



# GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Yobana Bermúdez

Chair

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

Thursday, 30 January 2025

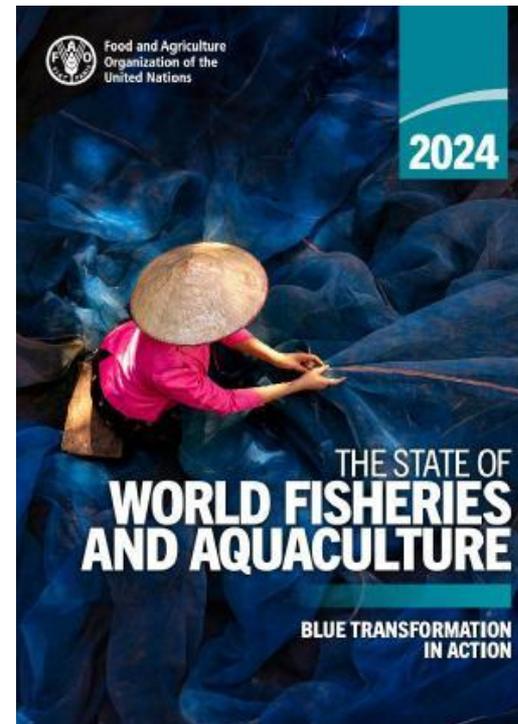
# AGENDA (CET TIME ZONE)

- 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)
  - 14:15 Polish Presidency of the Council of the European Union
  - 14:45 Work Programme of Year 9 (2024-2025)
  - 15:15 Work Programme of Year 8 (2023-2024)
  - 15:30 Classification of members ("sector organisations" or "other interest groups")
  - 15:55 AOB
- 16:00 End of the meeting*

# 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
  - Audun Lem (Deputy Director, Fisheries and Aquaculture Division, FAO)

- Exchange of views



# POLISH PRESIDENCY OF THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

## ➤ Presentation of the Presidency's priorities

- Joanna Żurawska-Łagoda (Fisheries Department, Poland)

## ➤ Exchange of views



# WORK PROGRAMME OF YEAR 9 (2024-2025)

## ➤ Presentation of priorities and deliverables

### ▪ Pedro Reis Santos (Secretary General)

- Operational Year 9 (1 October 2024 – 30 September 2025)
- Preparation by Executive Committee: 3 July 2024
- Submission to DG MARE: 23 July 2024
- Approval by General Assembly: 30 January 2025

## ➤ Presentation of budget

### ▪ Dawlat Bik (Finance Officer)

## ➤ Approval of the work programme and of the annual budget

# WORK PROGRAMME OF YEAR 8 (2022-2023)

## ➤ Reporting on priorities and deliverables

### ▪ Pedro Reis Santos (Secretary General)

#### ▪ Overarching priorities

- (1) Sustainable Food System Framework
- (2) Trade Agreements & Trade Policy Instruments
- (3) Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing & Global Governance
- (4) European Market Observatory for Fisheries and Aquaculture (EUMOFA)
- (5) Landing Obligation
- (6) Scientific, Technical and Economic Committee for Fisheries (STECF)
- (7) Fisheries Control Regulation
- (8) Substantiating Environmental Claims and Product Environmental Footprint Category Rules (PEFCR) for unprocessed Marine Fish products

# WORK PROGRAMME OF YEAR 8 (2022-2023)

## ▪ **Planned recommendations:**

### **1) Substantiation and communication of explicit environmental claims**

- Substantiation and Communication of Explicit Environmental Claims (Green Claims Directive) (30 November 2023)

### **2) Work Programme of EUMOFA, including suggestions of analysis topics and talks**

- European Market Observatory for Fisheries and Aquaculture (EUMOFA): Suggestions of studies to be integrated in the Work Programme (2024) (5 June 2024)

### **3) Analysis of market-related aspects of the new Fisheries Control Regulation**

- Terms of Reference of the Study on Feasible Traceability Systems and Procedures for Prepared and Preserved Fishery and Aquaculture Products (24 May 2024)

### **4) Legislative Proposal on Sustainable Food System Framework**

- *Publication of the legislative proposal postponed by the European Commission*

# WORK PROGRAMME OF YEAR 8 (2022-2023)

## 5) 2024 Annual Economic Report on the EU Fishing Fleet

- STECF's Annual Economic Report on the EU Fishing Fleet (2024) (31 January 2024)

