

**MINUTES**  
**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE MARKET ADVISORY COUNCIL**

**Tuesday 16 May 2017**  
**10:30h – 13:00h**

**Martin's Brussels EU**  
**Boulevard Charlemagne 90, B-1000, Brussels**

- **Welcome from the Chair**

The Chair, Mr Guus Pastoor, welcomed those present.

- **Adoption of agenda**

The agenda was adopted with no further comments.

- **Adoption of minutes of the last Executive Committee meeting (17.01.2017)**

The minutes were adopted with no further comments.

- **State of play of finances:**

- Grant agreement

The Chair informed members that the grant agreement was signed and the first instalment was received.

So as to avoid confusion, the Chair explained that Year 0 run from 15.03.2016-30.09.2016. Year 1 runs from 1.10.2016-30.09.2017. Year 2 will run from 1.10.2017-30.09.2018.

- Budget year 1

The Secretariat explained the state of the accounts. Members were informed that 1512.27 EUR were spent on the closure of the accounts of the Financial Year 0 (03.2016-09.2017), which is a non-eligible cost since it took place before the grant was awarded. Members agreed with this payment booked in the accounts for Year 1, understanding that it is necessary to comply with the Belgian law for an ASBL.

- Budget year 2

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The Chair explained that the next budget should be approved before the end of August as the renewal of the grant will occur a month before the second financial year starts (1.10.2017).

The Secretariat suggested members to decrease the amount budgeted for reimbursements and increase the amount dedicated to interpretation.

The Commission stressed that they will take into account how exceptional the first year of an Advisory Council is and the MAC should not be penalised for not having used all the resources allocated in the first year.

The Secretariat will prepare an updated version of the budget 2017-2018 and circulate it among members of the ExCom for their approval via written procedure in the following weeks.

- Approval of accounts year 0

The balance sheet for the period before the grant agreement was awarded (year 0) was presented to members and clarifications on figures were made by the Secretariat. The executive committee approved the accounts as presented.

- Reimbursement rules

It was suggested that to compensate the extra work carried out by the Chairman of the MAC and the Chairs/vice Chairs of the working groups an extra amount of 600EUR and 400EUR will be allocated respectively to those who Chair the meetings, under the form of a per diem. CFFA opposed to that measure, and felt that as most of the work is carried out by the secretariat, there is no need to compensate Chairs.

Some members expressed their concerns regarding the maximum amount allocated to cover travel expenses (300EUR) as this is not enough for some members.

WWF, taking into account that some members will not be reimbursed as they are based in Brussels, suggested using the money allocated to these members to members asking for a higher cover of their travel expenses.

Good Fish Foundation suggested deciding on a case by case basis, providing the member can demonstrate the fairness of his higher reimbursement.

VisNed suggested adding an exception to the rule where it will be up to the discretion of the Chair of the MAC and the Secretariat to decide on the amount to be reimbursed.

The Chair stated that he would prefer clear rules above ad hoc decisions and suggested that the secretariat will check with all Advisory Councils the maximum amount reimbursable for travel costs and report back to the Executive Committee.

- **Endorsement of new members of the General Assembly**

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Four new members of the General Assembly were endorsed by the Executive Committee:

- ANCIT
- EuroCoop
- Irish South & West Fish Producers Organisation, CLG (IS&WFPO, CLG)
- Danish Seafood Association

- **Call for tenders on the Secretariat**

It was agreed that a call for tenders will be prepared by the Chair and Vice Chairs and sent to the ExCom before being published.

CFFA stressed that the Secretariat should not be a member of the MAC.

- **Delegated Act on Functioning of ACs**

The Chair informed that the Commission had distributed among ACs the draft amending Delegated Regulation (EU) 2015/242 laying down detailed rules on the functioning of the Advisory Councils under the Common Fisheries Policy. This amendment intends to modify the provision on the definitions of the two main categories of stakeholders represented in the Advisory Council according to article 45 § 1 of Regulation 1380/2013 (the fisheries/aquaculture industry on the one hand and the civil society on the other) and the provision on the appointment of the Executive Committee of the Advisory Councils.

