

# **General Assembly (Ordinary Meeting)**

# Minutes

## Thursday, 30 January 2025 (13:30 – 16:00 CET)

#### Copa Cogeca (Meeting Room A), Rue de Trèves 61, 1040 Brussels

#### **Presentation**

#### I. Composition of the Bureau

The meeting is open, under the presidency of Ms Maria Yobana BERMÚDEZ RODRÍGUEZ.

#### II. Composition of the General Assembly

The members mentioned via name, surname, and organisation in the attendance list annexed to the present minutes are present or represented. The attendance list is closed and signed by the members of the General Assembly. The mentioned procurations in the attendance list are annexed.

The assembly of members is present or represented, and all members are aware of the convocation formalities.

#### III. Outline by the Chair

The <u>Chair</u> outlined the agenda of the present meeting of the General Assembly:

- a) Presentation of the 2024 edition of "The State of World Fisheries and Aquaculture" report by the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO)
- b) Presentation of the priorities of the Polish Presidency of the Council of the European Union
- c) Approval of the work programme and annual budget of the Year 9 (2024-2025)
- d) Approval of the final technical report and balance sheet of Year 8 (2023-2024)
- e) Exchange of views on the classification of non-profit organisations with at least 50% of the funding originating from a certification scheme/label
- f) Any other business
  - i. Denomination of the association
  - ii. Nomination of person in charge of daily management
  - iii. Nomination of *ad hoc* agent



## Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO)

• Presentation of 2024 edition of "The State of World Fisheries and Aquaculture" report and update on ongoing market-related initiatives by Audun Lem (Deputy Director, Fisheries and Aquaculture Division, FAO)

#### **Presentation**

<u>Audun Lem (FAO)</u> drew attention to several market-related initiatives of FAO, including the provision of support for the implementation of the World Trade Organisation's Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies, expressing hope that it will enter into force in 2025. Mr Lem informed that the FAO was creating a database on clauses of trade agreements applicable to fishery and aquaculture products. The FAO developed an online tool of nomenclature codes under the Harmonised System. He highlighted two reports published in 2024, including a report on the risks and benefits of consumption of fishery and aquaculture products, prepared together with the World Health Organisation, which showed that the consumption of these products is positive, and that the risks are far less than the benefits. The FAO had several training workshops planned, including a training workshop on the promotion of decent working conditions in fisheries, scheduled for May 2025, and a training workshop on value chains, scheduled for November 2025. The FAO was developing a fish price index. Additionally, he informed on two ongoing large projects: Fish for ACP, funded by the European Commission and by Germany, which covers 12 value chains; and a new project, starting in July 2025, funded by the European Commission, on food security and nutrition – the involved countries were still to be determined.

Mr Lem presented the 2024 edition of "The State of World Fisheries and Aquaculture" (SOFIA) report. The report showed that the world fisheries and aquaculture production reached an all-time high. For the first time, the overall production from aquaculture was greater than that of capture fisheries, which showed the potential for further growth in aquaculture. Production from capture fisheries remained stable, while the production of aquaculture and of algae and seaweed had grown. In terms of the world aquatic animal production in 2022, 70% of the production was in Asia. Despite the increase in the world's population, the aquatic food consumption remained stable, reaching almost 21Kg per capita. The production was increasingly going towards direct human consumption.

Mr Lem underscored the potential of aquaculture to meet the growing demand for aquatic foods. While aquaculture is dominated by Asia, aquaculture production takes place in all regions of the world. The development of aquaculture is growing the fastest in Africa. The top aquaculture group was freshwater species. As for marine capture, Mr Lem emphasised that the production remains vital and that, while the production remains globally stable, sustainability is a concern. The number of overfished marine stocks had increased. When considering volume, the most important species, such as tuna, the situation had improved. 63% of marine stocks was in a good shape. By volume, 77% of the stocks were in a good shape. He argued that, with proper policies and effective fisheries management, the situation could further improve, as it was possible to increase sustainability across the board.

