



## **MINUTES EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Wednesday 23 May 2018  
10:00-11:30  
Leopold Hotel Brussels EU  
Rue du Luxembourg 35-1050 Bruxelles

### **Welcome from the Chair and adoption minutes last meeting (18.10.17)**

The Chair, Guus Pastoor, welcomed those present. The minutes of last ExCom meeting were adopted with no further comments.

### **Procedure of adoption of MAC advices**

The Chair opened the debate by stating that the adoption of a MAC opinion on the Control Regulation entailed certain difficulties due to the short deadline given. He proposed a discussion on how to improve the rules of procedure for the approval of MAC advices. Following the example of other ACs, the MAC has constituted several Focus Groups (FG) under the mandate of the Working Groups (WGs). These Focus Groups drafted proposals to be discussed within the WGs. A Focus Group never decides on the content but rather prepares a draft to facilitate the debate.

EAPo noted that the differences between the task of the Focus Groups and Working Groups should be clarified. It is fundamental that members attending FGs give input. The procedure of adopting an opinion was smoother in WG1 with the adoption of the MAC opinion on the EMFF than in the case of the Control Regulation.

CFFA stated, on the one hand, that a FG is only in charge of the preparatory work having no mandate to draft a definitive paper. This had not been clearly stressed during the drafting of the paper on the Control Regulation. On the other hand, in that particular paper, a minority position turned into a majority position and it was not recorded as such by the FG: the Executive Committee should decide what is a majority/minority position.

Chair of WG2 noted that the procedure did not succeed due to a lack of experience in terms of preparing advice and the short deadline provided, which limited the choice of dates. This prevented some members of the FG from attending the meeting. The FG reached a consensus proposal that was commented on several times by the Working Group. Not having a meeting to debate comments and different positions made it very difficult to agree on a draft. The MAC has to focus on delivering a decision making process more satisfactorily.

EAPo considered that as an Advisory Council, the MAC should avoid papers with minority/majority positions. He also stressed the importance of having active members in all MAC bodies. In response to this comment, LIFE stated that not having a majority position is not a reason to reject a paper. Europeche expressed their disagreement with not approving the advice having a majority opinion (which was presented as minority opinion at the beginning).

With regards to the process itself and the Rules of Procedure, it was decided that Article 13 will be substituted by article 2, ANNEX III of the CFP Regulation *“The members of the executive committee shall, where possible, adopt recommendations by consensus. If no consensus can be reached, dissenting opinions expressed by members shall be recorded in the recommendations adopted by the majority of the members present and voting. »*. Articles 12, 14, 15 and 16 will be deleted. If a paper drafted by a FG and endorsed by the WG is not approved by the Executive Committee, the ExCom needs to decide on how to proceed with the draft.

### **MAC performance**

- *update financial situation*

The Secretariat gave an overview of the state of the accounts and the expenditures incurred.

- *update membership list*
- *overview advice approved and advice to be set up*
- *dates next meetings*

Members were informed on these items. No further comments were made.

Members expressed their concerns regarding the COM's Expert Group for Markets and Trade in Fishery and Aquaculture Products as it may undermine the role of the MAC. Should the difference be that MS can attend the expert group, they are also welcome to attend the MAC meetings.

EMPA informed that AAC had a joint meeting with the Expert Group of MS in aquaculture and suggested that MAC could explore that possibility as well.

The Chair proposed to write a letter to COM asking them to align the work of both bodies and have a joint meeting.

### **Update Brexit meeting 13 April**

The Chair gave a briefing on the meeting held in The Hague on the 13 of April, organised by the PELAC. The meeting aimed at discussing how the ACs will be affected in a post-Brexit scenario. Some of the most affected ACs will come up with proposals. The next meeting will take place in November organised by the LDAC. The MAC should have a position on the matter by November.

LIFE considered necessary to invite UK organisations to meetings regarding issues that affect them such as markets or access rights.

EMPA requested a pie chart with the consequences in the membership.

The Chair informed that during the meeting the COM stated they would prepare a paper on this matter which would potentially clarify several questions raised by members.

EAPo requested to have this issue added on the agenda of the next ExCom meeting (5 September) in order to discuss a proper input of the MAC for November.



The LDAC, present at the meeting, informed that the next Brexit meeting will take place in Madrid. The ACs will look at the outcomes of the PELAC questionnaire, at the paper prepared by the NWWAC on the possible scenarios and look at all possibilities of a post Brexit scenario. The discussion will go beyond administrative issues.

**End of the meeting**

NAME		ORGANISATION
Panos	Manias	MAC
Alexandre	Rodriguez	LDAC
Andrew	Kuyk	CEP
Arnault	Chaperon	FEAP
Aurora	De Blas	Conxemar
Agnes	Lisik	OCEANA
Brian	O Riordan	LIFE
Bruno	Guillaumie	EMPA
Christine	Absil	Good Fish Foundation
Vanya	Vulperhorst	OCEANA
Claudia	Orlandini	LIFE
Claudia	Vinci	AIPCE
Eszter	Hidas	WWF
Daniel	Voces	Europeche
Elena	Ghezzi	Copa-Cogeca
Emiel	Brouckaert	EAPO
Felicidad	Fdez Alonso	ANFACO-CECOPESCA
Georg	Werner	EJF
Guus	Pastoor	AIPCE
Hans	Nieuwenhuis	MSC
Hector	Villa	Permanent Representation of Spain
Hugo	Boyle	ISEFPOv (Irish South & East Fish Producer's Organisation)
Jean-Marie	Robert	Les pecheurs de bretagne
Katarina	SIPIC	Conxemar
Maria	Aira	MAC
Michel	Claes	ETF
Beatrice	Gorez	CFFA
Paul	McDonald	Scottish Fishermen's Organisation
Pierre	Commere	ADEPALE
Pim	Visser	VisNed
Richard	Curtin	BIM
Roberto Carlos	Alonso	Eurothon
Rosalie	Tukker	Europeche
Sandra	Sanmartin	MAC
Sean	O'Donoghue	KFO