the need to work on a European Ocean Pact is mentioned. The Commissioner is also tasked with completing and follow-up on the comprehensive evaluation of the Common Fisheries Policy.

Ms Ranshuysen highlighted that the MAC had actively provided contributed with advice on the functioning of the Common Fisheries Policy. The Commission representative mentioned some of the feedback previously provided by the Advisory Council.

Ms Ranshuysen added that that a year-long study would be conducted to support the evaluation of the Common Fisheries Policy. Participation from the stakeholders was expected. Once the study is finalised, the Commission would be adopting a Staff Working Document by the end of 2025.

- **Exchange of views**

The Chair encouraged members to provide their views on whether the Common Fisheries Policy was effective, efficient, relevant, and provided added value. The Chair also encouraged members to share their views on the involvement of stakeholders in the EU-decision making process as well as on the cooperation between the industry and other stakeholders.

Janne Posti (Conxemar) requested information on the connection between the call for evidence and the planned targeted consultation. He also requested information on the connection between the previous evaluation on the functioning of the Common Fisheries Policy and the new evaluation.

Evelien Ranshuysen (DG MARE) explained that, when the Commission conducts an evaluation, it adheres to a specific timeline and format. Under the Better Regulation Guidelines, the call for

¹ https://commission.europa.eu/document/download/028ce7d5-e328-4416-8f0d-35c8884acaa8_en?filename=Mission%20letter%20-%20KADIS.pdf



evidence allows all citizens and stakeholders to submit relevant documents. There would also be a public consultation, which would consist of an online EU-survey.

Ms Ranshuysen emphasised that the report on the functioning of the Common Fisheries Policy provided a state-of-play of the policy, reviewing each provision, and providing some conclusions, for example on the poor compliance with the Landing Obligation. The new evaluation would be more comprehensive to meet the five criteria of the Better Evaluation Guidelines.

Patrick Murphy (IS&WFPO) emphasised that the evaluation should take into account the impact of the policy on the industry and those directly affected by it. On the alleged non-compliance with the Landing Obligation, Mr Murphy stated that the industry had repeatedly highlighted the complexities of the Landing Obligation, but that the Commission never seemed to mention what the industry had done to comply with it. In his view, the new evaluation should consider how the policy has affected both the marine environment and those who rely on it. Issues such as Brexit, marine protect areas, and wind energy should be considered. He underscored that fishers are the “custodians of the sea”. He urged the Commission to investigate why there is non-compliance with the Landing Obligation, adding that rules should reflect the realities on the ground.

Evelien Ranshuysen (DG MARE) responded that the evaluation would indeed explore why certain provisions, such as the Landing Obligation, are working or not. Ms Ranshuysen highlighted that there is a study ongoing on the Landing Obligation. She expressed the conclusion made in previous studies on the landing obligation pointing out to an increased collaboration between fishers and scientists in avoiding unwanted catches. The Commission representative reassured that the evaluation would cover the past decade, examining developments across all dimensions including environmental, economic, and social aspects, for example on regionalisation, and management of shared stocks. While issues of standard of living were not part of the previous evaluation, these would be included in the new one following the provisions and the objectives set out in the CFP Regulation.

Javier Ojeda (FEAP) argued that, for the aquaculture industry, the Common Fisheries Policy had not been effective. The objectives of the policy for aquaculture focused on making the sector more sustainable, while not providing clear definitions. In his view, the policy had been ineffective, irrelevant, and incoherent for aquaculture, providing little added value. Mr Ojeda drew attention to advice of the Aquaculture Advisory Council, which called for aquaculture policy to be separated from the Common Fisheries Policy Regulation.

Laure Guillevic (WWF) informed that her organisation contributed to the call for evidence. From her perspective, the Common Fisheries Policy had been effective and efficient, providing tangible progress for more sustainable fisheries, even though further efforts where need to reach levels of Maximum Sustainable Yield. Ms Guillevic argued that a better implementation of existing articles, instead of a revision, was needed.

Evelien Ranshuysen (DG MARE) informed that a dedicated session would take place with the Aquaculture Advisory Council, adding that it is important to specify “why” the policy (or implementation) might not be delivering as expected. Ms Ranshuysen stated that due note was taken of WWF’s contribution.



