



MINUTES

WORKING GROUP 2: EU MARKET

Thursday 24 May 2018

9:30-13:00

Leopold Hotel Brussels EU

Rue du Luxembourg 35-1050 Brussels

Welcome from the Chair

The Chair of WG2, Andrew Kuyk, welcomed those present.

Adoption of agenda and minutes last meeting (24.01.18)

The minutes of the Joint Working Group 2 and 3 meeting on Control Regulation (24.01.18) were adopted with a comment from FEDEPESCA requesting their intervention on articles 58 and 59 of the Regulation No 1224/2009 to be recorded in the minutes, related to the fact that they do not consider it appropriate to exempt traceability obligations from direct sales of vessels for less than € 50 and that buyers who purchase directly from authorized centers less than 30kg per day do not have to register as authorized buyers, which is a quantity above the average annual consumption in Europe.

The minutes of the last Working Group 2 meeting (24.01.18) which took place on the 24.01.18 were adopted with no further comments.

Presentation PrimeFish Project

By Mr Valur N. Gunnlaugsson, MATIS

You can find the presentation [here](#).

Mr Gunnlaugsson made a presentation on the PrimeFish Project, which aims at enhancing the economic sustainability of European fisheries and aquaculture sectors. The project looks at several aspects of the market to develop functional tools which could help the relevant actors in making the right decisions with regards to the market.

Good Fish Foundation asked whether the tools mentioned above reflect the changes in consumer preferences through time.

ADEPALE wondered whether the statements collected in the tools made by consumers on their preferences were declarative and whether their real behaviour matches those declarations.

SEAFISH asked whether they are planning to include more data.

Mr Gunnlaugsson replied that the tool, which is only beta version, reflects the market as of now, but eventually companies or EUMOFA could take over the tool and update the data. On the consumers' declarations, he stated that surveys probably declare better and more responsible behaviour from consumers than in reality, but he considered the results to be a good proxy.

The Chair thanked the speaker for the presentation which, in his opinion, showed the enormous diversity of the market, the different consumer behaviours and the difficulties of relating the end price to the price of the raw material.

IUU: improving stakeholder engagement in the IUU carding process

The Chair explained that during the last WG2 meeting in January, WWF presented a list of recommendations and actions for the consideration of the MAC. During the meeting, some of the actions were approved by the MAC and were put forward to the LDAC for their consideration. The idea would be to have a joint LDAC/MAC advice on the carding process. The LDAC, after consultation with its members, informed the Secretariat that they would like to postpone this advice given that there are some other priorities in this regard, such as the proposal on the Control Regulation, and views from the members were too divergent at this stage to go forward with it.

WWF stated that given the difference of opinions, discussion in greater detail would be needed. She proposed the WG2 to discuss the proposal on the Control Regulation with regards to traceability rather than going forward with the original paper.

CFFA, as a representative of the LDAC, stated that the LDAC is willing to work with the MAC on this issue and agreed with the previous speakers on postponing the discussion. She stressed the importance of the joint work between the two ACs on this matter.

The Chair remarked on the good collaboration the LDAC and MAC have had in the past with regards to IUU and hoped the MAC can re-establish a good collaboration with the LDAC in the future.

KFO agreed with the way forward but stressed that this item is under the LDAC's remit, therefore the MAC should only look at traceability and not the carding process itself.

AIPCE stated that IUU is a very broad subject which affects not only the LDAC but the MAC as well. He also pointed out that the IUU regulation will not be revised in the context of the proposal of the Control Regulation.

OCEANA stressed the role of the MAC in looking at imports in the context of the IUU.

Update on Meeting 25 April 2018 on INI Report on the implementation of control measures for establishing the conformity of fisheries products with access criteria to the EU market

The Chair gave a briefing on the discussion held with MEP Linnea on her INI (own initiative) report on the implementation of control measures for establishing the conformity of fisheries products with access criteria to the EU market. The report has been approved in the PECH Committee of the Parliament and will be put forward for adoption in Plenary. The minutes of the meeting are available.

The report touches upon a wide range of issues and in particular declares that the EU fishing sector discriminates against imports of fish products. The Chair proposed to analyse which regulations apply to both kinds of products and assess where the MAC thinks that there are deficiencies in this regard.



AIPCE, as Chair of the MAC, stated that during the discussion different views on the matter were shed. In order to better prepare a MAC opinion, he agreed with the proposal of the Chair to identify regulations and case studies to consider the potential problems.

OCEANA wondered what kind of commitment processors would be able to make on sustainability of the products they import, knowing that requirements on sustainability are not mandatory for imported products.

CFFA informed that Linnea's report includes concrete proposals.

SEAFISH agreed on the idea of reviewing all regulations to have a holistic approach.

The Chair proposed to do a mapping of three major areas:

- IUU
- Control Regulation
- Food information for consumers, marketing, labelling

Two areas which are of concern in terms of this group are the sustainability and socio-ethic labour aspects not covered under the IUU: these are not legal requirements under the regulation, which only assesses the legality of the catching.

OCEANA stated that the COM, in the carding process, also looks at all international regulations, which addresses sustainability. Some countries have been carded for not respecting the rules of a RFMO in a particular fishing area. Many of the EU standards are based on international law.