Mr Lem highlighted that aquatic food systems were crucial for livelihoods, trade and sustainable development. In terms of volume, there were 62 million people involved in the primary sector of



fishery and aquaculture products. Over 600 million people depended on the sector, including primary and secondary sector, subsistence and their dependents. In the gender dimension, women represented 62% of the employment in the secondary sector. Mr Lem stated that the sector was increasingly important in the contribution to local economies, as there was a 12% increase in the total first sales value, a new record. Around 230 States and territories participated in trade. He underscored that more is expected from aquatic food systems, which meant that it was necessary to ensure that further growth is sustainable, impactful, and equitable. According to projections, the production of fishery and aquaculture products was expected to increase by 10%. Due to the growth in population, in the long-term, a 22% increase in the production would be needed by 2050. The production in Africa would have to increase by 74% to maintain the current consumption levels.

#### • Exchange of views

The <u>Chair</u> expressed satisfaction that scientific evidence showed that, concerning the consumption of fishery and aquaculture products, the risks were lower than the benefits.

<u>Javier Ojeda (FEAP)</u> thanked Mr Lem for his efforts to promote aquaculture production. Mr Ojeda commented that the report showed how the aquaculture production was growing around the world, while still stagnating in the European Union. He asked for recommendations on what the European Union should do to overcome the described situation.

<u>Audun Lem (FAO)</u> emphasised the importance, from a nutritional point-of-view, of consumers having access to food. The location of the production depended on the choices of the national authorities and of the private sector. In developed markets, such as in the European Union, North American, and Japan, there were numerous legitimate competing interests, so choices had to be made on the use of coasts and water bodies. Many developed nations relied on imports to cover demand. Mr Lem called for streamlined processes for aquaculture in the European Union to allow the expansion of production. He expressed willingness for stronger growth in the European Union.

<u>Stefan Meyer (Fischverband)</u> stated that he had attended an event organised by the FAO on empowering the Global South to maintain good fisheries management practices. The message was to aim for a science and evidence-based management. Mr Meyer wanted to know if there was one specific solution for the described issue.

<u>Audun Lem (FAO)</u> responded that, in his view, there was not only one solution that the Global South could implement. It would not be possible to have effective fisheries management without data. Access to data could happen in many ways. Strong institutions were needed, including the strengthening of Regional Fisheries Management Organisations. Global governance and the fight against Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated fishing were also important. The Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies would strengthen compliance and provide for a better environment globally. Mr Lem added that, in the Global North, there were also difficulties, such as the status of the stocks in the Mediterranean Sea and of pelagic stocks in the Northeast Atlantic Ocean. He emphasised the need for collaboration.



<u>Pablo Cadarso (CONXEMAR)</u> drew attention to the importance of imports for sustainable consumption in the European Union. Mr Cadarso wanted to know if Mr Lem believed that the imports of raw material into the European Union were coming from sustainable sources.

<u>Audun Lem (FAO)</u> agreed that imports were important for the European Union. Mr Lem emphasised the importance of ensuring a level-playing-field and that the imported products meet the regulations of the market, including on food safety and environmental conditions. In his view, coastal communities in the European Union should be encouraged and their livelihoods should be protected, ensuring employment and production. There should be a fair and competitive market.

Concerning the report on the risks and benefits of the consumption of fishery and aquaculture products, Mr Lem stated that, on the benefits, it reinforced the messages from a previous report from 2010. On mercury contamination, the report showed new evidence that the presence of selenium reduces the effects of mercury. Therefore, overall, the reported provided a much stronger and positive message.

#### Polish Presidency of the Council of the European Union

 Presentation of the Presidency's priorities by Joanna Żurawska-Łagoda (Fisheries Department, Poland)

#### **Presentation**

Joanna Żurawska-Łagoda (Poland) mentioned that Poland was taking over the Presidency of the Council in a time of uncertainty and anxiety. Seven security dimensions were established: external, internal, information, economic, energy, food and health. The motto of the Presidency was "Security, Europe!". Under the fisheries programme of the Presidency, there would be actions to ensure food security, healthy and stable stocks with a focus on socioeconomic aspects, actions to strengthen the competitiveness of EU fisheries in the external dimension, and legislative proposals, including on the future of the Common Fisheries Policy.

Ms Żurawska-Łagoda, concerning the legislative files, explained that a proposal on fishing in the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean would be addressed. Action from the European Parliament was awaited. The work would continue in April/May 2025. A proposal of amendment to the measures against countries allowing non-sustainable fishing would be considered. In May 2025, the position of the European Parliament was expected to be adopted, so the work would continue in June. A proposal to amend the regulations on the targets for fixing fishing opportunities would also be considered.

