

INTER AC MEETING BETWEEN CHAIRS AND SECRETARIATS:

Coordination of ACs work programmes

Wednesday, 11th January 2023, 13:30-17:30 (CET)

Copenhagen and via ZOOM

Report

1. Welcome by the BSAC Chair Jarek Zielinski

The **BSAC ExCom Chair** welcomed all participants (in person and on-line) to the meeting between the Chairs and the Secretariats of the Advisory Councils.

The BSAC chaired the meeting. Representatives of all Advisory Councils were present. There was a tour-de-table.

a. Apologies and adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted. Apologies were noted from Ivan Lopez (LDAC). The list of participants is annexed to the report (Annex 1).

b. Reference to the last meetings:

- **Inter-Secretariat meeting 04/11/21 (PELAC)¹**
- **Inter AC meeting between Chairs and secretariats 18/01/22 (LDAC)**
- **Inter-ACs meeting 17/11/22 (European Commission)**

The **BSAC Secretary** referred to the last Inter-Secretariat and Inter-AC meetings. He presented the actions agreed during the Inter-AC meeting in January 2022 (Annex 2) and their implementation status.

2. ACs Work Programmes in 2023 and cooperation

Reference was made to Article 44 of the CFP Regulation² supporting that where there are horizontal issues of interest from more than one AC, they shall coordinate their positions with a view to adopting joint recommendations on that issue.

The **BSAC Chair** recalled that during the Inter-AC Secretariat meeting in November 2021 the AC had agreed to share the priority items of their work programmes.

a. Comparison of work programmes: room for joint work in 2023

The **BSAC Secretary** presented the horizontal topics of shared interest for the ACs, identified from the work programmes (see Annex 3). The following topics were included in

¹ "There was overall agreement to hold an additional meeting at the start of the year to discuss and compare work programs. It was suggested that each AC uploads key topics from their work programmes that could be of interest to other ACs on an excel file in the shared Dropbox. It was also suggested to include a list the Focus Group or Working Group topics."

² Article 44: If an issue is of common interest to two or more Advisory Councils, they shall coordinate their positions with a view to adopting joint recommendations on that issue. **Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2013 on the Common Fisheries Policy.**

[EUR-Lex - 32013R1380 - EN - EUR-Lex \(europa.eu\)](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2013/1380/oj)

more than 6 ACs work programmes: Green Deal: Biodiversity Strategy, Farm to Fork, Blue Growth, landing obligation, bycatch (incl. cetaceans), Action Plan Conserve Fisheries Resources - Protect Marine Ecosystems, climate change, strategy for energy transition, Control Regulation, compliance, social aspects, gender equality, generational succession. He flagged the topics which could be dealt with in 2023: preparatory work for RFMOs and deep-sea mining (proposed by LDAC), uncoordinated approach of MS: MPAs, offshore energy, MPAs (proposed by NWWAC), Action plan to conserve fisheries and marine ecosystems: the need of a true implementation of the ecosystem approach (proposed by MEDAC). The BSAC Executive Secretary also referred to other topics which had been brought forward by the Commission during the last Inter-AC, to which the ACs could contribute collectively: Communication on the functioning of the CFP, CMO report, EU algae initiative, Strategic foresight initiatives ('Fishers of the future'), European year of skills.

The BSAC Chair stated that there are many topics of shared interest, but it might not always be possible to agree on a common advice.

The ACs presented their work programmes. The priorities of all ACs are summarised in the table in Annex 3.

The BSAC Chair underlined that the table in the annex is a good tool to identify topics of common interest.

The LDAC stated that certain degree of coordination is needed for the work of several ACs involved in providing the advice on topics related to management of international fisheries (including RFMOs such as ICCAT, IOTC or IATTC).

The NSAC recognised that there are several topics of common interest to the ACs, such as the work related to STECF, CFP and the landing obligation. The NSAC will focus on the topics related to the North Sea. He pointed to the problems related the approval procedure of joint AC advice. Therefore, the ACs should be realistic with regard to the work on horizontal issues.

The MEDAC underlined that environmental aspects and ecosystem based management (EBM) should be increasingly considered in joint AC work. The MEDAC would like to discuss the EBM with other ACs.

The MAC stated that the socio-economic aspects, including on the economic performance of the EU fishing fleet analysed by STECF in its annual reports, and on the attractiveness of the sector to workers, should be the subject of closer cooperation between the ACs in order to find the common approach to keeping the fisheries and aquaculture sector profitable.

