



WORKING GROUP 3 – EU CONTROL AND SANITARY ISSUES, CONSUMER RULES

Benoît Thomassen

Chair

Online (Interactio)

Thursday, 4 June 2020

AGENDA (CET TIME ZONE)

- 10:00 Welcome from the Chair, Benoît Thomassen
- 10:05 Adoption of the agenda and of the last meeting's minutes (30.01.20)
- 10:10 Consumer Information
- 11:00 Nutritional Labelling, particularly "nutriscores"
- 11:30 Labelling of vegetarian and vegan products that imitate seafood products
- 11:50 Plastics
- 12:05 Ecolabels and Certification Schemes
- 12:20 AOB
- 12:25 Summary of action points
- 12:30 *End of the meeting*

BENOÎT THOMASSEN, BIO-ENGINEER SPECIALISED IN AQUACULTURE

- **Background** : worked in aquaculture farms (Sturgeon, salmon and trout)



- **Collège des producteurs**
Representative of the fish farmers of Wallonia and project manager
- **Economic, Social and Environmental Council of Wallonia, agriculture and fishing affairs**
Aquaculture representative



- **Federation of European Aquaculture Producers**
Member and representative of Wallonia fish farmers
- **FEAP Sturgeon Commission**
Chairman
- **Market Advisory Council**
WG3 Chairman



- **World Caviar Forum**
Manager



CONSUMER INFORMATION

➤ **Update: written consultation**

- Latest version: Sent to WG3 on 19 May 2020
- Comments submitted by FEDEPESCA and AIPCE-CEP

➤ **Reminder : Focus group** = gather ideas, propose a first draft without arbitration or concessions

Working group = goes further, comments and amends

Executive Committee = negotiates and votes

(if no consensus on recommendations : “Should the Executive Committee encounter dissenting opinions, these shall be recorded in the recommendations adopted by the majority of the members present and voting”)

CONSUMER INFORMATION

➤ **Let's try the same strategy than inside the Focus group :**

1. To start with the recommendations (since they seem to suit everyone)
2. Then, to take the text from the beginning (where divergent opinions can naturally coexist)
 - ➔ We will write which clusters (or organizations) are ok or not when divergent opinions occur)

➤ **Let's consider 4 clusters :**

- Processors representatives
- Fishermen representatives
- Aquaculture representatrives
- NGO's

NUTRITIONAL LABELLING, PARTICULARLY “NUTRISCORES”

➤ Presentations by EuroCommerce and ADEPALE/Visfederatie



➤ Consideration of a potential advice



LABELLING OF VEGETARIAN AND VEGAN PRODUCTS THAT IMITATE SEAFOOD PRODUCTS

➤ Presentation by Visfederatie



➤ Consideration of a potential advice

PLASTICS

➤ Exchange of views on other Advisory Council's initiatives

- NWWAC – First draft prepared by Focus Group
 - Open to comments from other Acs until 12 June
 - Final adoption and endorsement by other ACs in July
- NSAC – Draft currently under consultation in Focus Group



➤ Way forward: potential preparation of MAC advice based on 2019 Workshop report

- MAC & NWWAC Workshop on Plastics and Seafood Supply Chain (7 November 2019)
- Year 4 Work Programme: “advice to be produced in the second half of Year 4”
- Extra WG3 meeting with experts on specific topics? (ie: polluter pays principle? Consumers perspective?)
- Start drafting advice? (WG3 or FG?)



ECOLABELS AND CERTIFICATION SCHEMES

➤ **Update: Workshop preparation**

- Terms of Reference: Adopted by Executive Committee (11 March 2020)
- Main issues identified by DG MARE: limited number of alternatives / market access, lack of clarity on the definition of sustainability, the repartition of costs along the supply chain + social dimension
- Workshop in May: Cancelled due to COVID-19
- Way forward: Webinar sessions? (or wait for physical meeting?)

ECOLABELS AND CERTIFICATION SCHEMES – POTENTIAL DRAFT AGENDA (WEBINARS)

Session I: Introduction & Public and Private Initiatives (Day 1, 10:00-12:30)

- Introduction: Opening / Keynote speaker / clarification of terms
- Public Initiatives: FAO Guidelines / Seafood Ecolabels / Examples of public ecolabels
- Private initiatives: ISEAL Alliance / Global Sustainable Seafood Initiative / Seafood Guides

Session II: Seafood Value Chain, Environment & Market (Day 2, 10:00-12:30)

- Experiences of the Value Chain: Different sectors (fishing, aquaculture, processing, retailers, consumers)
- Environmental impacts and benefits: Experts
- Market benefits, limitations and costs: Experts

Session III: Sustainability and Farm to Fork Strategy (Day 3, 10:00-12:30)

- Social Sustainability: UN, OECD, national authorities, private sector
- The EU's Marketing Standards Framework: DG MARE
- Animal Welfare: NGO
- Conclusion and way forward

AOB, ACTION POINTS, END OF MEETING

- AOB
- Summary of action points
- End of meeting