

MINUTES

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE MARKET ADVISORY COUNCIL

Tuesday 17th of January 2017
14:30h – 17:30h

Business Europe – Europe Room, Av. de Cortenbergh 168
1000 Brussels, Belgium

- **Welcome from the Chair**

The Chair, Mr Guus Pastoor, welcomed those present.

- **Adoption of the agenda**

Seas at risk suggested a rephrasing on the item regarding members of the Executive Committee: Election of members to Executive Committee.

- **Adoption of minutes of the last General Assembly meeting (08.06.2016)**

The minutes were adopted with no single objections.

- **Summary of the process of constituting the MAC**

The Chair gave a brief overview of the constitution of the MAC and stressed four items of importance:

- The MAC should be the voice of all stakeholders;
- It should provide expertise to enable policy makers to make the right choice on a particular dossier;
- It should address issues not sufficiently addressed by other ACs; and
- It should address anything that is not sufficiently addressed by politicians or the European Commission.

CFFA supported the Chair and stressed the good collaboration that the sector and the NGOs had during the establishment of the MAC.

- **Presentation from the Commission on the priorities for markets**

Mr Frangiscos Nikolian, Head of Unit of Economic Analysis, Markets and Impact Assessment, DG MARE, made a short presentation on what the priorities are for the Commission in 2017. These are:

1. Ensure the smooth implementation of the common market regulation. The Commission has already started taking stock of what was achieved up till now and where this implementation stands today by assessing the Production and Marketing Plans. The Commission stated it needs to work both with Member States and the sector to get the most out of it. Another priority under this issue is to ensure the compliance with the regulation and that all POs are in line with the current CMO.

2. Strengthen market intelligence, concretely EUMOFA which provides information available to everyone. The Commission wants to increase the relevance of this tool in terms of quality of data and data coverage, as well as gathering input from users.

3. Support competitiveness of the EU sector. The Commission mentioned in particular the study published on consumer's behaviour, which is an example of the tools available for the sector to develop their strategies. The Commission also encouraged members to make full use of the funds available for marketing measures and promotion of fisheries products.

4. Increase transparency. For this purpose, the Commission has two projects in place to boost transparency and to make sure the markets respect quality standards.

Regarding the priorities on trade negotiations for 2017:

1. Finalise the trade agreements with Japan and Canada.
2. Focus on the modernisation of the association agreements with Chile and Mexico.
3. Continue working on the free trade agreement with Thailand.
4. Start negotiations with Australia and New Zealand.
5. Prepare the next COFI and FAO meetings on fish trade and follow the progress on WTO subsidies proposal with the view to reach an agreement at the WTO Ministerial Conferences which will take place in December 2017 in Argentina.
6. Keep up with the state of play of fisheries products' supply of from third countries.

The Commission, in reply to members' questions, informed that no new proposals are foreseen regarding markets for 2017, which will be focusing only on its implementation.

An evaluation on voluntary information on fishery and aquaculture products is undergoing and its results will be released at the end of the year. Regarding the criteria used to assess this information, the Commission for now focuses on the criteria established in the regulation, and to what extent they respect best practices or not. The main challenge is to get an idea of what is there in the market.

- **Communication on decision of endorsement of new members**

The list of members was accepted.

- **Coffee break**
- **Adoption of new Work Programme and budgets**

The Work Programme was adopted with no further comments.

The budgets were adopted with no further comments.

- **Election of members to Executive Committee**

The Chair presented the current composition of the Executive Committee (ANNEX I) where two seats are available under the 'Primary producers catching sector', another two seats are available under 'Processors, traders, supplies and retailers', and 5 more seats are available under 'Environmental or development non-governmental organisations (NGOs)- Consumers organisations- Others'.

Candidates were the following:

1. Applying for a seat under primary producers catching sector:

- Killybegs Fishermen's Organisation (KFO)
- Low Impact Fishers of Europe (LIFE)
- VisNed

2. Applying for a seat under processors, traders, supplies and retailers:

- ANFACO-CECOPESCA
- CONXEMAR
- FEDEPESCA

3. Applying for a seat under Environmental or development non-governmental organisations (NGOs)- Consumers organisations- Others:

- Marine Stewardship Council
- Good Fish Foundation

All the candidates made a brief presentation of their organisations.

Seas at Risk wondered what criteria and assessments were following to assess the candidature of MSC to be part of the 40% group.

The Chair informed that the procedure is that following MSC's request to be part of the 40%, it is up to the General Assembly to decide on the suitability of an organisation for one group or another.