The LDAC agreed that the ACs should work together to adopt a stepwise approach: first, look at the existing methodology used to measure the socio-economic indicators displayed in the STECF annual economic reports on the fishing fleets. Second, to identify those indicators (e.g. landings in volume and value, FTEs, gross profit margin, fixed costs...) which might be useful for the ACs concerned to provide evidence of socio-economic importance of fishing fleets and fisheries in their advices. Third, to develop a matrix to run

assessments on potential socio-economic scenarios related to regulatory changes. Inspiration might be drawn on the “choke species mitigation tool” developed and used by the NWWAC for socio-economic impacts (including TAC reductions) linked to implementation of the landing obligation in NWW..

The NWWAC informed that in 2022 NWWAC and NSAC had issued a joint advice on social aspects of fisheries. NWWAC and PELAC organised a joint Briefing on Maritime Area Planning Act Ireland 2021 and its impacts on fishing areas in the Irish EEZ on 19th January 2023.

The Black Sea AC indicated the interest of its members to exchange experience in sustainable marine aquaculture with other ACs active in other sea basins.

The AAC highlighted decarbonisation of fisheries and aquaculture sectors and socio-economic aspects as topics for cooperation between the ACs.

The SWWAC pointed to the cross-cutting topics of interest to all ACs such as the landing obligation, socio-economic analysis of the fisheries sector, migratory species, strategy for energy transition (release planned in February 2023).

The BSAC presented the BSAC priorities in 2023. The BSAC will start discussion on the Action Plan to conserve fisheries resources and the Strategy for energy transition of EU's fisheries - aquaculture sectors during its ExCom on 30th – 31st January 2023. Coordination with other ACs on these documents might be useful. The BSAC acknowledged the work already done by other ACs on Maritime Spatial Planning and offshore wind farms and will consult relevant ACs on these issues when formulating its advice.

The BSAC Chair thanked all the ACs for sharing their work programmes.

b. Tools for collaboration: how to do it best?

In the past years, tools have been put into place for collaboration and need to be regularly updated by Secretariats:

- *Calendar of AC meetings*
- *Statutes and rules of procedures, deadline and procedures for consultations (including fast track)*
- *Horizontal issues to be dealt with in 2023: collaborative Excel sheet*

The meeting was invited to discuss further initiatives and the concrete organisation of collaboration.

The BSAC Chair invited the ACs to comment on the existing tools for collaboration and propose further initiatives.

Several ACs praised the calendar of AC meetings as a very useful tool in improving the cooperation between the ACs.

The PELAC stated that more synergies are being sought between the ACs. In recent years, the ACs have started working more and more together on topics of common interest,

resulting in the uptake of several multi-AC advice documents. The collaboration on horizontal issues could be further streamlined.

The NWWAC underlined that preparation of joint advice is time-consuming and that it is difficult to get consensus advice across the ACs. A more efficient way of working is sometimes to have ACs supporting each others positions “as is”, without changes to the advice agreed to by the first AC. However, a joint advice is stronger. Therefore, the ACs should join efforts and produce joint advice on horizontal topics.

The BSAC referred to the need for even closer cooperation between the AC Secretariats. One way to tighten the cooperation could be to organise study trips to the premises of different ACs.

The NSAC was of the opinion that the ACs should commit to hold meetings once a year to identify and prioritise topics of common interest, with a view to producing a joint advice.

The MAC informed that the MAC Secretariat attends, as observers, the meetings of other ACs with common topics of interest, such as the AAC, the LDAC, and CCRUP.

Several other ACs praised the idea to organise regular study trips to the premises of ACs and proposed to rotate the Inter-Secretariat meetings between the AC headquarters, in order to tighten the cooperation on horizontal topics.

The MEDAC thanked the BSAC Executive Secretary for excellent work in gathering the information on horizontal topics in the tables.

The NSAC proposed to exchange the newsletters between the ACs to get additional ideas on issues of common interest.

The LDAC proposed to produce joint press releases and organise side events in the fringes of international and high policy meetings attended by ACs, in order to improve the knowledge and visibility of the ACs.

3. Inter-AC Brexit Forum: organisational and structural aspects (NWWAC)

The NWWAC informed that the Inter-AC Brexit Forum holds regular meetings, organised by different ACs to discuss horizontal issues affecting the EU and UK. DG Mare attends the meetings and brings topics for discussion. The minutes are kept confidential.

The PELAC and **the NSAC** underlined that the Inter-AC Brexit Forum is considered to be the most important point of communication on fisheries related issues between the EU and UK.

