



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

Benoît Thomassen

Chair

Zoom

Tuesday, 2 April 2024

# AGENDA (CET TIME ZONE)

- 14:00 Welcome from the Chair, Benoît Thomassen
- 14:05 Adoption of the agenda and of the last meeting's minutes (30.01.24)
- 14:10 Actions points
- 14:15 Substantiation and Communication of Explicit Environmental Claims
- 14:45 Product Environmental Footprint Category Rules (PEFCR) for Marine Fish Products
- 15:15 Break
- 15:30 Strategic guidelines for a more sustainable and competitive EU aquaculture
- 16:00 Food Contact Materials
- 16:45 FIP Blues
- 17:20 AOB
- 17:25 Summary of actions points
- 17:30 End of the meeting

# ACTION POINTS (30 JANUARY 2024)

## Food Fraud:

- Continue monitoring developments and, at a future meeting, schedule an exchange with DG SANTE about the implementation of the GoldFish coordinated action
- At the request of DG SANTE, exchange to be scheduled for September 2024

## Transition Pathway for a More Resilient, Sustainable and Digital Agri-Food System

- Continue monitoring developments, and, at a future meeting, invite DG GROW to present the final report
- At the request of DG GROW, presentation to be take place in June 2024

## Awareness Campaigns :

- Agreed draft advice on the “Taste the Ocean” campaign and other potential campaigns for awareness about fishery and aquaculture products in the EU to be put forward to the Executive Committee for consideration and potential adoption
- Advice adopted on 31 January 2024

# ACTION POINTS (30 JANUARY 2024)

## Food Waste:

- Secretary General to informally consult with the members on the outstanding points, specifically on subsection 3.1. on “sections of the supply chain covered by the targets”
- Following the informal consultation, draft advice to be put forward, via urgent written procedure, to the Executive Committee for consideration and potential adoption
  - Advice adopted on 18 March 2024

## Consumer Information:

- Secretariat to circulate Doodle poll to determine the date of the first meeting of the Join MAC/AAC Focus Group on Consumer Information in the HoReCa Sector
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting: 22 February 2024

# SUBSTANTIATION AND COMMUNICATION OF EXPLICIT ENVIRONMENTAL CLAIMS

## ➤ Presentation of the European Parliament's position

### ▪ MEP Cyrus Engerer, ENVI Rapporteur (European Parliament)

- Legislative proposal: 22 March 2023
- Committee vote: 14 February 2024 | Tabled in Plenary: 23 February 2024

### ▪ MAC Advice (30 November 2023)

- Coherence with other policy initiatives
- Reinforce principle of mutual recognition in the Internal Market
- Avoid duplication of effort for certification schemes
- Strengthen the provisions on environmental schemes
- Allow the establishment of new national or regional publicly owned schemes
- Streamline the ex-ante verification process
- Support measures for small & medium enterprises
- Level-playing field in the EU & vs imported products

## ➤ Exchange of views

# PRODUCT ENVIRONMENTAL FOOTPRINT CATEGORY RULES (PEFCR) FOR MARINE FISH PRODUCTS

## ➤ Update on the latest work of the Technical Secretariat

### ▪ Mauro Cordella (DG ENV)

- Second Open Public Consultation: May 2024 (4 to 5 weeks)

## ➤ Exchange of views

### ▪ MAC Advice (24 May 2022)

- Policy coherence
- Assessment of other options, beyond the PEF method, to substantiate green claims
- Maintain communication to consumers via this method as voluntary
- Clarify the long-term planning on the use of PEF method
- Clarify the expected impacts in future rules (freshwater, farmed, molluscs processed))
- Significant administrative burden for operators
- Do not include "biodiversity" as an impact category

# PRODUCT ENVIRONMENTAL FOOTPRINT CATEGORY RULES (PEFCR) FOR MARINE FISH PRODUCTS

## ➤ Way forward

### ▪ Reestablishment of Focus Group?

- EAPO, APROMAR, FEAP, ADEPALE, European Fishmeal, MSC, Good Fish
- Preparation of contribution to the Second Open Public Consultation?
- Commitment under Work Programme of Year 8 (2023-2024)

BREAK

➤ **BACK AT 15:30**



# STRATEGIC GUIDELINES FOR A MORE SUSTAINABLE AND COMPETITIVE EU AQUACULTURE

## ➤ Update on the development of the EU-wide campaign

### ▪ Charlotte Gugenheim (MARE A2)

- COM commitment to develop tools for a coordinate EU-wide campaign on EU aquaculture to be used at national and regional level, with the support of the Member States and the Aquaculture Advisory Council

## ➤ Exchange of views

# FOOD CONTACT MATERIALS

## ➤ Presentation of the legislative proposal to restrict bisphenol A and other bisphenols in food contact materials

### ▪ Jonathan Briggs (SANTE E2)

#### ▪ Legislative proposal: 9 February 2024

- Ban on the use of BPA in food contact materials, including plastic and coated packaging
- Follows the publication of EFSA opinion indicating a concern for human health
- Use of other bisphenols to avoid replacing BPA with other harmful substances
- Derogations and transitional periods that may apply to businesses

## ➤ Exchange of views

## ➤ Way forward

# FIP BLUES

- **Presentation on the fishing improvement project for the Swordfish and Blue Shark fisheries**
  - **Juana Maria Parada Guinaldo (OR.PA.GU.)**
  
- **Exchange of views**

# AOB, ACTION POINTS, END OF MEETING

- **AOB**
- **Summary of action points**
- **End of meeting**