



THE MARKET ADVISORY COUNCIL

Pedro Reis Santos

Secretary General

Expert Group for Markets and Trade in Fishery and Aquaculture Products

Brussels, 6 February 2025

COMMON FISHERIES POLICY (ARTICLES 44 & 45)

➤ 11 Advisory Councils

- Baltic Sea, Black Sea, Markets, Mediterranean Sea, North Sea, North Western Waters, South Western Waters, Outermost Regions, Pelagic, Long Distance Fleet, Aquaculture



➤ Role (Recommendations to the European Commission & to the Member States)

- Management, socioeconomic aspects, conservation (fisheries & aquaculture)
- Information about problems
- Collection, provision and analysis of data (conservation measures)

➤ Composition

- Sector organisations – Fishers, aquaculture, processing, retail
- Other interest groups – Environmental organisations, consumer groups

▪ Background

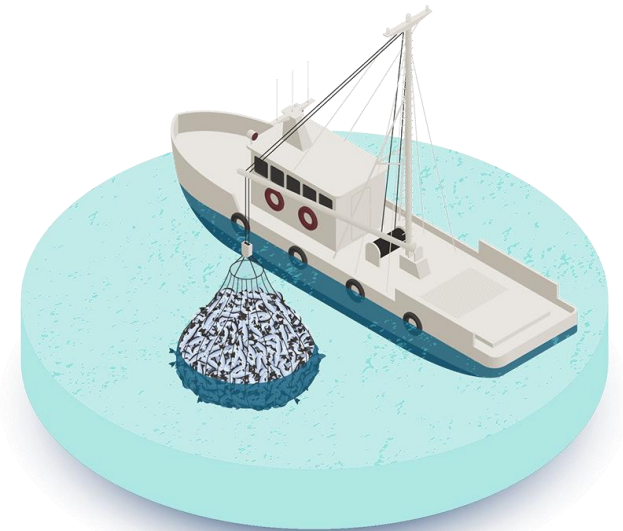
- Establishment in 2016 - *point b) of paragraph 2 of Article 43 of the CFP Regulation*
- EU-wide, horizontal, composed of stakeholder organisations
 - Fisheries & Aquaculture Value Chain + Other Interest Groups

▪ Role

- Transparent and balanced representation of stakeholder interests
- Facilitating the implementation of the CFP

▪ Priorities (Annual Work Programme)

- Common Fisheries Policy & Common Market Organisation
- Trade Agreements & Trade Policy Instruments
- Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing
- Forced Labour
- EUMOFA
- Landing Obligation
- Scientific, Technical and Economic Committee for Fisheries
- Fisheries Control Regulation



STRUCTURE

▪ General Assembly

72 members from 13 Member States (BE, HR, DK, FR, DE, HL, IE, IT, NL, PL, PT, ES, SE)

- Chair: Yobana Bermúdez (AIPCE) – *appointment by consensus*

▪ Executive Committee (25 seats)

- **Value Supply Chain (60%):** Primary producers (fisheries & aquaculture); processors, traders, suppliers and retailers; workers (trade unions)

- Vice-Chair: Julien Lamothe (EAPO)

- **Other Interest Groups (40%):** Environmental and development NGOs, consumer organisations, others

- Vice-Chair: Christine Absil (Good Fish Foundation)

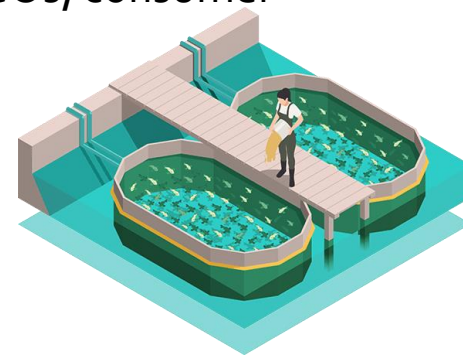
▪ Working Groups

- Working Group 1 EU Production (Julien Lamothe, EAPO)