The CCRUP voiced interest to take part in future meetings as one of the stocks covered by the AC is also shared with the UK.

4. Internal functioning of ACs: building on best work practices **a. External representation of ACs (BSAC)**

The BSAC Chair informed that this item of the agenda had been proposed by the BSAC. The BSAC is currently conducting a review of its Rules of Procedure. He asked the ACs to share their experience on any rules guiding the representation of the AC in external fora and to whom the advice is addressed.

The MAC informed that, in line with the CFP Regulation, advice is officially submitted to the European Commission and to the Member States. Advice can also be sent to the Secretariat of the PECH Committee of the European Parliament for their information. In external meetings, statements must be based on adopted advice and/or on positions previously agreed by the Executive Committee.

The NSAC stated that the advice is mainly addressed to the Commission and Member States.

b. Code of conduct, good practices and internal procedures (CCRUP)

The CCRUP referred to the fact that some ACs had highlighted issues with internal procedures and asked the ACs to share their experience.

The BSAC informed that the Rules of Procedure of the BSAC are currently under revision, in order to align the document with the existing EU legislation and streamline the internal procedures. The European Commission recommends an inclusive approach and would like to see all dissenting opinions of the members presented in the recommendations.

The LDAC stated that the Rules of Procedure need to be streamlined and updated periodically to reflect current practice and be as close as possible to reality, as well as including any regulatory changes that have entered into force. In 2015,, the LDAC and other ACs received negative feedback from a report conducted by WWF EU, underlining that neither governing rules of procedure and accounts were not publicly available nor minority positions were not reflected in the advice. This was not true but methodology was based on written rules which were outdated. As a result, this was helpful to initiate a revision of the Rules of Procedure which concluded in 2017. The LDAC also has a voluntary code of conduct for participation of members and observers at meetings.

The NWWAC informed that their Rules of Procedure had been updated two years ago and they are available on their website, including a policy on “Equal opportunities and dignity at work”

The SWWAC informed that the internal rules had been revised and made more transparent, also in relation to the presentation of minority positions. A minority position is recorded if at least two organisations support it.

Some ACs underlined that management teams had been created to streamline administrative and practical matters.

Responding to the question on translation of documents asked by the Chair, **the NWWAC** informed that the minutes, as well as basic documents, are translated into the three official working languages. **The CCRUP** stated that due to restricted budget for translations, it is

not possible to translate voluminous documents such as the ICES advice. The CCRUP asks the Commission to provide translated documents.

c. Recognition of the ACs, participation, support and advocacy by the COM (NWWAC, LDAC):

The NWWAC recalled that the need to recognise the work of the ACs by the Commission had already been raised in the Inter-AC meetings. The ACs called on the European Commission to support their work by increasing the visibility of the ACs as well as promoting their achievements. Presentations were made by the MAC at the Inter-AC meeting in January 2021³, and by the NWWAC in November 2022⁴. Despite efforts made, public recognition of the role and work of the ACs remains low. Unfortunately, the Commission had not replied to the request for support and advocacy. Therefore, the NWWAC proposed to draft a joint letter, asking the Commission to support their work on attracting new members by increasing the visibility of ACs as well as promoting their achievements.

The BSAC Chair stated that the joint letter should be sent to the Commission before the next Inter-AC meeting in March 2023.

The SWWAC referred to the Commission's proposal to hold meetings of the ACs with DG Mare in the form of internal conferences to present the recommendations of the ACs and further improve the cooperation. The SWWAC asked other ACs whether they have selected any topics/specific advice to be presented at such meetings and underlined that

Referring to the proposal to present the AC recommendations to DG Mare during special meetings with the staff, **the NSAC** informed that the NSAC had been asked by DG Mare to present decarbonisation work during an online lunch conference with DG Mare on 25th January 2023. The NSAC will report back. The NSAC underlined that promotion of advice and promotion of cooperation with stakeholders need to be differentiated. The Commission should be asked to make a call on stakeholders to get involved in the AC work.

The BSAC Chair underlined that the ACs should engage more in the work of the PECH Committee of the European Parliament.

All ACs agreed to send a letter asking the Commission to support the AC work by increasing the visibility of ACs as well as by promoting their achievements. The NWWAC agreed to prepare a draft and circulate it for comments to all ACs after the meeting. The letter will be sent to the Commission with a view to include it as an agenda item at the upcoming Inter-AC meeting in March.