Ms Żurawska-Łagoda, on the tentative agenda of the Council, informed that, under the AGRIFISH Council meeting of 24 March 2025 in Brussels, there would be an informal lunch of Fisheries Ministers on the Future of the Common Fisheries Policy, which would include a policy debate. Under the AGRIFISH Council meeting of 23 June 2025 in Luxembourg, the communication on "Sustainable fisheries in the EU: current situation and orientations for 2026" would be addressed. Additionally, on 6-8 May 2025, in Wrocław, the Presidency would hold a meeting of Director-Generals and Attachés



for Fisheries. On 3 June 2025, in Brussels, there would be a conference on management advice to reduce cormorant predation impacts.

# • Exchange of views

<u>Thibault Pivetta (EMPA)</u> asked about the perspectives of the Presidency for the aquaculture sector, particularly in the context of the evaluation of the Common Fisheries Policy.

<u>Joanna Żurawska-Łagoda (Poland)</u> underscored the importance of the aquaculture sector for Poland. The Polish Presidency would be listening to the priorities of the various Member States with the aim of developing a strong position on the aquaculture sector, as the debate on the future of the Common Fisheries Policy was still in the early stages.

<u>Pim Visser (NOVA)</u> highlighted that, under the 2010 revision of the Common Fisheries Policy, there was a shift of paradigm from landing quota to catching quota, including the introduction of the landing obligation. Nevertheless, the implementation of the landing obligation did not take place as expected. Mr Visser argued that, on the shore, if the landing obligation was to be implemented as originally designed, without the current exemptions, there would be significant problems for the ports, the auctions, and the processing industry.

Joanna Żurawska-Łagoda (Poland) agreed that the described problem was crucial. Ms Żurawska-Łagoda recognised the importance of coastal activities. She committed to following the matter.

<u>Jarek Zieliński (PFPA)</u> encouraged the Polish Presidency to consult the Advisory Councils as much as possible, particularly the Market Advisory Council, highlighting the available expertise.

<u>Joanna Żurawska-Łagoda (Poland)</u> agreed on the importance of consulting the Advisory Councils, especially to address the challenges faced by the fisheries and aquaculture sector. Ms Żurawska-Łagoda committed to actively engaging with the Advisory Councils.

#### Work Programme of Year 9 (2024-2025)

# • Presentation of priorities and deliverables by Pedro Reis Santos (Secretary General)

The <u>Secretary General</u> recalled that operational year 9 covered the period of 1 October 2024 to 30 September 2025. The work programme was prepared by the Executive Committee meeting of 3 July 2024. In line with the applicable financial rules of the operating grant, the work programme and budget were submitted to DG MARE on 23 July 2024. In line with the Rules of Procedure, approval of the work programme by the General Assembly was required.

The Secretary General provided an overview of the work programme, recalling that, to receive the operating grant from the European Commission, at least 50% of the commitments in terms of advice and of meetings would need to be met. Commitments were made to deliver advice on the following topics: 1) Consumer information on fishery and aquaculture products, 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 Common Market Organisation, 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, including suggestions of case studies and talks, 8) Fights against Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing & Forced Labour, Due diligence, 9) Trade (e.g., FTAs, ATQs, GSP), and 10) Economic Report on the EU Aquaculture Sector.

In terms of planning, the MAC committed to a workshop on Producer Organisations, meetings in Brussels in January 2025, online meetings in March 2025, meetings in Brussels in June 2025, an online meeting of the Executive Committee July 2025, and meetings in Brussels in September 2025.

<u>Guus Pastoor (Visfederatie)</u> recalled ongoing discussions on the data on the consumption of fishery and aquaculture products. Mr Pastoor emphasized the importance of setting common figures and of gathering more insight on the reasons of the consumption patterns.

The <u>Secretary General</u> stated that due note of the suggestion was taken, so that it could be addressed in future meetings of the Working groups.