## 6) Annual Report on the implementation in 2023 of the landing obligation (particularly new developments when compared to previous advice)

- Study supporting the evaluation of the Landing Obligation (18 September 2024)

## 7) Energy Transition (increase of operational input costs)

- Energy Transition in EU Fisheries and Aquaculture (29 April 2024)

## 8) Marine Action Plan

- Impact of the "Marine Action Plan" on the Market (6 March 2024)

## 9) Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing

- Negotiation of EU – Thailand Free Trade Agreement (31 January 2024)

## 10) Development of sustainability criteria for fishery and aquaculture products

- *Draft advice in development under Working Group 1*

# WORK PROGRAMME OF YEAR 8 (2022-2023)

## **11) Annual EU-UK Trade and Cooperation Agreement implementation report (Border Target Operating Mode)**

- *Working Group 2 concluded that it would not be relevant to proceed on the topic*

## **12) 2023 Economic Report on the Fish Processing Industry**

- STECF's Economic Report on the Fish Processing Industry (2025 edition) (18 September 2024)

## **13) Integration of sustainability considerations in the Autonomous Tariff Quotas (ATQs) framework**

- *Initiative was made public by the European Commission after Year 8*

## **14) Product Environmental Footprint Category Rules (PEFCR) for unprocessed Marine Fish products**

- Product Environmental Category Rules (PEFCR) for Marine Fish for Human Consumption (6 August 2024)

# WORK PROGRAMME OF YEAR 8 (2022-2023)

## ➤ Reporting on the accounts

- Dawlat Bik (Finance Officer)

## ➤ Approval of the final technical report and financial statement

- Submission to DG MARE: 12 November 2024
- Approval by General Assembly: 30 January 2025

# 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**
  - Advisory Councils composed of “organisations representing the fisheries and, where appropriate, aquaculture operators, and representatives of the processing and marketing sectors” and by “other interest groups affected by the CFP (e.g. environmental organisations and consumer groups)” – Article 45 of the CFP Regulation
  - General Assembly to decide on the classification of the members – Point c) of paragraph 3 of Article 4 of Commission Regulation (EU) 2015/242
  - Criteria for classification of members – Annex of Commission Regulation (EU) 2015/242 (introduced in 2022)

# CLASSIFICATION OF MEMBERS (“SECTOR ORGANISATIONS” OR “OTHER INTEREST GROUPS”)

## *ANNEX*

### **Criteria for classifying members of the Advisory Councils under the categories ‘sector organisations’ or ‘other interest groups’**

1. An organisation shall be classified ‘sector organisation’ when at least one of the following criteria is met:
  - (a) the organisation represents or has direct or indirect economic interests in the sectors of commercial fishing, aquaculture, processing, marketing, distribution or retail of seafood;
  - (b) a majority of the members of the organisation, either natural or legal persons, represent or have direct or indirect economic interests in the sectors of commercial fishing, aquaculture, processing, marketing, distribution or retail of seafood;
  - (c) the organisation represents employees in the sectors related to commercial fishing, aquaculture, processing, marketing, distribution or retail of seafood;
  - (d) at least 50 % of the organisation’s funding originates from undertakings active in the field of commercial fishing, aquaculture, processing, marketing, distribution or retail of seafood.
  - (e) the organisation fulfils at least one of the criteria listed in point 1(a) to 1(d) and is active in the field of environment, consumers and human rights, health, promotion of equality or animal health or welfare.
2. An organisation shall be classified ‘other interest group’ when it does not meet any of the criteria laid down in paragraph 1 and:
  - (a) is primarily active in the field of environment, consumers and human rights, health, promotion of equality, animal health or welfare or recreational or sport fishing; or
  - (b) represents or has direct or indirect economic interests linked to the use of the marine environment or maritime space other than commercial fishing, aquaculture or the processing, marketing, distribution and retail of seafood.

# AOB, ACTION POINTS, END OF MEETING

## ➤ AOB

- Formal designation of Pedro Reis Santos (Secretary General) as “person in charge of daily management” under the official Belgian register
- Correction of the French denomination in the official Belgian register

## ➤ Summary of action points

## ➤ End of meeting