Vanya Vulperhorst (Oceana) asked for more information about the study that will contribute to the Staff Working Document. Ms Vulperhorst expressed agreement with Ms Guillevic, since the policy was fit for purpose, but there was a lack of political will to fully implement it, including on the efforts to reach Maximum Sustainable Yield and rebuild stocks. In her view, more could be done for a fairer allocation of fishing opportunities to low impact and small-scale fishers.

Ms Vulperhorst argued that more information to consumers should be facilitated, including through the provisions of the Common Market Organisation Regulation. The Common Fisheries Policy should be strengthened to ensure that imported products meet similar standards than those of EU products. She added that the Common Fisheries Policy was relevant and provided added value.

Pierre Commère (AIPCE) requested clarity on whether the Common Market Organisation Regulation would be part of the evaluation of the Common Fisheries Policy, since the MAC should provide input regarding the future of the supply of the market. Mr Commère emphasised the importance of addressing competitiveness in the evaluation. There should be a clustered approach to the evaluation, focusing on the relevance for the Union, instead of a mere breakdown of the policy across Member States. He commented that, under the mandate of the ceasing college of the European Commission, there had been a focus on sustainability, particularly under the European Green Deal and the Farm to Fork Strategy, but several of the initiatives were not fully undertaken, so it was important to know how the new mandate would impact the pending initiatives.

Evelien Ranshuysen (DG MARE) responded that Article 35 of the CFP Regulation outlining provisions on the Common Market Organisation and the linked Regulation would be covered by the evaluation. Market provisions would be addressed in depth. Ms Ranshuysen informed that DG MARE was preparing a study on consumer information and on Producer Organisations, which followed-up on the report on the implementation of the Common Market Organisation. Stakeholders would be consulted by the selected consultant.

Gerd Heinen (DG MARE) confirmed that the Common Market Organisation would be covered by the ongoing evaluation. Mr Heinen stated that he took note of the suggestion of a cluster approach.

Evelien Ranshuysen (DG MARE), on the pending initiatives, highlighted that, under the mission letter to the Commissioner-designate, there were several references to the European Green Deal. Once the new Commissioner is informed by the services on the state-of-play of the ongoing initiatives, he would have to decide on the appropriate way forward.

Quentin Marchais (ClientEarth) expressed agreement with the interventions of Ms Vulperhorst and Ms Guillevic and informed that his organisation also replied to the call for evidence, focusing on issues such as the shortcomings in reaching Maximum Sustainable Yield, difficulties in the implementation of the Landing Obligation, policy coherence, and the relevance of Article 17 for low-impact fishers. Mr Marchais argued the European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund was meeting its objectives, but that a full implementation of the Common Fisheries Policy was necessary, before considering a reopening of the legislative framework.



Àngels Segura Unió (AECOC) wanted to know whether the evaluation would cover issues of traceability and of consumer information, particularly the relevance of the information provided to the consumers. Ms Segura highlighted that operators could face sanctions for not transmitting the legally required information, but that consumers did not always find this information to be relevant.

Evelien Ranshuysen (DG MARE) confirmed that the issues mentioned by Ms Segura would be under the scope of the evaluation. When evaluating the Common Market Organisation, the rules on consumer information would be covered, including potential gaps and the various areas of information. She mentioned again the external study covering the consumer information provisions of the Common Market Organisation Regulation commissioned by Unit A4 of DG MARE.

María Luisa Álvarez Blanco (FEDEPESCA) drew attention to the importance of traditional fishmongers in the Spanish market. In her view, both large and small retailers should be included in the evaluation. Ms Álvarez emphasised the difficulty in implementing some of the requirements on consumer information, emphasising the importance of addressing issues of practical implementation and the relevance for consumers. She expressed doubts about the efforts for increased sustainability of the EU sector, since, at the same time, there was a displacement of EU products by products from other sectors and from third countries.

Ms Álvarez expressed doubt on whether the Common Fisheries Policy was meeting its objectives, since there were fewer operators active in the sector. In her view, there should be a social analysis of the operators in the supply chain that there were lost. The focus should be on the number of people participating in the real economy, since there was an increasing number of people merely focusing on administration, policy, controls, and other related tasks, while the number of sector operators was continuously decreasing in Spain.

Jean-Marie Robert (Les Pêcheurs de Bretagne) requested information on the methodology of the evaluation, arguing that there should be a comparison with the objectives of the fisheries management policies of third countries, which would allow for a benchmark. He added that it would also be relevant to address issues such as sustainability and consumer information.

