

General Assembly

Draft Agenda

Thursday, 30 January 2025 (13:30 – 16:00 CET)

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

Interpretation in EN, ES, FR

13:30 Welcome from the Chair, Yobana Bermúdez

13:35 Adoption of the agenda and of the last meeting's minutes (31.01.24)

13:40 Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO)

- Presentation of 2024 edition of “The State of World Fisheries and Aquaculture” report and update on ongoing market-related initiatives by Audun Lem (Deputy Director, Fisheries and Aquaculture Division, FAO)
- Exchange of views

14:15 Polish Presidency of the Council of the European Union

- Presentation of the Presidency's priorities by Filip Podgórski (Deputy Director, Fisheries Department, Poland)
- Exchange of views

14:45 Work Programme of Year 9 (2024-2025)

- Presentation of priorities and deliverables by Pedro Reis Santos (Secretary General)
- Presentation of budget by Dawlat Bik (Finance Officer)
- Approval of the work programme and of the annual budget

15:15 Work Programme of Year 8 (2023-2024)

- Reporting on priorities and deliverables by Pedro Reis Santos (Secretary General)
- Reporting on the accounts by Dawlat Bik (Finance Officer)
- Approval of the final technical report and financial statement

15:30 Classification of members (“sector organisations” or “other interest groups”)

- Exchange of views on the classification of non-profit organisations with at least 50% of the funding originating from a certification scheme / label

15:55 AOB

16:00 End of meeting



Annotated Version

Type	Item	Background	Purpose	Documents
Information	FAO	The SOFIA report is the biennial flagship report of the Fisheries and Aquaculture Division of the Food and Agriculture Organisation. The report provides the most up-to-date and evidenced-based information, supporting policy, scientific and technical insights on challenges, opportunities and innovations shaping the present and future of the sector, for the benefit of a wide and expanding audience of policymakers, managers, scientists, fishers, farmers, traders, civil society activists and consumers.	Presentation of the latest edition of the report and update on ongoing market-related initiatives by FAO representative.	- Report
Information	Polish Presidency	The presidency of the Council rotates among the EU member states every six months. During this period, the presidency chairs meetings at every level of the Council. The Polish presidency of the Council of the EU will be from 1 January to 30 June 2025.	Presentation and exchange of views with Polish representatives about the priorities of the presidency.	- Presidency programme
Information + Decision	Work Programme of Year 9	The operational year of the MAC corresponds to 1 October to 30 September. In line with the Rules of Procedure, the Executive Committee shall prepare the strategic plan and the budget for the next operational year. In line with the applicable financial rules, the draft must be submitted to DG MARE two months before the start of the new operational year. In line with the Rules of Procedure, the General Assembly shall approve the Work Programme and budget. Following the change to a lump-sum approach by DG MARE, 50% of the work programme's deliverables must be met to receive the full annual grant.	Presentation of the work programme and budget. Formal approval of the work programme and of the budget of the current operational year.	- Work Programme - Budget (via email / Members Area)
Information + Decision	Work Programme of Year 8	The eight operational year concluded on 30 September 2024. Until up to two months after the end of the year, the	Reporting on the implementation of the	- Work Programme - Final Report

		<p>Secretariat must submit a final report to the European Commission explaining the implementation of the work programme of the budget. In line with the Rules of Procedure, the General Assembly shall approve the annual report, including the financial statements.</p>	<p>previous work programme. Reporting on the accounts. Formal approval of the final report submitted to DG MARE.</p>	
Information	Classification of members	<p>According to point c) of paragraph 3 of Article 4 of the Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2015/242, the General Assembly shall decide on the classification of the members under the categories of “sector organisations” or “other interest groups” using the criteria laid down in Annex I. Due to point d) of paragraph 1 of the Annex, organisations with more than 50% of the financing originating from industry undertakings shall be classified as part of the “sector organisations” college. These provisions result from an amendment, which entered into force in 2022. Prior to that, for several years, the MAC counted, in the “other interests groups” college, with a non-profit organisation with a least 50% of the funding originating from a certification scheme/label. Recently, another such organisation became a member, but has not yet been classified. The applicability of point d) is not fully clear, as the funding could be interpreted as originating from industry undertakings or as “own funding”. The classification of these members should be clarified prior to the next elections to the Executive Committee, which will take place in January 2026.</p>	<p>Exchange of views on the classification of non-profit organisations with at least 50% of the funding originating from a certification scheme / label, including relevance of a letter by the Executive Committee to DG MARE requesting information on their legal interpretation of point d) of paragraph 1 of Annex I of the Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2015/242.</p>	<p>- Regulation</p>