³ <https://www.nwwac.org/listing/inter-ac-meeting-with-dg-mare.3245.html>

⁴ <https://www.nwwac.org/listing/dg-mare-inter-ac-meeting.3961.html>

- **INI report on co-management of fisheries (by MEP Aguilera)⁵, Letter from LDAC to the Commission on participation in meetings**

The NWWAC referred to the draft report on co-management of fisheries in the EU and the contribution of the fisheries sector for the implementation of management measures (by MEP Aguilera). Many amendments have been tabled by MEPs to the draft report with positive references to Advisory Councils⁶. One of the points highlights the specific role of Advisory Councils in ensuring stakeholder involvement in the EU decision making process and encourages the Commission to further engage with the Advisory Councils and to ensure proper feedback in relation to their recommendations. The Commission is asked to consider an annual report on how Advisory Councils recommendations have been taken into account. The draft underlines that drawing lessons and possibly building on the existing advisory councils is essential to implement co-management in the CFP⁷. If these amendments are voted, the report can be referred to by ACs.

The LDAC referred to the letter sent to DG Mare sent a letter to the Commission in December 2022, asking for clarification on EC participation at LDAC meetings. The letter refers in particular to the meetings organised by LDAC in Brussels in October 2022, to facilitate the physical participation of the European Commission representatives. Many members were surprised, disappointed and even annoyed to see that most of the expected from DG MARE did not attend the meeting in person. The LDAC asked to clarify the terms of the consultation process from the beginning to assure proper stakeholder participation and preparation of AC's advice. The LDAC also stated that the tendency from the European Commission to consider the Inter-AC as a proper consultative body is incompatible with the CFP Regulation. Finally, the LDAC proposed some guidelines as an Annex to facilitate the working relationship in the near future, including dealing with topics of common interest for several ACs such as ICCAT or fisheries control.

The MAC stated that the MAC meetings are held fully in person or fully online. In person meetings are held in Brussels to facilitate the attendance of Commission representatives. Until now, Commission representatives have been attending without significant problems.

The NWWAC pointed out that only the chairs and secretariats had in the past been invited to in-person InterAC meetings, before the COVID pandemic. The first in-person Inter-AC after a long break will take place in March 2023 and the ACs are obliged to pay for travelling and accommodation in Brussels.

The NSAC underlined that the communication with the Commission in the Inter-AC is one sided. The Commission focuses on presenting policy files and the ACs do not get a chance

⁵ [https://oeil.secure.europarl.europa.eu/oeil/popups/ficheprocedure.do?lang=en&reference=2022/2003\(INI\)](https://oeil.secure.europarl.europa.eu/oeil/popups/ficheprocedure.do?lang=en&reference=2022/2003(INI))

⁶ For example: *point 12 a. Highlights the specific role of Advisory Councils in ensuring stakeholder involvement in the EU decision making process; encourages the Commission to further engage with the Advisory Councils and to ensure proper feedback in relation to their recommendations; asks the Commission to consider an annual report on how Advisory Councils recommendations have been taken into account;*

⁷ [AM_Com_NonLegReport \(europa.eu\)](#)

to comment. The NSAC stated that the agenda could be shortened to enable proper exchange of views.

The PELAC was of the opinion that the InterAC should not only be used to consult EU policy files. Other horizontal topics relevant to the ACs (see Annex 3) should also be discussed.

d.Reimbursement ceilings for AC members (MEDAC, PELAC)

The MEDAC stated that reimbursement ceilings for AC members follow the Commission's guidelines and are at similar level in all ACs. The Commission should revise the reimbursement ceilings for travels and daily allowance.

Several ACs informed that they had increased the reimbursement ceilings in order to adapt to rising prices of hotels and flights.

The BSAC informed that the BSAC reimbursement rules are currently under revision, in order to better align them with the Commission's guidelines.

The NSAC informed that it had cancelled the 30% deduction for meals provided during meetings in order to simplify the reimbursement procedure.

5. Financial and administrative matters

a.Lump sum exercise: lessons learnt and questions pending

b.Update of guidelines for ACs announced by DG MARE

The BSAC Executive Secretary explained that this point has been put on the agenda so that ACs could raise any pending concerns regarding the lump sum model. He underlined that the BSAC is the last one of the ACs to enter the lump sum system.

He referred to the follow-up meeting of the Commission and AC Secretariats on financial matters. Following the discussions held in the Inter-AC meeting on 17th November 2022, the Commission had organised an ad-hoc meeting on 29th November 2022 to address the misunderstanding around the way grants would be calculated in the second year of the lump sum (and potentially reduced if there was lump sum surplus in the previous year). The Commission informed that new guidelines for lump sum grants to ACs are currently in the process of being updated.

