



# WORKING GROUP 2 – EU MARKET

Pierre Commère

Chair

NH Brussels EU Berlaymont

Monday, 19 September 2022

# AGENDA (CEST TIME ZONE)

- 14:30 Welcome from the Chair, Pierre Commère
- 14:35 Adoption of the agenda and of the last meeting's minutes (23.05.22)
- 14:40 Actions points
- 14:45 Scientific, Technical and Economic Committee for Fisheries (STECF)
- 15:15 Banning Forced Labour
- 15:45 Trade Agreements & Trade Policy Instruments
- 16:00 *Break*
- 16:15 Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing & Global Governance
- 16:45 EU Taxonomy for Sustainable Initiatives
- 17:15 Focus Group on Trade
- 17:45 Outermost Regions Advisory Council
- 17:50 AOB
- 17:55 Summary of actions points
- 18:00 End of the meeting

# ACTION POINTS (23 MAY 2022)

## EU Taxonomy for Sustainable Initiatives:

- Based on the presentation of MSC and the contributions of Europêche, draft advice to be developed for consideration via written procedure
  - First written consultation: 23 June – 7 July 2022
  - Second (urgent) written consultation: 31 August – 8 September 2022
  - New draft version for consideration: 14 September 2022

## Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing & Global Governance:

- In relation to EJF's report on the Chinese distant-water fleet, Secretariat to formally contact the LDAC Secretariat about the feasibility of joint work, including the potential establishment of a joint Focus Group
- In relation to the quantity of catch certificates verified and rejected due to IUU reasons, Secretariat to check bilaterally with ClientEarth and Commission about publicly available data – if necessary, draft letter to the Commission requesting data.
  - Chinese distant-water fleet: formal request on 30 May 2022 | collaboration still pending
  - Data on catch certificates: letter to DG MARE sent on 7 July 2022

# ACTION POINTS (23 MAY 2022)

## Trade Agreements & Trade Policy Instruments:

- In relation to testing of Brown crab, letter to be sent to the Commission requesting an update on the development of a new methodology by the Chinese authorities and a harmonisation of trade between the whole EU and China
- In relation to Brazil's prohibition to export fishery products to the EU, written question to be resent requesting an update of the Commission's position on the action plan presented by Brazil, and next steps in view of reopening the trade
  - Letter on brown crab sent to DG MARE & TRADE (6 July 2022) – No reply
  - Written question on Brazil sent to DG MARE via email (17 June 2022) – No reply

## Initial Focus Group on Trade:

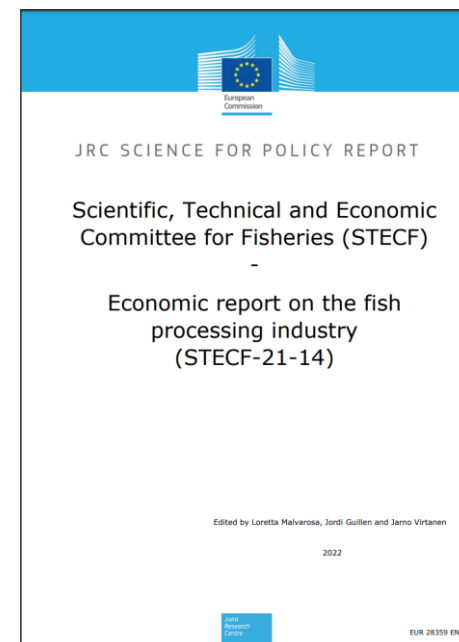
- In coordination with the WG Chair and the Chair of the Initial Focus Group on Trade, Secretariat to prepare a new version of the draft Terms of Reference with a more specific list of proposed outcomes for consideration at the September 2022 meeting
  - New version of the draft Terms of Reference circulated on 7 September 2022

# SCIENTIFIC, TECHNICAL AND ECONOMIC COMMITTEE FOR FISHERIES (STECF)

## ➤ Presentation of 2022 Economic Report on the Fish Processing Industry

- Loretta Malvarosa (STECF EWG Chair)