# • Presentation of budget by Dawlat Bik (Finance Officer)

The <u>Finance Officer</u> provided an overview of the budget of the ninth operational year. The budget was divided into six cost categories, representing the following percentages of the total budget:

- A) Staff (salaries and related charges): 41.38%;
- B) Participation in meetings (travel and subsistence costs): 22.12%;
- C) Information and preparation of meetings (venue and equipment rental costs, meeting expenses, information and dissemination costs): 11.51%;
- D) Operating costs (rental of office space, software and hardware equipment): 1.78%;
- E) Interpretation and translation (including technical support and equipment): 20.69%;
- F) other contracts (e.g., accountant, auditor, scientific experts): 2.52%

In comparison with the previous budget, there were the following increases:

- A) Staff (salaries and related charges): 2%
- B) Participation in meetings (travel and subsistence costs): 8.38%;
- C) Information and preparation of meetings (venue and equipment rental costs, meeting expenses, information and dissemination costs): 3.91%;
- D) Operating costs (rental of office space, software and hardware equipment): 2.14%;
- E) Interpretation and translation (including technical support and equipment): 1.92%;
- F) other contracts (e.g., accountant, auditor, scientific experts): 2.06%
- Total increase: 3.55%

The Finance Officer explained that the increase generally reflected inflation. Higher increases were allocated to cost centres C) and D) to reflect the increasing number of members. The total budget would be  $\in$  377.309,36.

# • Approval of the work programme and of the annual budget

The General Assembly approved the work programme and the budget for Year 9 (2024-2025).

Work Programme of Year 8 (2023-2024)



# • Reporting on priorities and deliverables by Pedro Reis Santos (Secretary General)

The <u>Secretary General</u> provided an overview of the commitments made to the European Commission under the work programme of year 8 (2023-2024), specifically the planned recommendations:

- Substantiation and Communication of Explicit Environmental Claims
  - Advice was approved on 30 November 2023
- Work Programme of EUMOFA, including suggestions of analysis topics and talks
  - Advice was approved on 5 June 2024
- Analysis of market-related aspects of the new Fisheries Control Regulation
  - Advice on the Terms of Reference of the Study on Feasible Traceability Systems and Procedures for Prepared and Preserved Fishery and Aquaculture Products was approved on 24 May 2024
- Legislative proposal on Sustainable Food System Framework
  - The publication of the legislative proposal was postponed by the Commission
- 2024 Annual Economic Report on the EU Fishing Fleet
  - Advice approved on 31 January 2024
- Annual Report on the implementation in 2023 of the landing obligation (particularly new developments when compared to previous advice)
  - Advice on the study supporting the evaluation of the landing obligation was approved on 18 September 2024
- Energy Transition (increase of operational input costs)
  - Advice was adopted on 29 April 2024
- Marine Action Plan
  - Advice was adopted on 6 March 2024
- Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing
  - Under the advice on "Negotiation of EU Thailand Free Trade Agreement", approved on 31 January 2024, a section specifically on IUU fishing was included
- Development of sustainability criteria for fishery and aquaculture products
  - The draft advice was still under development under Working Group 1
- Annual EU-UK Trade and Cooperation Agreement implementation report (Border Target Operating Model)
  - Working Group 2 concluded that it would not be relevant to proceed on the topic
- 2023 Economic Report on the Fish Processing Industry
  - Advice approved on 18 September 2024
- Integration of sustainability considerations in the Autonomous Tariff Quotas (ATQs) framework
  - The initiative was made public by the Commission after Year 8
- Product Environmental Footprint Category Rules (PEFCR) for unprocessed Marine Fish products
  - Advice approved on 6 August 2024

The <u>Secretary General</u> stated that, as more than 50% of the commitments were met, the MAC would be eligible to receive the entirety of the operating grant provided by DG MARE. He thanked the members for their efforts to ensure the implementation of the work programme.

Conseil Consultatif pour les Marches ASBL



# • Reporting on the accounts by Dawlat Bik (Finance Officer)

The <u>Finance Officer</u> provided an overview of the balance sheet of the association for the period until 30 September 2024. The overview covered the assets, including fixed assets (laptop & mobile) and current assets (cash at bank, receivables), and liabilities, including profit carried forward (profit to be allocated, profit from previous years) and current debt (debts of suppliers, taxes, remuneration, and social security, and accrued/deferred income) for year 7 (2022-2023) and year 8 (2023-2024).

The Finance Officer also provided an overview of the income and expenses under year 8, including the income statement, both expenses (operating expenses, depreciation expenses, financial expenses, and expenses of year 7 recognised under year 8) and income (profit under year 8 and accumulated profits from previous years). Mr Bik showed a comparison of budgeted expenditure vs the actual expenditure under year 8, including both internal accounting and statutory accounting. In accordance with the internal accounting, the actual expenses represented 93.66% of the budgeted expenditure. In accordance with the statutory accounts, the actual expenses represented 98.95% of the budgeted expenditure. The difference was due to the allocation of staff-related expenses.