The NWWAC pointed out that the Commission budget is based on a 2%-inflation-assumption year-over-year. This means that the current Commission's budget was not foreseen to cover inflation rates above 2%.

Some ACs expressed scepticism towards the new lump sum model.

The ACs decided to ask the Commission to clarify whether they are still obliged to appoint an auditor (under the CFP Regulation) even with the new lump sum system⁸.

c. Qualified Electronic Signature (LDAC, CCRUP)

Several ACs (including CCRUP, AAC, MEDAC, CC-S and LDAC) encountered problems with validation of electronic signatures by the European Commission to sign the grant agreement. This is a criteria that changes and evolved over time without explanations from DG MARE AC coordination team other than pointing to links on general information. This has created confusion in particular for Spanish national Chairs and Secretaries, as the governmental electronic ID (“FNMT”) is not anymore accepted as QES.. The ACs exchanged views on this matter.

The **LDAC** submitted a query by email on this topic to the DG MARE coordination team and committed to provide supplementary information once they receive their response and also based on their own research.

The BSAC Chair proposed to raise the issue of electronic signature at the InterAC meeting in March 2023.

6. AOB

The CCRUP proposed to hold the next InterAC Secretariat and chairs meeting in Teircera Island in Azores in 2024.

The ACs thanked Guus Pastoor (MAC), who will cease as Chair, for his guidance and valuable advice to the work of the ACs.

ACTION ITEMS

| | WHAT | WHO |
|---|---|----------------|
| 1 | ACs to subscribe and follow each others newsletters | All ACs |
| 2 | Rotate organisation and location of InterAC coordination of work programmes meetings between ACs secretariats and -hold the next InterAC Secretariat and chairs meeting in Teircera in Azores in 2024 | All ACs, CCRUP |
| 3 | Consider the table of shared interest (Annex 3) between ACs to foster collaborations and joint advices when possible | All ACs |

⁸ According to some new grant agreements, the Commission has the right to audit the grant for proper implementation, compliance with the adopted annual work programme and the applicable rules.

| | | |
|----|--|------------------|
| 4 | Reflect on the possibility to organise common events and communicate jointly on them | All ACs |
| 5 | NSAC to report back on the Lunch Conference to DG MARE on the 25/01/23 on their work on decarbonisation | NSAC |
| 6 | NWWAC to prepare a joint AC letter asking the Commission to support the AC work by increasing the visibility of ACs as well as by promoting their achievements. This will also be put on the agenda of the Next Inter AC in March 2023 | All ACs NWWAC |
| 7 | Follow developments of the INI report on co-management of fisheries (by MEP Aguilera) and the amendments tabled in favour of ACs | All ACs |
| 8 | ACs will follow up on the answer given to the LDAC letter sent to DG Mare in December 2022 | LDAC, All ACs |
| 9 | ACs decided to ask the Commission to clarify whether they are still obliged to appoint an auditor (under the CFP Regulation) even with the new lump sum system | All ACs |
| 10 | Issue of qualified electronic signature (QES) to be raised at the InterAC meeting in March 2023 | All ACs |

ANNEX 1:

| AC | Name | In pers /Online |
|-----------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| MAC | Guus Pastoor | In person |
| PELAC | Anne-Marie Kats | In person |
| BSAC | Jarek Zielinski | In person |
| CCRUP | Gualberto Rita | In person |
| SWWAC | Chloé Pocheau | In person |
| NWWAC | Mo Mathies | In person |
| NWWAC | Alexandra Philippe | In person |
| CCRUP | Daniela Costa | In person |
| CCRUP | Fabiana Nogueira | In person |
| BSAC | Guillaume Carruel | In person |
| LDAC | Alexandre Rodriguez | In person |
| MAC | Pedro Reis Santos | In person |
| NWWAC | Matilde Vallerani | In person |
| NSAC | Kenn Skau Fischer | In person |
| NWWAC | Emiel Brouckaert | In person |
| PELAC | Esben Sverdrup | In person |
| NSAC | Jacopo Pasquero | In person |
| BISAC | Anca-Maria Panait | Online |
| NSAC | Tamara Talevska | Online |
| MEDAC | Rosa Caggiano | Online |
| MEDAC | Marzia Piron | Online |
| MEDAC | Marina Illuminati | Online |
| AAC | Cécile Fouquet | Online |
| LDAC | Juan Manuel Liria | Online |
| BSAC | Ewa Milewska | Online |
| CCRUP | Carolina Silveira | Online |
| SWWAC | Javier Lopez | Online |
| MEDAC | Antonio Marzoa Notlevsen | Online |