Evelien Ranshuysen (DG MARE) responded that such a comparison with third countries would depend on the legal provisions, exemplifying that only some countries have discard bans in place. Due to the specificity of EU fishers and the shared waters, it would be difficult to compare with third countries, but it would still be relevant to draw lessons; which has already been done in previous studies under Horizon2020 for example. Ms Ranshuysen emphasised that, under the evaluation, the external effects of the Common Fisheries Policy would be considered.

Aodh O'Donnell (IFPO) drew attention to the problem of unilateral setting of high fishing quotas, which should be considered in the context of coastal State agreements. Mr O'Donnell also emphasised the importance of considering the social pillar for coastal communities.

Evelien Ranshuysen (DG MARE) responded that the post-Brexit developments would be considered in the evaluation, covering stocks and the fishing profession, as the field of fisheries management was significantly impacted.



Emiel Brouckaert (EAPO) informed that his organisation provided an extensive response to the call for evidence. Mr Brouckaert added that the input could be used by the MAC when preparing the future advice on the evaluation of the Common Fisheries Policy.

The Chair thanked Ms Ranshuysen for the presentation and for answering the questions posed by the members, while also highlighting the expertise conveyed by them. The Chair drew attention to the decrease in the consumption of fishery and aquaculture products and the changes in the diet of EU citizens, which would have an impact on healthcare. She added that these factors should also be considered in the context of ongoing Horizon Europe projects, such as the Mr. Goodfish 3.0 project, which was presented at the 18 September 2024 meeting of Working Group 3.

- **Way forward**

The Chair recalled that, under the Work Programme for Year 9 (2024-2025), there was a commitment to deliver advice to the European Commission on the evaluation of the Common Fisheries Policy and on the Common Market Organisation. Therefore, the Secretariat would be proceeding with questionnaires to the members to gather feedback, which would later be considered by the Working Groups at the January 2025 meetings.

Working Groups

- **Reporting by Julien Lamothe, Chair of Working Group 1**

Julien Lamothe (EAPO) informed the Executive Committee that, at the 17 September 2024 meeting of Working Group 1:

- Members exchanged on the Fishers of the Future project, specifically on the draft fishers' profiles of fishers for 2050 developed by the external consultants. The consultants would be holding a workshop on 20 September 2024. The Secretary General would be attending the workshop, but other members could also attend, until a maximum of five representatives.
- Members considered draft advice on the study supporting the evaluation of the Landing Obligation. The Working Group decided that the agreed draft should be put forward to the Executive Committee for consideration and potential approval.
- Members resumed the consideration of the draft advice on the development of fishery sustainability indicators by STECF. The Working Group decided that the agreed draft should be put forward to the Executive Committee for consideration and potential approval.
- Members considered draft Terms of Reference for a workshop on Producer Organisations, covering operational good practices, projects, and management measures. The Working Group agreed to contact other Advisory Councils about their interest in co-organising, while also requesting involvement from DG MARE.

The Secretary General, regarding the draft advice on the development of fishery sustainability indicators by STECF, informed that he received an email message from Daniel Voces (Europêche) who



had been unable to attend the meeting. Europêche expressed appreciation for the work carried out by the Secretariat and the members on the draft advice. Europêche valued and agreed to a certain extent with some aspects of the text. However, as emphasised in previous meetings, also by EAPO, the indicators were outside the remit of the MAC. As an example, the level of detail regarding stock status, seabed impact, or bycatch, while important, fell within the competence of other Advisory Councils and not of the MAC.

According to Europêche, the system being proposed was overly simplistic, lacking the necessary depth to address the complexities of the different fisheries. The indicators were flawed, exhibiting a strong bias against documented fisheries. The indicators failed to consider specific characteristics of different fisheries, such as seabed type, the use of live bait, or varying impacts on species like birds versus fish. The indicators neglected important economic and social factors and provided no space to acknowledge or reward individual or collective efforts within the industry to make improvements. In their view, the system as proposed, was likely to create disruption in the supply chain and confuse the end consumer. Therefore, Europêche was opposed to the approval of the draft advice.

The Chair informed members that AIPCE-CEP had requested more time to review the draft advice. She suggested to proceed with a written procedure for approval, allowing members to have more time to consider the draft advice.

Emiel Brouckaert (EAPO) expressed support for the provision of more time for the review of the draft advice. Mr Brouckaert asked the Chair whether the document would be returned to Working Group 1.

The Chair proposed to proceed with a written procedure under the Executive Committee.