At this point, the Chair enquired DG MARE on the follow-up on the issue of ACs internal composition that was discussed at the inter-AC meeting in December 2016. R.Genzbigelyte-Venturi informed that MARE received contributions from several ACs, there was no consensus in how to approach the issue. MARE is finalising the assessment and will come back with conclusions very soon.

He also informed members on the voting procedure: it will take place in two rounds, where all the members can choose one of the candidates of each group (primary producers catching sector, processors, traders, supplies and retailers), one of each at each round. Regarding 'Environmental or development non-

governmental organisations (NGOs)- Consumers organisations- Others', members shall decide whether MSC suits in the 40% group.

Each organisation has a vote and the votes are secret.

Proxies:

1. Danish Pelagic Producers Organisation delegated to Danish Fishermen P.O. (Ivan Krarup Jensen)
2. OPPC-03 delegated to Danish Fishermen P.O. (Ivan Krarup Jensen)
3. FEICOPESCA delegated to ANFACO-CECOPECA (Jose Carlos Castro Neila)
4. Fiskbranschens Riksförbund delegated to AIPCE (Pierre Commere)
5. Good Fish Foundation delegated to CFFA (Beatrice Gorez)
6. ORPAGU delegated to ANFACO-CECOPECA (Jose Carlos Castro Neila)
7. Pelagic Fishers Trawlers Association delegated to KFO (Sean O'Donoghue)
8. The Shellfish Association of Great Britain delegated to EMPA (Bruno Guillaumie)
9. Visfederatie delegated to AIPCE (Pierre Commere)
10. CEP delegated to AIPCE (Pierre Commere)
11. EUROTHON delegated to AIPCE (Pierre Commere)
13. ADEPALE delegated to AIPCE (Pierre Commere)

Outcome of first round of votes:

- Primary Producers catching sector
LIFE was elected
- Processors, traders, supplies and retailers
Conxemar was elected
- Other Interests Groups:
MSC was elected

Good Fish Foundation was elected

Outcome of second round of votes:

- Primary Producers catching sector
VisNed was elected
- Processors, traders, supplies and retailers
ANFACO-CECOPECA was elected

The Executive Committee therefore stands as reflected in ANNEX II.

- **Presentation *Implementation of import controls under the EU IUU Regulation - A review of progress—presentation by NGO coalition***

Ms Victoria Munty, from EJF, made a presentation prepared by a coalition of NGOs (Environmental Justice Foundation (EJF), Oceana, The Pew Charitable Trusts, World Wide Fund for Nature) on the Implementation of import controls under the EU IUU Regulation (ANNEX III).

Members of the MAC who are also members of the Long Distance Advisory Council proposed to consider the recommendation drafted by the LDAC in order to draft a similar one from the MAC. The LDAC will forward the advice to the Secretariat for its distribution and future consideration.

- **AOB**

FEDEPESCA requested the list of members and their mails to be distributed from the Secretariat.

- **End of the meeting**

ANNEX I

COMPOSITION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE June 2016

SECTOR	ORGANISATION	
Representatives of Value Supply Chain (60%)		
Primary producers catching sector	1	EAPO
	2	EUROPECHE
	3	COPA-COGECA
	4	-
	5	-
Primary producers sector (aquaculture)	6	FEAP
	7	EMPA
Processors, traders, supplies and retailers	8	AIPCE
	9	CEP
	10	EUFISHMEAL
	11	EUROCOMMERCE
	12	FRUCOM
	13	-
	14	-
Workers (trade unions)	15	ETF
Other interest group (40%)		
Environmental or development non-governmental organisations (NGOs)- Consumers organisations- Others	1	CFFA
	2	EBCD *
	3	OCEANA
	4	WWF
	5	Danish Society for a Living Sea
	6	-
	7	-
	8	-
	9	-
	10	-
TOTAL	25	

**COMPOSITION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
January 2017**

SECTOR	ORGANISATION	
Representatives of Value Supply Chain (60%)		
Primary producers catching sector	1	EAPO
	2	EUROPECHE
	3	COPA-COGECA
	4	LIFE
	5	VisNed
Primary producers sector (aquaculture)	6	FEAP
	7	EMPA
Processors, traders, supplies and retailers	8	AIPCE
	9	CEP
	10	EUFISHMEAL
	11	EUROCOMMERCE
	12	FRUCOM
	13	Conxemar
	14	ANFACO-CECOPECA
Workers (trade unions)	15	ETF
Other interest group (40%)		
Environmental or development non-governmental organisations (NGOs)- Consumers organisations- Others	1	CFFA
	2	EBCD *
	3	OCEANA
	4	WWF
	5	Danish Society for a Living Sea
	6	Good Fish Foundation
	7	MSC
	8	-
	9	-
	10	-
TOTAL	25	