

## TERMS OF REFERENCE

### Joint NWWAC/NSAC/MAC Workshop on Brown Crab

27 March 2023

#### *Rationale*

In autumn 2022 the North Western Waters AC, the North Sea AC and the Market AC set up a joint Focus Group on Brown Crab to follow on from previous joint work and to specifically work on:

- Overview of previous work by NWWAC, NSAC and MAC on brown crab
- Overview of outcomes from the ACRUNET project
- Preparation of joint advice on brown crab fisheries management and supply chain matters for the consideration of the relevant Working Groups and potential adoption by the Executive Committees
- Review the impact of emerging environmental issues such as:
  - o Possible threat to brown crab populations due to rising sea temperatures, invasive species, new infections
  - o MPA, which limit fishing opportunities but may improve Crab survival – finding a balance
  - o Necessary reduction in emissions which will negatively affect fishing effort and the supply chain (in particular live transport: both vivier and air freight of live crab)
- Review the role of EU (DG SANTE & TRADE) regarding brown crab
- Review the route to market(s) and identify obstacles/solutions
- Develop clear guidelines for industry regarding exports to Asian countries
- Follow up on DG SANTE proposals to introduce levels for inorganic arsenic

In preparation for this workshop, the Focus Group met monthly since October 2022 gathering background information and initiating dialogues with experts on the topic.

#### *Purpose*

- To bring together stakeholders from all three Advisory Councils and representatives from the scientific community to discuss in detail and progress the following issues:
  - a. Management measures – co-management in the North Sea - grading (regulation vs market)
  - b. Impact of ORE developments on brown crab fisheries
  - c. Potential communication tools (harmonised and agreed grading approach) and information sources for operators (ACRUNET)
  - d. Specific socio-economic challenges for stakeholders in this fishery

- e. Supply chain issues including potential guidelines for industry regarding exports to Asian countries

### ***Proposed outcomes***

- Workshop report
- Advice with a series of recommendations to the European Commission and relevant EU Member States on brown crab supply chain issues
- Discussions of this will lead to a better-informed industry particularly regarding potential markets and supply.

### ***Workshop participants***

- Members of the joint NWWAC/NSAC/MAC Focus Group Brown Crab
- European Commission, STECF
- Representatives from national research and development institutes, including the Marine Institute, BIM, Wageningen University, IFREMER, and others
- UK representatives, e.g., scientists from Defra, Cefas

### ***Working languages***

- English, French

### ***Location***

- Hybrid workshop in CNPMM, Paris, 16 May 2023 with Zoom access and online discussion group
- Distribution of information and documents electronically

### ***Resources, inputs and external sources***

- Previous advice on brown crab from NWWAC, NSAC and MAC
- Background information on stock status from Member States
- STEFC NQS report
- Results from ACRUNET project
- Reports from ICES WGCRA
- Additional contributions from COM, national marine research institutes, national seafood development agencies

***Draft agenda***

09:00 – 09:10	Welcome & introductions
09:10 – 09:15	Video Ireland/Holland
09:15 – 09:35	European Commission – Paulo Vansconcelos, MARE C5
09:35 – 09:50	Presentation – input from management abroad (e.g. US)
09:50 – 10:05	Co-existence with OFW developments – Marcel Rozemeijer, Wageningen Marine Research
10:05 – 10:20	Presentation – health certificate issue? Dutch administration/DG SANTE
10:20 – 10:35	Presentation Cadmium – DG TRADE/Trade unit DG MARE
10:35 – 10:45	<b>Coffee break</b>
10:40 – 11:30	Review of ACRUNET outcomes & discussion on communication tools – Ian Lawler, Bord Iascaigh Mhara
11:30 – 11:35	Video UK
11:35 – 12:30	Roundtable discussions in small breakout groups
12:30 – 13:30	<b>Lunch break</b>
13:30 – 14:30	Roundtable discussions in small breakout groups
14:30 – 15:30	Plenary sessions on results from breakout sessions
15:30 – 15:45	<b>Coffee break</b>
15:45 – 16:25	Plenary summary & next steps
16:25 – 16:30	Close