Pierre Commère (AIPCE) highlighted that the mentioned draft advice was originally focused on a technical report of STECF, but then several policy elements were introduced. It was difficult to cover both aspects under the same document, especially as there were significant divergencies among the membership concerning the policy aspects. Mr Commère expressed support for proceeding with a written procedure. In his view, it would be preferable to remove the issues related to consumer information policy from the draft text.

The Chair expressed hope that consensus could be reached under a written procedure.

The Executive Committee approved the advice on “Study supporting the evaluation of the Landing Obligation”

- **Reporting by Pierre Commère, Chair of Working Group 2**

Pierre Commère (AIPCE) informed the Executive Committee that, at the 17 September 2024 meeting of Working Group 2:

- The European Commission provided an update on ongoing structural dialogues with third countries on the fight against Illegal, Unregulated, Undocumented fishing. Members exchanged



about ongoing “carding procedures”. There was also an exchange about the new CATCH system and the provision of training to the authorities and stakeholders of third countries.

- The European Commission provided an update on trade developments. Issues discussed included the European Economic Area, the ongoing farmed Atlantic salmon cartel case, the Norwegian ban on the export of farmed Atlantic salmon of “production” grade, and Southeast Asia.
- The Commission delivered a presentation on the 2023 Economic Report on the EU Fish Processing Sector. Following the presentation, members considered draft advice for the next economic report. The Working Group reached agreement on the draft text and decided to put it forward to the Executive Committee for consideration and potential approval.
- Oceana delivered a presentation on their proposal for draft advice on due diligence in the fisheries and aquaculture sector. The Working Group concluded that further work for the development of advice on the topic was needed, which will continue at the January 2025 meeting. The Working Group decided to finalise a letter with questions to the European Commission, which will be put forwarded to the Executive Committee for approval via written procedure.

The Executive Committee approved the advice on “STECF’s Economic Report on the Fish Processing Industry (2025 edition)”

- **Reporting by Benoît Thomassen, Chair of Working Group 3**

Benoît Thomassen (FEAP) informed the Executive Committee that, at the 18 September 2024 meeting of Working Group 3:

- The study “Workshop on the European Green Deal – Challenges and opportunities for EU fisheries and aquaculture – Part III: Food security aspects”, which was commissioned by the European Parliament was presented to the members. The members exchanged with the external consultant on the matter, particularly focusing on the study’s policy recommendations.
- EUMEPS delivered a presentation on the impacts that the package reuse targets foreseen under the Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulation will have on EU fisheries, aquaculture, and fish processing industries. Following the presentation, members exchanged on the issue and agreed to send feedback to the Secretariat in writing, which will determine the relevance of proceeding with the development of draft advice on the topic.
- Representatives of the consortium of the Horizon Europe project “Mr. Goodfish 3.0: Empowering Sustainable Seafood Choices” delivered a presentation on their project.
- The Chair of the MAC-AAC Focus Group on Consumer Information in the HoReCa Sector delivered an update on the work of the Focus Group. The Members considered the draft advice prepared by the Focus Group. Following the agreement reached, the Working Group decided to put forward the draft advice to the Executive Committee for consideration and potential approval.



- As an AOB, FEAP made a short intervention on the definition of “food” in the context of the upcoming EU-level targets for food waste reduction.

The Executive Committee approved the advice on “Consumer information on fishery and aquaculture products, particularly in the context of the HoReCa sector”. The draft will be put forward to the Executive Committee of the Aquaculture Advisory Council for consideration and potential approval. In case of amendments, the Executive Committee of the MAC will be consulted again.

European Parliament

- **Information on the organisation of joint event with the Aquaculture Advisory Council and the North Sea Advisory Council to raise awareness about the role of the Advisory Councils under the Common Fisheries Policy by Pedro Reis Santos, Secretary General**

The Secretary General recalled that, following the recent European elections, many new members joined the European Parliament’s Committee on Fisheries. At the beginning of the previous parliamentary mandate, in 2019, an event was co-organised with the Aquaculture Advisory Council at the European Parliament to raise awareness among the members of the Committee on Fisheries about the role of the Advisory Councils. A similar event was under preparation with the Aquaculture Advisory Council and the North Sea Advisory Council. 12 of November 2024 was the tentative date for the event. The idea would be to hold the event during the lunch break of a full day meeting of the Committee on Fisheries, encouraging the participation of as many members and accredited parliamentary assistants as possible.