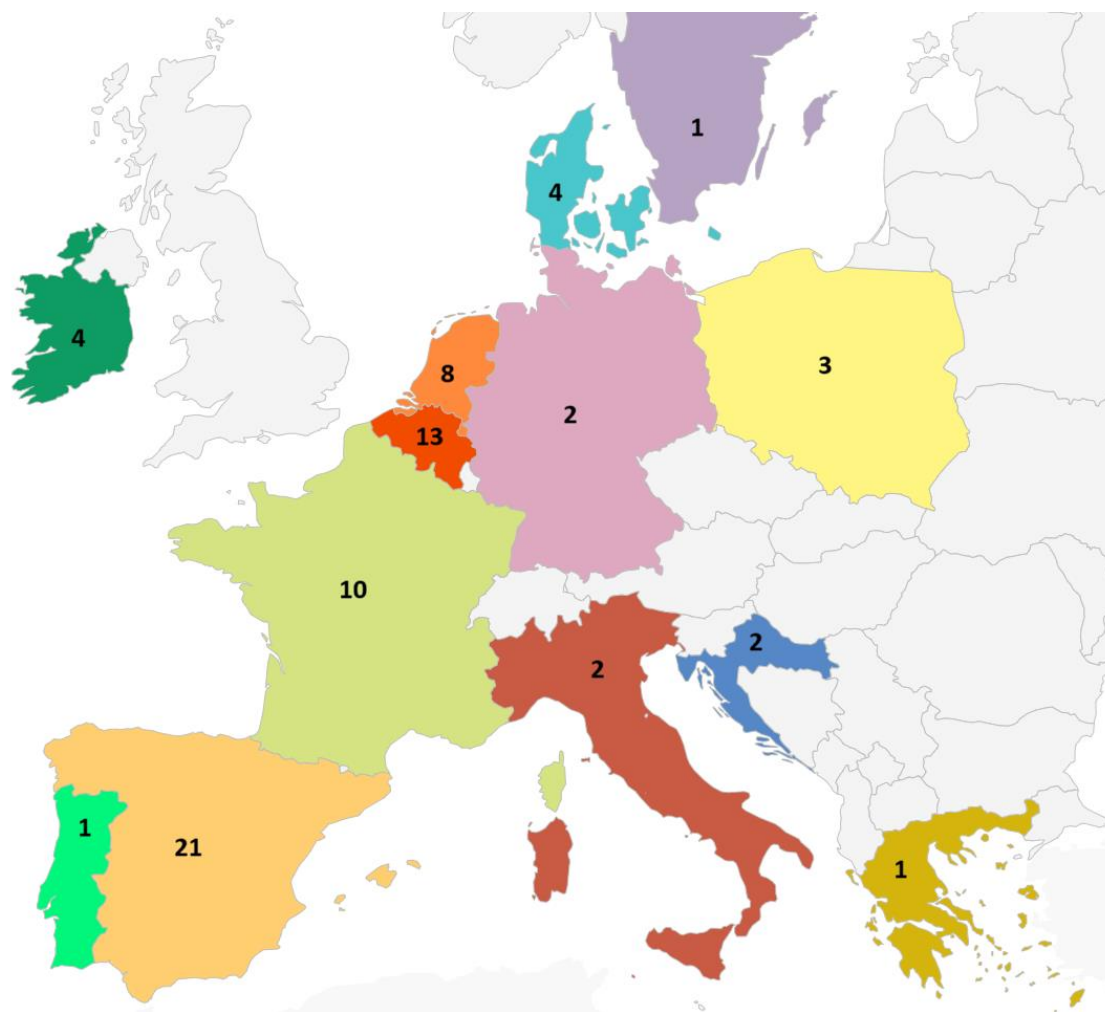
- Working Group 2 EU Markets (Pierre Commère, AIPCE)

- Working Group 3 EU Control and Sanitary Issues, Consumer Rules (Benoît Thomassen, FEAP)

▪ Secretariat



MEMBERSHIP



APPLICATION

- Membership form

- Submission of signed form to the Secretariat (available on website)

- Agreement from the Member State

- Official letter from the Secretariat to the national authorities requesting agreement

- Endorsement by the Executive Committee

- Formal endorsement by the Executive Committee

- Payment of Annual Fee

- 200€ for General Assembly + 300€ for Working Groups



BENEFITS



▪ Advice to European Commission & Member States

- Participation in the drafting process of the advice (consensus approach)
- Official letters of reply from DG MARE (maximum, two months later)

