

Working Group 2: EU Markets

Draft Agenda

Monday, 1 December 2025 (14:00 – 17:45 CEST)

Zoom

Interpretation in EN, ES, FR

14:00 Welcome from the Chair, Pierre Commère

14:05 Adoption of the agenda and of the last meeting's minutes (18.09.25)

14:10 Action points

- State-of-play of the action points of the last meeting - information

14:15 Trade Agreements & Trade Policy Instruments

- Update on latest trade developments by Pawel Szatkowski, Sara Perucho Martínez (MARE B3), including:
 - Morocco (amendments to agricultural agreement)
 - United Arab Emirates (negotiation of Free Trade Agreement)
 - Malaysia (negotiation of Free Trade Agreement)
- Potential updates (depending on status of the corresponding legislative/consent procedures) by Kinga Malinowska-Facci (MARE B3):
 - Mercosur (decisions on Partnership Agreement and interim Trade Agreement)
 - Mexico (decisions on Global Agreement and interim Trade Agreement)
 - USA (internal procedures to implement the Framework Agreement)
- Exchange of views
- Way forward

14:45 Fisheries Control Regulation

- Update on the upcoming traceability requirements for fresh and frozen fishery and aquaculture products by Commission representatives (MARE D4)
- Update on the study on feasible traceability systems for prepared and preserved fishery and aquaculture products by Macarena Davies (Tetra Tech)
- Proposal of draft advice requesting the postponement of digital traceability requirements by Katarina Sipic (Seafood Europe)
- Exchange of views
- Way forward

15:45 Break



16:00 Market Supply

- Presentation of the “EU Seafood Supply Synopsys 2025” by Mike Turenhout (Visfederatie)
- Exchange of views

16:30 Fight against Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing

- Presentation of report on unregulated squid in the Southwest Atlantic by Jesús Urios (EJF)
- Exchange of views
- Way forward

17:15 EU Strategy for External Fisheries Action

- Update on upcoming work on the “EU Strategy for External Fisheries Action”
- Way forward

17:35 AOB

17:40 Summary of action items

17:45 End of meeting



Annotated Version

Type	Item	Background	Purpose	Documents
Information + Decision	Trade	Under the Work Programme, trade developments are a priority. It is established practice for Commission representatives to deliver updates on the latest trade policy developments affecting the market. There are several trade developments of relevance, including with Mexico, Mercosur, Morocco, USA, United Arab Emirates, and Malaysia. The updates on Mexico, Mercosur, and USA will depend on the status of the corresponding legislative/consent procedures.	Presentation and exchange with DG MARE representatives. Decision on way forward (e.g., drafting of advice, monitor developments, none).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - EU-Mercosur Trade - EU-Mexico Trade - EU-Morocco Trade - EU-USA Agreement - EU-UAE Trade - EU-Malaysia
Information + Consideration	Fisheries Control Regulation	On 9 February 2024, the amendments of the Fisheries Control Regulation entered into force. From January 2026, new rules on lots and digital traceability rules for fresh and frozen products are expected to be applicable. The MAC provided advice to assist in the development of the corresponding delegated act. While the draft delegated act included two Articles on marking of lots and traceability, these were removed from the published act. Following a feasibility study, traceability rules will be applicable to prepared and preserved products within five years. The MAC also provided advice on the Terms of Reference.	Update on the upcoming traceability requirements for fresh and frozen products by DG MARE representative. Update on the study on feasible traceability systems for prepared and preserved products by the external consultants. Consideration of draft advice proposed by Seafood Europe.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Regulation - MAC Advice - MAC Advice - Delegated Act - Draft Advice (Via Email / Members Area)
Information	Market Supply	Every year, Seafood Europe publishes a study with the aim of explaining the activities of the fish and seafood processing industry and trading sector, including by demonstrating the need for supply of imported seafood to produce added value within Europe.	Presentation of the latest edition of the study by Seafood Europe representative.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Study

Information + Decision	Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing	Under the Work Programme, the fight against the presence in the EU market of products from Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated fishing and/or forced labour is a priority. On 17 September 2025, EIJ published a report on unregulated squid in the Southwest Atlantic, which includes recommendations to the market States and to importers and retailers.	Presentation of report on unregulated squid in the Southwest Atlantic by EIJ representative. Decision on way forward (e.g., drafting of advice, monitoring developments, none).	- Report
Information	External Fisheries Action	The European Commission will be developing a strategy for “fisheries external action”. The initiative aims to set out a strategic approach and steps to ensure a level playing field. The initiative will be integrated in a broader mission to develop a strategic approach to EU ocean diplomacy and of the EU’s wider regional strategies and priorities. The Commission launched a call for evidence from 7 July to 15 September 2025. At the 18 September 2025 meeting, the Working Group considered draft advice. It was agreed, as an action point, to hold a written procedure.	Update on upcoming work on the “EU Strategy for External Fisheries Action”.	- Initiative - Advice