



Market Advisory Council

Management Team Meeting Minutes

Thursday 29 January 2020
Avenue de Cortenbergh 168,
1000 Brussels

Attendees:

- Guus Pastoor, MAC Chair
- Christien Absil, MAC Vice-Chair
- Sean O'Donoghue, WG1 Chair
- Andrew Kuyk, WG2 Chair
- Georg Werner, WG3 Chair
- Pedro Reis Santos, Secretary General

Issues discussed:

1. WG1

• Focus Group on Marketing Standards – Terms of Reference

WG1 Chair underscored the importance of discussing the Terms of Reference. The study of the Commission's external consultant reached different conclusions from the MAC's advice. Additionally, the Commission is looking into the environmental and social dimensions of the marketing standards framework. The Chair outlined the meeting held with the Commission in December 2019.

The FG must look at the consultant's report and assess the differences as well as at social, economic, and environmental criteria, in order to bring recommendations to WG1. The Commission's Staff Working Document must also be assessed.

• Landing Obligation - EC Request & Questionnaire

WG1 Chair argued that the questionnaire was quite outside the MAC's competences. The Chair highlighted that, in other ACs, OPs were encouraged to submit individual responses.

• STECF - 2019 Annual Economic Report on the EU Fishing Fleet

WG1 Chair explained that Ms Carvalho (STECF) would be presenting remotely. Ms Carvalho was provided with suggestions on topics for the presentation.



2. WG2

- **IUU Regulation – Presentation of EU IUU Coalition’s Report**

WG2 Chair explained that input from the members was expected as well as views from the Commission.

- **Control Regulation**

WG2 Chair explained that there will be a new set of amendments by the EP PECH Committee. They must assess if WG2 feels the need to update the MAC’s advice, taking into account that the Commission’s proposal has not changed.

WG1 Chair suggested recirculating the MAC’s advice to the Member States and to the EP PECH Committee Secretariat.

- **STECF – 2019 EU Fishing Processing Report**

WG2 Chair informed that this report would be presented in May. WG1 Chair suggested raising the possibility of the MAC becoming an observer, adding that the MAC should support the report by offer to improve it.

3. WG3

- **Plastics**

WG3 Chair drew attention to the report prepared by the MAC & NWWAC’s Secretariats, highlighting the importance of discussing ways forward.

WG2 Chair expressed satisfaction with the event, which included high quality presentations. The presentation on microplastics and nanoplastics in the seafood supply chain was very balanced on relative risk. In relation to fishing gear, the MAC should look into the development of the “polluter pays principle”, which might impact the market.

The Management Team discussed the importance of looking into the other ACs’ actions, while keeping in mind the market’s reputational element and the consumers’ perspective.

- **Ecolabels and Certification Schemes**

WG3 Chair emphasised the importance of setting a baseline.



- **Caviar Labelling – AAC advice**

The Management Team discussed FEAP's request to table the topic again, even though the Commission already replied.

- **Fitness Check on the EU legislation on endocrine disruptors**

The Management Team discussed the difficulty in developing a submission by the MAC. The Team considered drafting a letter similar to the one on Horizon Europe. The Team agreed that it should be left to the individual members. The MAC could consider providing an advice at a later stage of the legislation, if relevant.

- **Focus Group on Consumer Information**

WG3 Chair highlighted the joint understanding reached at the last FG meeting.

