

MEDAC CONTRIBUTION- EFCA Terms of Reference for the Advisory Board meetings

Background

At the EFCA Advisory Board meeting of 21st October 2019, EFCA's Executive Director and the Advisory Councils discussed how to improve cooperation between EFCA and the Advisory Councils. It was agreed to explore this and look at how the ACs work towards EFCA could have more impact. The reflection would focus on the current mandate of the Advisory Board as described in Article 40 of EFCA's founding regulation how can the EFCA Advisory Board better advise EFCA's Executive Director in his/her work?

EFCA is also looking at the way it works, looking ahead at a new 5-year evaluation, ending 2020. One proposed action is to develop **Terms of Reference for the Advisory Board meetings** to strengthen cooperation between EFCA and ACs. They have invited the ACs to come up with a proposal for the terms of reference.

EFCA have informally provided some questions as inspiration:

- 1 - How can the Advisory Board better advise EFCA? *Each AC has a contact person at the EFCA, maybe it could be advisable if those persons can interact between them to gather info and investigate if there are topics of common interest among 2 or more ACs.*
- 2 - How can EFCA help with receiving more and better data and information outside of the 2 annual meetings (sort of real-time information from fleets)? *It could be advisable if EFCA can create a newsletter divided into different geographical zones to give updated info on the state of art and implementation of the JDPs in force. Moreover, give info on the training courses that EFCA organises with third countries.*
- 3 - How to ensure that all sectors are well represented? *Each AC can be represented by two members attending the Advisory Board, one representing 40% and the other representing 60%.*
- 4 - How can EFCA be more useful to ACs? *We support and reiterate the second reply given above (2). The creation of a newsletter could be extremely useful because updated information can support the ACs members could be more proactive in the consult*
- 5 - How can EFCA be better addressed when it comes to control or technical issues? *The participation of the EFCA representative at the ACs meetings can be immediately followed by a consultation of the ACs members. The consultation can be aimed to collect the main topics and issues to be deepened in the EFCA.*