ANNEX 2:

| Action item | Coord. | Status |
|---|---------|--|
| Letter to COM to allow more time for AC to address responses to EU consultations | PELAC | Letter was sent in March and answer received |
| COM asked to ensure no delays in grant payment | MEDAC | Done |
| COM encouraged to send InterAC agendas at least 2-3 weeks before | All ACs | |
| Participation of the Presidents and/or VP will be requested for Inter AC meetings between Secretariats and DG MARE where there might important files or subjects at stake | LDAC | Important secretariat matters were included in November at the meeting with Chairs and vice Chairs |
| Language diversity must be respected by DG MARE when addressing public and targeted consultations to stakeholders | CCRUP | CCRUP has raised the issue with COM at many occasions |
| Lump sum methodology: should be clear, specific and easy to implement based on written guidelines, procedures and templates | All ACs | This has been raised at the last InterAC in November (see agenda point 5a.) |
| COM asked to provide guidance on how AC Secretariats can ensure fulfilment of the deliverables to avoid budget cuts for misunderstanding of rules | All ACs | COM promised to updated Acs Guidelines in 2023 |
| COM asked to provide minimum level of funding even if the AC grant is reduced, for AC secretariats to ensure smooth functioning organizations | All ACs | Last information presented by COM in November seem to limit the maximum reduction of the lump sum |
| COM encouraged to submit calendar of forthcoming public consultations | All ACs | The InterAC of Nov. was the occasion for COM to present some of this ahead |
| ACs complete Excel in shared Dropbox with horizontal topics from work programme, WG, FG, and timelines for approval procedures. + upload rules of procedures and statutes | All ACs | Done |

ANNEX 3: Horizontal work identified from table and/or put forward by ACs:

| Topic | AAC | BS AC | BIS AC* | CC RUP | LD AC | MAC | MED AC | NS AC | NWW AC | PEL AC | SWW AC |
|--|-----|-------|---------|--------|-------|-----|--------|-------|--------|--------|--------|
| Green Deal: Biodiversity Strategy, Farm to Fork, Blue Growth | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| Landing Obligation, bycatch (incl cetaceans) | | X | X | X | | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| Action Plan Conserve Fisheries Resources - Protect Marine Ecosystems | | X | X | | X | | X | X | X | X | X |
| Climate Change: CO2 emissions/ Strategy for energy transition of EU's fisheries - aquaculture sectors, carbon storage | X | X | | | X | | X | X | X | X | X |
| Control Regulation, compliance | | X | | | X | | | X | X | X | X |
| Social aspects, gender equality, generational succession | | | X | | X | | X | X | X | | X |
| STECF | | X | | | | X | X | | X | X | |
| Spatial Planning, offshore energy, integrated sea use | X | X | | X | | | X | X | | | |
| Marine litter, plastics, | X | | X | | | | | X | | X | X |
| Functioning of ACs | | | | X | | | X | X | X | X | |
| Brexit | | | | | X | | | X | X | X | |
| Ecosystem-based management | | | | | | | | X | X | X | X |
| MSFD | | X | X | | | | X | X | | | |
| Seismic, Noise impact, deep-sea mining | | | | | X | | | X | X | X | |
| Technical Measures | | X | | | | | X | X | X | | |

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------|---|---|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| EMFAF | X | | | | X | | | X | | | X |
| Functioning of the CFP | | X | | | | | X | | X | | |
| ICES, science | | | | | | | | X | X | X | |
| MPAs | | | | | X | | | X | | | X |
| IUU Fishing | | | | X | X | X | | | | | |

*For this AC, the WP of 2022 was used to fill in the table

The following topics have only been quoted by one AC and therefore are not included in the table: Invasive Species; International Ocean Governance; EIA and CIA for non-fishing activities in international waters; RFMOs, BBNJ, ISA; SFPAs; ICCAT, IOTC; EUMOFA; Ukraine; Fuel crisis; Bottom trawling

“Key points for AC work in 2023” put forward by the Commission and raised by the Director General during the last InterAC in November 2022: Strategy for the energy transition of the EU’s fisheries and aquaculture sector; Action Plan to Conserve Fisheries Resources and Protect Marine Ecosystems; Communication on the functioning of the CFP; CMO report; EU algae initiative; Strategic foresight initiatives (‘Fishers of the future’); European year of skills