## ➤ Exchange of views



# BANNING FORCED LABOUR

- **Presentation of initiative on effectively banning products produced, extracted or harvested with forced labour**
- **Fabio Appel (TRADE C4)**
  - Lead DG: DG GROW & DG TRADE
  - Call for evidence: 23 May 2022 -20 June 2022
  - Legislative proposal: Adopted on 14 September 2022
  - Problem: Difficult to detect. Need to understand the value chain to identify and address forced labour risks and impacts. Existing legislation is lacking. Existing initiatives on due diligence do not address the products directly.
  - Aim: Marketing prohibition. Cover both EU and imported products. Risk-based enforcement, likely carried out by MS authorities. Supportive role of COM.
- **Exchange of views & way forward**
  - Drafting of advice? Monitor developments? None?

# TRADE AGREEMENTS & TRADE POLICY INSTRUMENTS

## ➤ Update on latest trade developments, including on:

- Revision of the Union Customs Code – **Paul-Martin Brennan (TAXUD A3)**
  - Strengthen the legal framework and address new challenges (e-commerce operations, risk management, data analytics capabilities, protection from goods imported from non-EU countries that are not compliant with EU legislation)
  - Adoption of legislative proposal: Planned for Q4 2022
- WTO Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies – **Tamas Maczak (TRADE A1)**
  - Adopted at the 12<sup>th</sup> Ministerial Conference on 17 June 2022
  - Prohibition of harmful fisheries subsidies
  - Enter into force: two-third of members have to deposit their “instruments of acceptance”
  - Negotiations to continue on outstanding issues

## ➤ Exchange of views & way forward

- Drafting of advice? Monitor developments? None?

# BREAK

➤ **BACK AT 17:00**



# ILLEGAL, UNREPORTED, UNREGULATED (IUU) FISHING & GLOBAL GOVERNANCE

## ➤ Presentation on combating IUU fishing, import control schemes, and digitalisation of control:

- Quentin Marchais (ClientEarth)

## ➤ Exchange of views & way forward

- Drafting of advice? Monitor developments? None?
- January 2023 meeting – presentation of two new reports:
  - EU IUU Coalition: “Water-tight? Assessing the effectiveness of EU controls to prevent illegal seafood imports”
  - EU IUU Coalition + ClientEarth: IUU risks associated to the Spanish market

# EU TAXONOMY FOR SUSTAINABLE INITIATIVES

## ➤ Exchange of views on development of Technical Screening Criteria for Fishing Activities

- Selection procedure for Platform on Sustainable Finance: 2020
- Platform's draft report for technical screening criteria: August 2021
- COM's draft delegated act: Expected in October/November 2022 (informal information)
- Adoption of the delegated act by COM: Expected in February 2023 (informal information)

## ▪ Developments in MAC:

- First presentation by DG MARE at March 2022 meeting
- Second presentation by DG FISMA at May 2022 meeting
- First written consultation: 23 June - 7 July 2022
- Second (urgent) written consultation: 31 August – 8 September 2022

## ➤ Way forward

- Integration of amendments from ClientEarth, Good Fish, Oceana, WWF, EJF?
- Addition of dissenting opinion?

# FOCUS GROUP ON TRADE

## ➤ Consideration of draft Terms of Reference

- Advice on trade policy instruments (30 March 2022)
- Letter from MARE B3 (12 May 2022) requesting further time for liaising with DG TRADE and DG TAXUD to prepare comprehensive feedback
- Final reply from MARE: Pending
- New version of draft Terms of Reference circulated on 7 September 2022

## ➤ Way forward

# OUTERMOST REGIONS ADVISORY COUNCIL

- **Reporting back on General Assembly and Working Group meetings (Mayotte, 13-15 September 2022)**
  - **Pierre Commère (Chair of Working Group 2)**
  - Invitation for participation + presentation

# AOB, ACTION POINTS, END OF MEETING

➤ **AOB**

➤ **Summary of action points**

➤ **End of meeting**