The Secretary General informed that exchanges with the offices of various Members of the European Parliament had been initiated. Mr Sander Smit (EPP, NL) expressed availability to host the event. Replies from other offices were pending. The aim would be to have several co-hosts, providing a cross-party nature to the event. In terms of agenda, there would be first a presentation by DG MARE on the role and functioning of the Advisory Councils, followed by brief presentations from the MAC, the Aquaculture Advisory Council, and the North Sea Advisory Council. An exchange of views with the participation of the other Advisory Councils was also foreseen. As an outcome, there was hope to reestablish the previous practice of “liaison MEPs” for each Advisory Council, while also raising awareness on the role of the Advisory Councils, especially in the context of the ongoing evaluation of the Common Fisheries Policy.

Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO)

- **Reporting back on the 36th Session of the Committee on Fisheries (Rome, 8 – 12 July 2024) by Pedro Reis Santos, Secretary General**

The Secretary General recalled that he attended the 36th Session of the Committee on Fisheries at the FAO, in Rome, from 8 to 12 July 2024 as part of the EU’s delegation. The Secretary General mentioned that the EU delegation included a high number of representatives, since the Commission officials took the opportunity to engage in bilateral dialogues with third countries on various issues, such as on Illegal, Undocumented, and Unregulated fishing. During the session, the new edition of



the State of World Fisheries and Aquaculture (SOFIA) report was presented, which highlighted that aquaculture production surpassed the production from wild capture fisheries for the first time. He suggested to invite the FAO to deliver a presentation of the report at the January 2025 meeting.

The Secretary General informed that, in the context of the session, the new Guidelines for Sustainable Aquaculture of the FAO were also presented. Additional discussions of relevance for the MAC focused on the decisions of the Sub-Committee on Fish Trade, the World Trade Organisation's agreement on fisheries subsidies, small-scale fisheries, Illegal, Unreported, and Undocumented fishing, and the role of fisheries and aquaculture for nutrition and food security. The Secretary General also informed that he informally met with representatives of several Member States, the European Commission, the FAO, other Advisory Councils, and other stakeholders. He noted that, in the course of the session, the representatives of the Commission expressed availability to include feedback from the MAC in the official positions of the EU.

The Secretary General explained that the, in the next year, there would be an online meeting of the Sub-Committee on Fish Trade, which would be relevant for the MAC to attend. The 37th Session of the Committee on Fisheries would take place in Rome in 2026. The Secretary General recalled that the draft report of the 36th Session, the publicly available positions of the EU, and other related documentation had been previously circulated to the members via email.

Financial Reserves

- **Decision on reinvesting part of the accumulated reserves in a savings account**

The Chair recalled that, in a previous occasion, € 100.000 were placed in a savings account with the ING bank, accruing around € 1.200 of net interest. The Chair asked the members for their support to repeat the investment.

Emiel Brouckaert (EAPO) commented about the relevance of comparing the mentioned offer with offers from other financial institutions to reach the best available rate.

Javer Ojeda (FEAP) expressed the view that it would be more cost-effective to proceed with ING, since the differences in rates among financial institutions were usually minimal, plus it would require several work hours from the Secretariat to compare different offers.

The Secretary General explained that proceeding with ING was the recommendation of the MAC Financial Officer after comparing rates and quality of service with other financial institutions. The Secretary General stated that he would ask the Financial Officer to proceed with a brief comparison with other institutions. In case of similar rates, it would be preferable to continue with ING to avoid time consuming procedures.

Inter-AC Brexit Forum

The Secretary General recalled that the Inter-AC Brexit Forum was established by various Advisory Councils to address a wide range of issues related to the exit of the United Kingdom from the EU. Since the establishment, meetings of the forum continuously took place. In respect of the agreed



rotation system, the MAC organised and chaired several of the meetings. Nevertheless, the meetings had always been focused on production-related matters, not on market topics. Additionally, notwithstanding the commitments made under the annual work programme, at a recent meeting, Working Group 2 decided to not proceed with new advice on Brexit, as no difficulties had been identified by the members regarding the new border system introduced by the British government. Therefore, the Secretary General suggested that the MAC should withdraw from the forum.

The Chair expressed support for the approach proposed by the Secretary General.

AOB

- **Membership of ClientEarth**

Quentin Marchais (ClientEarth) informed that his organisation was reevaluating their participation in the MAC and would likely not renew their membership for the upcoming operational year, even though a final decision was still pending.