Particularly it addresses on the one side, the competence to decide whether a new member of the ACs belongs to the 60% or 40% (fishing sector organisations or other interest groups, respectively); on the other side the competence to nominate members of the Executive Committee.

The Commission requested ACs comments and suggestions on this draft before launching the adoption procedure.

The Chair considered that the MAC should have an official position on this.

Several members (CEP, MSC, LIFE, CFFA, KFO, Good Fish Foundation, EMPA, WFF) expressed that the wording is still not clear on whether the “sector organisations” includes all value chain, on whether the General Assembly as a body should endorse all new members or each sector should endorse members claiming to belong to that particular sector and on whether the 60% and 40% should be the ones nominating members to be part of the Executive Committee.

KFO stressed that the criteria laid down on the draft Delegated Regulation should be the one considered to decide whether an organisation belongs to the 60% or 40% (namely statutes, list of members and nature of the activities of the organisation concerned).

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Good Fish Foundation underlined the problem of balance in the General Assembly which will lead to a situation where the 60% will always decide.

EMPA expressed that a Delegated Regulation should not modify the Regulation itself, therefore the General Assembly endorses new members, whether they belong to the 60% or 40%. Member States should be, according to EMPA, the ones deciding the representativeness of an organisation as sector or other interest groups.

LIFE and CFFA supported CEP when stating that the question to EC should directly be whether the 60% or 40% have the right of veto to an organisation that claims to be from one or the other, as it has happened de facto in some other ACs (SWWAC).

The Chair proposed to send a letter to EC requesting some clarifications. This proposal was adopted.

The Secretariat will circulate a draft letter to EC in the following weeks.

- **AOB**
  - Representative and alternate to EFCA Advisory Board

Mr Daniel Voces, from EUROPECHE, was elected as the MAC representative to EFCA Advisory Board.

The alternate would be a representative from the other interest groups, to be determined.

- Interpretation

It was decided that the Executive Committee will not need interpretation.

It was decided that interpretation for General Assembly and Working Groups will be provided in Spanish, French and English in case these are needed. If any other language is needed, there will be a threshold of a number of people requiring that language: 5 people in the General Assembly and 3 in Working Groups. Whispering interpretation could be provided upon request.

As for translation, it will be needed in several languages. The Secretariat will recalculate the figures considering several language options.

The Chair informed members that accountancy services have been hired.

- KFO requested the Executive Committee to take place after Working Groups to facilitate the adoption of the decisions of the later.
- EMPA asked the Secretariat to redistribute the calendar of meetings.

### **End of the meeting**

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## ANNEX I Attendees

Organisation	Representative
AIPCE	Guus Pastoor Marco Baldoli
ADEPALE	Pierre Commere
ANFACO - CECOPECA	Jose Carlos Castro
CEP	Peter Bamberger Andrew Kuyk
CFFA	Béatrice Gorez
Conxemar	Katarina Sipic
COPA - COGECA	Marina Predic
Danish Society for a Living Sea	Erik Bjorn Olsen
EAPO	Emiel Brouckaert
EFCA - European Fisheries Control Agency	Signe Aaskivi
EMPA	Bruno Guillaumie
EU fishmeal	Jonas Sorensen
European Commission – DG MARE	Pascale Colson
Europêche	Ante Ivcecic Daniel Voces
FEAP	Arnault Chaperon
Frucom	Anna Boulova
Good Fish Foundation	Christine Absil
Irish South and West Fish Producers Organisation - IS&WFPO	Patrick Murphy
KFO	Sean O'Donoghue
LIFE - Low Impact Fishers Europe	Brian O'Riordan
MSC	Hans Nieuwenhuis
Oceana	Agnes Lisik
Secretariat	Sandra Sanmartin Panagiotis Manias Jessica Demblon Despina Symons
VisNed	Pim Visser