# • Approval of the final technical report and financial statement

The <u>Secretary General</u> recalled that, in line with the applicable financial rules of the operating grant provided by the Commission services, the final technical report and financial statement were submitted to DG MARE on 12 November 2024. In line with the Rules of Procedure, approval of the final report by the General Assembly was required.

The General Assembly approved the final technical report and financial statement of Year 8 (2023-2024). The General Assembly also expressed agreement with the balance sheet of the same period.

Classification of members ("sector organisations" or "other interest groups")

# • Exchange of views on the classification of non-profit organisations with at least 50% of the funding originating from a certification scheme / label

The <u>Secretary General</u> recalled that, in accordance with Article 45 of the Common Fisheries Policy Regulation, the Advisory Councils are composed of "organisations representing the fisheries and, where appropriate, aquaculture operators, and representatives of the processing and marketing sectors" and by "other interest groups affected by the CFP (e.g. environmental organisations and consumer groups)". In accordance with point c) of paragraph 3 of Article 4 of the Commission Regulation (EU) 2015/242, the General Assembly shall decide on the classification of the members. Following an amendment in 2022, an Annex in Commission Regulation (EU) 2015/242 provides criteria for the classification of members. If an organisation meets any of the criteria listed in paragraph 1 of the Annex, the organisation is classified as a "sector organisation".

The Secretary General explained that, following the recent applications for membership from the Aquaculture Stewardship Council (ASC) to the MAC and to the Aquaculture Advisory Council (AAC), doubts arose about the classification of non-profit organisations with at least 50% of the funding originating from a certification scheme/label. In the case of the MAC, the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) had been a member for several years and was classified as "other interest group" due to the



legal registration as a charity and the pursuit of environmental objectives. As, in one year, there would be elections for the seats of the Executive Committee, it was important to clarify the classification of these members beforehand, as the "sector organisations" and the "other interest groups" form separate colleges for voting and for allocation of seats.

The Secretary General further explained that the main issue is the interpretation of point d) of paragraph 1 of the Annex, which reads "at least 50 % of the organisation's funding originates from undertakings active in the field of commercial fishing, aquaculture, processing, marketing, distribution or retail of seafood". On the one hand, the income generated by the certification schemes/labels provided by these organisations could be interpreted as originating "from undertakings active in the field of commercial fishing, aquaculture", as the royalties are paid by industry undertakings. On the other hand, the income could be interpreted as "own income", as it is not direct donations and/or membership fees from industry undertakings. He commented that, as he understood, the main aim of point d) was to prevent "astroturfing", meaning the establishment of non-governmental organisations to allegedly represent interests in the fields mentioned in point a) of paragraph 2 (environment, consumers and humans rights, health, promotion of equality, animal health/welfare, recreational/sport fishing) but that are actually financed by donations or membership fees from industry epresentatives.

The Secretary General informed that the matter had been previously discussed with the Management Team. The suggestion was to send a letter to the Commission services requesting clarity on their legal interpretation of the mentioned point d) as well as requesting information on the rationale of the legal provision.

<u>Laure Guillevic (WWF)</u> requested information on the approach taken by the other Advisory Councils, as it was relevant to pursue a harmonised approach.

The <u>Secretary General</u> explained that, in the MAC, the established practice was to address the classification of members ahead of the elections to the Executive Committee, which take place every three years. In the case of the AAC, the practice is to proceed with the classification as soon as there is approval of the membership application. The General Assembly of the AAC had considered the ASC to be a "sector organisation". As far as he understood, the other Advisory Councils did not have similar organisations among their membership. Additionally, in the past, in one Advisory Council, there was a case of allegedly "astroturfing" of one NGO member.

<u>María Luisa Álvarez Blanco (FEDEPESCA)</u> recalled that there were deep exchanges on the matter in the AAC. Ms Álvarez expressed concern about the undertaking of economic activities by associations legally registered as NGOs, as these benefit from tax exemptions. She exemplified that her organisation is an association without profit and funded by membership quotas. Several years ago, her organisation started providing consulting services, such on labour and tax matters, to its members, but it was legally required to establish a separate company, as the services could not be invoiced by a non-profit organisation.