▪ Access to information

- Continuous sharing of information by the Secretariat on initiatives of the European Commission and of stakeholders

▪ Networking

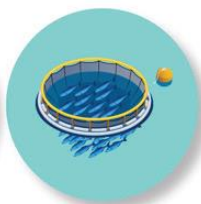
- Exchanges with stakeholders from across the EU, scientific experts, European Commission, national authorities
- Participation of European Commission representatives in all our meetings

▪ Reimbursements & Allowances

- Provision of reimbursements and allowances for travel, accommodations, subsistence for meetings held in person (Brussels)

MEMBER STATES

- **Active observers (Article 2 of Annex III of CFP Regulation)**
 - **E-mail list (notifications on advice & meetings)**
 - DK, DE, IE, IT, PL, SL, ES, HR, FI, NL, MT, FR, HR, PT, BE, HU
 - **Attendance of meetings (in-person & online)**
 - ES, HR (online), FR, PL, PT, MT (online)
- **Financial contributions (Article 7 of Delegated Regulation (EU) 2015/242)**
 - **Current contributions**
 - HR, DK, FI, FR, DE, IE, IT, NL, PL, SL, ES
 - **Recommended annual amount**
 - 3.000€



PLANNED ADVICE

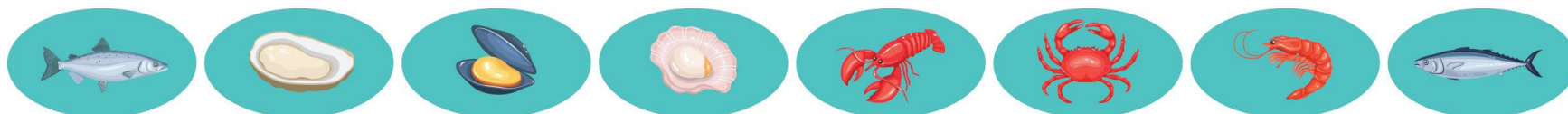
▪ Work Programme of Year 9 (2024-2025)

- 1) Consumer Information, particularly in the context of the HORECA Sector
- 2) 2024 Annual Economic Report on the EU Fishing Fleet
- 3) Evaluation of the Common Fisheries Policy Regulation
- 4) Evaluation of the Common Market Organisation Regulation
- 5) Annual report on the implementation of the Landing Obligation
- 6) Market-related aspects of the revised Fisheries Control Regulation
- 7) Work Programme of EUMOFA
- 8) Fight against IUU Fishing & Forced Labour, Due Diligence
- 9) Trade (e.g., FTAs, ATQs, GSP)
- 10) Economic Report on the EU Aquaculture Sector



RECENT ADVICE

- 1) Consumer Information, particularly in the context of the HORECA Sector
- 2) Study supporting the evaluation of the Landing Obligation
- 3) STECF's Economic Report on the Fish Processing Industry (2025)
- 4) Valorisation of fisheries and aquaculture by-products
- 5) Better protecting sharks through sustainable fishing and trade
- 6) Trade with Norway
- 7) Terms of Reference of the Study on Feasible Traceability Systems and Procedures for Prepared and Preserved Fishery and Aquaculture Products



UPCOMING MEETINGS



- 27 & 28 March 2025

- Working Groups, General Assembly, Executive Committee (Zoom)

- 5 & 6 June 2025

- Working Groups, General Assembly, Executive Committee (Brussels)

REQUESTS TO MS



- **Active observers (Article 2(i) of Annex III of CFP Regulation)**
 - Indication of email addresses of representatives of the national authorities
 - Attendance of our meetings
- **Promotion of membership (Article 2(h) of Annex III of CFP Regulation)**
 - Encouragement of applications from national stakeholders (value supply chain & other interest groups), to ensure wide representativity
- **Reply to advice (Article 44(4) of CFP Regulation)**
 - When relevant, send letters of reply to our advice
- **Financial support (Article 7 of Delegated Regulation (EU) 2015/242)**
 - Provision of annual financial support to facilitate our functioning, including expenses related to staff, organisation of meetings, reimbursements for participation in meetings, translation, interpretation (EN, ES, FR), among others

CONTACT



Thank you for your attention!

- **Contact**

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