LIFE stated that the three pillars of sustainability should be taken into account: social, economic and environmental.

CFFA explained that, if WG2 is to mainly tackle IUU, other aspects of sustainability will not be dealt with as they go beyond IUU, affecting trade and trade agreements.

The Chair stressed that trade agreements normally revolve around tariffs, dumping and technical issues around market access rather than social or environmental issues. The extent to which ethical or environmental standards get covered in those is very limited in most existing trade deals. He wondered whether there is the political will to regulate this.

Bundesverband der deutschen Fischindustrie und des Fischgrosshandels e.V., supported by FEDEPESCA, stated that it is not clear what the scope of this discussion is and would like to have concrete papers, case studies.

OCEANA suggested to add an annex tackling issues in trade, as for example Philippines have been red carded yet they got granted with the GSP+. This is clearly inconsistent within the COM itself.

WFF asked how to address potential overlapping between the three proposed areas.

SEAFISH proposed to focus on legislation itself rather than looking at sustainability in general.



WWF clarified that two different things are being put on the table: on the one hand, the implications of Linnea's report in terms of a revision of the Control Regulation, which are concrete points and topics; on the other hand, the broader issues of sustainability and social matters, which are not covered under the revision of the Control Regulation but members would like to discuss them as well.

AIPCE proposed to establish a Focus Group which will map the present legislation. Only once this has been done, the MAC will be able to understand the consequences of these regulations and the issues that have arisen from the different conditions applied to imports and EU products. In this project, case studies would be useful. The paper drafted by the Focus Group would be put forward to the WG2 for discussion.

The Chair agreed with this proposal and considered the Focus Group needs to address the level playing field EU products – imports. The Focus Group will look at what regulation applies to EU and non EU products, in order to have a common analysis that we can use to feed the discussion. The Chair invited all members to contribute with papers so the focus group can draft something by the summer break.

FEAP wondered whether this topic could be addressed by members of all working groups and considered relevant to include the aquaculture and the level playing field with fisheries products in the work of the Focus Group. This initiative was supported by FEDEPESCA.

ADEPALE agreed with the establishment of the Focus Group and questioned whether it would be needed to address aquaculture as IUU only refers to catching sector.

The Chair considered helpful to integrate aquaculture in this FG. Pierre Commere volunteered to lead this focus group of maximum 10 people that will gather before the summer break for a first meeting.

Control Regulation

- MAC draft advice

The Chair suggested organising a Focus Group which will start working on the proposal, once published, and deliver a paper that would be discussed within WG2. As Control Regulation is a broad and transversal subject, he invited Chairs of WGs 1 and 3 to share their views on this proposal.

Chair of WG1, Sean O'Donoghue, agreed on the proposal and considered that WG2 should be leading the work. He also proposed to make a presentation in the Parliament on behalf of the MAC.

Chair of WG3, Georg Werner, agreed on this matter.

The Chair of WG2 will be chairing this Focus Group on Control Regulation with a maximum of 10 people.

AOB

The Chair of WG1, Sean O'Donoghue, informed attendees of the constitution of a Focus Group on Marketing Standards, with a maximum of 10 members, chaired by Pim Visser, which will cover a range of marketing measures and products. Members of WG2 were invited to participate.

End of the meeting

NAME		ORGANISATION
Andrew	Kuyk	CEP
Arnault	Chaperon	FEAP
Aurelio	Bilbao	OPESCAYA
Beatrice	Gorez	CFFA
Brian	O Riordan	LIFE
Bruno	Guillaumie	EMPA
Christine	Absil	Good Fish Foundation
Claudia	Vinci	AIPCE
Cristina	Fernandez	Seafish
Eduardo	Miguez Lopez	Puerto Celeiro
Emiel	Brouckaert	EAPD
Felicidad	Fernandez	ANFACO-CECOPECA
Georg	Werner	EJF
Giorgio	Rimoldi	AIIPA/ANCIT
Guus	Pastoor	AIPCE
Hans	Nieuwenhuis	MSC
Hector	Villa	Permanent Representation of Spain
Hugo	Boyle	ISEFPOv (Irish South & East Fish Producer's Organisation)
Joanna	Zurawska	Poland
Jose Basilio	Otero Rodriguez	Federación Pescadores de Lugo
Juan	Maneiro	Conxemar
Katarina	SIPIC	Conxemar
Krishan	Kent	Fiskbranschens Riksforbund
Maria	Aira	MAC
Maria Luisa	Alvarez	FEDEPESCA
Matthias	Keller	Bundesverband der deutschen Fischindustrie und des Fischgrosshandels e.V.
Mike	Turenhout	Visfederatie
Patrick	Murphy	Irish South & West Fish Producers Organisation, CLG (IS&WFPO, CLG)
Paul	McDonald	Scottish Fishermen's Organisation
Pierre	Commere	ADEPALE
Poul	Jensen	Danish Seafood Association
Roberto Carlos	Alonso	Eurothon
Romans	Vorss	FRUCOM
Sandra	Sanmartin	MAC
Sean	O'Donoghue	KFO
Sergio	Lopez	OPP Lugo
Signe	Aaskivi	EFCA
Vanya	Vulperhorst	OCEANA
Wietze	Kampen	ETF