<u>Javier Ojeda (FEAP)</u> stated that, following the exchanges in the AAC, for him, there were no doubts about the interpretation of point d). Mr Ojeda recalled that the rules were set by the European Commission. If the funding, not necessarily income, originates from industry undertakings, the



correct classification is a "sector organisation". He argued that the ASC operated like a business and generated money thanks to industry undertakings, so should be classified as such.

<u>Pim Visser (NOVA)</u> exemplified that the MSC undertook independent certifications of the fish auctions, which were paid for. Nevertheless, fishers did not perceive the MSC as being part of the sector. In the Netherlands, the MSC was legally registered as a charity.

<u>Javier Ojeda (FEAP)</u> argued that it was not a matter of these organisations being part of the industry or not, but about meeting the criteria foreseen in Commission Regulation (EU) 2015/242 and the corresponding classification.

<u>Alessandro Manghisi (ASC)</u> agreed with Mr Visser that these organisations were not part of the industry. Mr Manghisi highlighted that the ASC is legally registered as a charity in the UK and in the Netherlands. In his view, the ASC would not feel comfortable voting together with the industry associations in the Executive Committee. He argued that the logo provides an income to the organisation, which allows for independence. The ASC is a transparent non-profit organisation, as all the generated funding is invested back into to the organisation.

Mr Manghisi highlighted that participation in Advisory Councils implied a high cost in capacity, which was connected to political will. The ASC was very interested in being a member of the AAC and being more than observers, but that was not possible when not welcomed. In his view, there was an issue of legal interpretation, as point d) was not applicable to the ASC, a charity with environmental aims that works independently from the industry.

<u>Guus Pastoor (Visfederatie)</u> commented that a good definition of "other interest groups" had never been achieved. Mr Pastoor argued that the "sector organisations" relates to operators of the fisheries and aquaculture sector, while "other interest groups" can be several other organisations, for example event banking institutions. In his interpretation of point d), the ASC and the MSC were not "sector organisations", as there was not a direct economic input into the fisheries and aquaculture supply chain.

<u>Javier Ojeda (FEAP)</u> argued that the classification as "sector organisation" or "other interest group" was not relevant in practice, as all votes in the Advisory Councils count the same and any dissenting views, in the context of recommendations, are recorded. The aim should be to ensure that organisations, such as the ASC and the MSC, participate in the Advisory Councils. In his view, the Commission should have not established two separate colleges, as it creates unnecessary difficulties in the membership of the Advisory Councils.

<u>Alessandro Manghisi (ASC)</u> wondered, if the classification was not relevant in practice, as argued by Mr Ojeda, why would the AAC be so persisting in the classification of the ASC as a "sector organisation".

<u>Javier Ojeda (FEAP)</u> argued that exceptions to the legal rules should be avoided, as it would serve as an example to break further rules, hindering the functioning of the Advisory Councils.

<u>Alessandro Manghisi (ASC)</u> underscored the independent mission of his organisation, and the environmental aims pursued.



Javier Ojeda (FEAP) responded that aquaculture operators perceived the ASC as a business.

<u>Pim Visser (NOVA)</u> agreed with the previous suggestion of sending a letter to the Commission services requesting clarification on the interpretation of the legal provision.

The <u>Secretary General</u> proposed to put forward the draft letter for the consideration of the Executive Committee via a written procedure.

<u>Thibault Pivetta (EMPA)</u> suggested to share the letter and the future reply of the European Commission with the other Advisory Councils.

The <u>Secretary General</u> agreed with Mr Pivetta.

AOB

# • Formal designation of Pedro Reis Santos (Secretary General) as "person in charge of daily management" under the official Belgian register

The <u>Secretary General</u> proposed his formal designation, under the Crossroads Bank for Enterprises, as "person in charge of daily management", as the three official administrations reside outside of Belgium, which creates difficulties in the access of the public databases and other-related aspects.

# IV. Resolutions

## • First resolution

The General Assembly acknowledges that the French denomination of the association is:

- Conseil Consultatif pour les Marchés

*This first resolution is adopted unanimously.* 

#### • Second resolution

The General Assembly decides to appoint as person in charge of daily management Mr Pedro DOS REIS SANTOS, who accepts, with effect from 30/01/2025. The mandate will be remunerated.

In accordance with Art. 2:54 of the C.S.A., Mr. DOS REIS SANTOS Pedro decides, for the duration of his mandate, to take up residence at the headquarters of the association.