Mr Marchais emphasised the value of the MAC as a forum for constructive debate. In his view, the positions of ClientEarth were heard and reflect in the adopted advice. Mr Marchais thanked the Secretary General, the rest of the Secretariat, and the other members for their contributions, for the work accomplished and the consensus reached along the years. He informed that a lack of internal capacity was the reason for not renewing the membership.

Mr Marchais expressed availability from his organisation to rejoin in the future, in case their internal capacity increased.

The Chair expressed disappointment, while also understanding the position of ClientEarth. The Chair underscored the valuable contributions provided by ClientEarth across the past years as well as the importance of involving NGOs in the work of the Advisory Councils. She added that the MAC would remain open to a renewed participation by ClientEarth.

- **Dates of the next meetings**

María Luisa Álvarez Blanco (FEDEPESCA) requested information on the dates for the next meetings of the MAC.

The Secretary General informed that, in line with the annual work programme, the next meetings would take place in January 2025, but the exact days were not yet set. The Secretary General added that, following a consultation of the Chair and the Chairs of the Working Groups, the members would be informed of the exact dates in the near future.



Summary of action points

- Common Fisheries Policy:
 - Secretariat to circulate a questionnaire to the members on the evaluation of the Common Fisheries Policy to gather feedback from the members to be considered by the Working Groups at the January 2025 meetings.

- Working Groups:
 - Draft advice on “development of fishery sustainability by STECF” to be put forward for consideration and potential adoption via written procedure.
 - Proposal of letter with questions on the Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive to be put forward for consideration and potential approval via written procedure.

- European Parliament:
 - Secretary General to maintain members informed on the co-organisation of the event in the European Parliament on the role of the Advisory Councils.

- Financial Reserves:
 - Financial Officer to proceed with a brief comparison of offers from various financial institutions and, in case of similar rates, to proceed with a six-month savings account under ING.

- Inter-AC Brexit Forum:
 - Withdrawal to be formally communicated to the other members of the forum.



Attendance List

Representative	Organisation	Role
Alessandro Manghisi	Aquaculture Stewardship Council	Observer
Amélie Laurent	Oceana	Member
Amine Asermouh	SNCE	Observer
Àngels Segura Unió	AECOC	Observer
Anna Rokicka	Polish Association of Fish Processors (PSPR)	Observer
Aodh O'Donnell	Irish Fish Producers Organisations (IFPO)	Observer
Benoît Thomassen	Federation of European Aquaculture Producers (FEAP)	Member
Emiel Brouckaert	European Association of Fish Producers Organisations (EAPO)	Member
Evelien Ranshuysen	European Commission	Expert
Falke De Sager	European Association of Fish Producers Organisations (EAPO)	Member
Gaetane Le Breuil	European Fishmeal	Member
Gerd Heinen	European Commission	Expert
Iñigo Azqueta Ruiz-Gallardón	ANFACO-CECOPECA	Member
Janne Posti	Conxemar	Member
Javier Ojeda	Federation of European Aquaculture Producers (FEAP)	Member
Jean-Marie Robert	Les Pêcheurs de Bretagne	Member
Julien Lamothe	European Association of Fish Producers Organisations (EAPO)	Member
Juliette Marguerite	European Salmon Smokers Association (ESSA)	Observer
Justine Marrot	Aquaculture Advisory Council	Observer
Laure Guillevic	WWF	Member
Linda Zanki Duvnjak	Ribarska Zadruga Friška Riba	Observer
Katarina Sipic	EU Fish Processors and Traders Association (AIPCE) / European Federation of National Organizations of Importers and Exporters of Fish (CEP)	Member
María Luisa Álvarez Blanco	FEDEPESCA	Member
Massimo Bellavista	COPA COGECA	Member





Market Advisory Council

Representative	Organisation	Role
Maximilian Schwarz	Market Advisory Council (MAC)	Secretariat
Patrick Murphy	Irish South & West Fish Producers Organisation	Observer
Pedro Reis Santos	Market Advisory Council (MAC)	Secretariat
Pierre Commère	EU Fish Processors and Traders Association (AIPCE)	Member
Quentin Marchais	ClientEarth	Member
Rosalie Tukker	Europêche	Member
Soumaya Bouker	European Commission	Expert
Szilvia Mihalfy	Federation of European Aquaculture Producers (FEAP)	Member
Yobana Bermúdez Rodríguez	EU Fish Processors and Traders Association (AIPCE)	Chair