This second resolution is adopted unanimously.

• Third resolution

The meeting entrusts to the srl "MYB2B.BIZ", whose head office is established at 1410 Waterloo, drève Richelle, 161H/15, registered with the ECB under number 0719.786.322, validly represented



by Mr. Patrick Ader, with power of representation, the power to carry out the publication formalities in the Moniteur Belge resulting from the decisions mentioned above.

For the above purposes, the *ad hoc* agent will have the power to sign all documents and do everything that will be useful or necessary for the execution of the mandate entrusted to him.

This third resolution is adopted unanimously.

#### V. End of the session

The meeting is adjourned, after reading and approval of these minutes.

BERMÚDEZ RODRÍGUEZ Maria

Chair of the General Assembly



# **Attendance List**

Representative	Organisation	Role
Alessandro Manghisi	Aquaculture Stewardship Council (ASC)	Member
Alexandre Bonneau	Syndicat National du Commerce Extérieur des produits congelés et surgelés (SNCE)	Member
Amélie Laurent	Oceana	Member
Anna Rokicka	Polish Association of Fish Processors (PSPR)	Member
Aodh O'Donnell	Irish Fish Producers Organisations (IFPO)	Member
Audun Lem	Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO)	Observer
Benoît Thomassen	Federation of European Aquaculture Producers (FEAP)	Member
Caroline Gamblin	PACT'ALIM	Member
Christine Absil	Good Fish Foundation	Member
Daniel Voces	Europêche	Member
Dominic Rihan	Killybegs Fishermen's Organisation (KFO)	Member
Emiel Brouckaert	European Association of Fish Producers Organisations (EAPO)	Member
Gaetane Le Breuil	European Fishmeal	Member
Gerd Heinen	European Commission	Expert
Giorgio Rimoldi	ANCIT / Unione Italiana Food	Member
Giuseppe Scordella	COPA-COGECA	Member
Hommel Kassa	Syndicat National du Commerce Extérieur des produits congelés et surgelés (SNCE)	Member
Iñigo Azqueta Ruiz-Gallardón	ANFACO-CECOPESCA	Member
Janne Posti	Conxemar	Member
Jarek Zieliński	Polish Fish Producers Association (PFPA)	Member
Javier Ojeda	Federation of European Aquaculture Producers (FEAP)	Member
Jérémie Souben	FEDOPA	Member
Joanna Żurawska-Łagoda	Poland	Observer
John Lynch	Irish South and East Fish Producers Organisation (ISEFPO)	Member



Representative	Organisation	Role
José Basílio Otero Rodríguez	Federación Nacional de Cofradías de Pescadores (FNCP)	Member
José Carlos Escalera Aguilar	FECOPESCA	Member
Julien Lamothe	European Association of Fish Producers Organisations (EAPO) / ANOP	Member
Jules Danto	European Association of Fish Producers Organisations (EAPO) / Les Pêcheurs de Bretagne (via proxy)	Member
Justyna Radzewicz	Poland	Observer
Laure Guillevic	WWF	Member
Katarina Sipic	EU Fish Processors and Traders Association (AIPCE) / European Federation of National Organizations of Importers and Exporters of Fish (CEP)	Member
María Luisa Álvarez Blanco	FEDEPESCA	Member
Maximilian Schwarz	Market Advisory Council (MAC)	Secretariat
Pablo Cadarso	CONXEMAR	Member
Patrick Murphy	Irish South & West Fish Producers Organisation	Member
Paulien Prent	Visfederatie	Member
Pedro Reis Santos	Market Advisory Council (MAC)	Secretariat
Pierre Commère	PACT'ALIM / Eurothon	Member
Pim Visser	NOVA	Member
Stefan Meyer	Bundesverband der deutschen Fischindustrie und des Fischgrosshandels e.V.	Member
Thibault Pivetta	European Molluscs' Producers Association (EMPA)	Member
William Morré	Marine Stewardship Council (MSC)	Member
Rosalie Tukker	Europêche	Member
Szilvia Mihalffy	Federation of European Aquaculture Producers (FEAP)	Member
Yobana Bermúdez Rodríguez	EU Fish Processors and Traders Association (AIPCE) / European Transport Workers' Federation (ETF) (via proxy)	Chair
Yves Reichling	FeedbackEU	Member