



WORKING GROUP 2 – EU MARKET

Stefan Meyer

Chair

Zoom

Monday, 23 March 2026

AGENDA (CET TIME ZONE)

- 14:00 Welcome from the Chair, Stefan Meyer
- 14:05 Adoption of the agenda and of the last meeting's minutes (05.02.26)
- 14:10 Actions points
- 14:15 Traceability
- 14:45 Trade Agreements & Trade Policy Instruments
- 15:30 *Break*
- 15:45 CATCH
- 16:30 Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing
- 17:00 Due Diligence
- 17:20 AOB
- 17:25 Summary of actions points
- 17:30 *End of the meeting*

ACTION POINTS (5 FEBRUARY 2026)

AOB:

- **Secretary General to coordinate with the Secretariat of the Pelagic Advisory Council concerning the proposal for joint advice on Russia.**
- Initiative suspended at the request of the Pelagic Advisory Council.

TRACEABILITY

- **Presentation of the results of the Commission's questionnaire to stakeholders**
 - **Marta Moren Abat & Pierandrea Leucci (MARE D4)**
 - Information-note on traceability of fishery and aquaculture products under Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009, as amended by Regulation (EU) 2023/2842 (10 December 2025)
 - Questionnaire to stakeholders on technical aspects
 - Upcoming meeting with Member State experts on consultation findings and potential solutions
- **Exchange of views**
- **Way forward**
 - Timing to develop new advice? Monitoring of developments?

TRADE AGREEMENTS & TRADE POLICY INSTRUMENTS

➤ Update on latest trade developments

▪ Kinga Malinowska-Facci (MARE B3)

- India (conclusion of Free Trade Agreement)
- Mercosur (decisions on Partnership Agreement and interim Trade Agreement)
 - Ratification by Argentina and Uruguay
 - Pending ratification by Brazil and Paraguay
 - Announcement of provisional application by the EU
- USA (internal procedures to implement the Framework Agreement)
 - Judgement of the USA's Supreme Court of Justice on tariffs
 - Announcement of a 15% tariff rate by President Trump

➤ Exchange of views

➤ Way forward

- Drafting of advice on specific trade developments? Monitoring of developments?

BREAK

➤ **BACK AT 15:45**

CATCH

- **Presentation of proposal of draft advice on the implementation of CATCH**
 - **Katarina Sipic (Seafood Europe)**
 - Mandatory application of CATCH since 10 January 2026
- **Consideration of the proposed draft advice**
- **Way forward**

ILLEGAL, UNREPORTED AND UNREGULATED FISHING

- Presentation of the IUU Fishing Coalition's guide "The Fisheries Import Control Scheme Handbook"
 - Thomas Walsh (IUU Fishing Coalition)

- Exchange of views



DUE DILIGENCE

➤ Exchange of views on the revision of the Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive and the upcoming sector-specific reporting standards

▪ Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive

- Obligation to conduct environmental and human rights due diligence
 - Identification of adverse impacts
 - Prevention or mitigation of impacts
 - Remediation and grievance mechanisms
 - Public reporting and supervision
- Amended by “Omnibus Regulation I” (2025)
 - Compliance from July 2029
 - Companies with more than 5,000 employees and a net worldwide turnover of more than €1.5 billion
 - Removal of the specific applicability to “high-impact sectors”, which included “agriculture, forestry, fisheries” sector

DUE DILIGENCE

- Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive
 - Publication of sustainability information in management reports, in accordance with standardised EU reporting rules
 - Companies with over 1,000 employees and €450 million turnover
- European Sustainability Reporting Standards (+ sector-specific reporting standards)
 - Technical reporting rules on environmental, social, and governance topics
 - E.g.: climate change, pollution, water & marine resources, biodiversity & ecosystems, resource use & circular economy, workforce & human rights
 - European Financial Reporting Advisory Group developing sector-specific standards for "Agriculture, Farming, and Fisheries" (including aquaculture) - one of eight "priority sectors"
 - E.g.: impacts on marine ecosystems, fish stock sustainability, aquaculture nutrient pollution, biodiversity impacts, water & feed use, labour conditions on fishing vessels, forced labour risks, occupational safety
 - Adoption by June 2026 (at present, still in "research / early drafting" phase, working papers available, but no official consultations)

DUE DILIGENCE

➤ Way forward

- Commitment under Work Programme of Year 10 to provide advice on “Fights against Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing & Forced Labour, Due diligence”
 - Potential topics for future advice:
 - Applicability and “trickle-down” effect of the Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive to fisheries & aquaculture value chain
 - Specific reporting standards on fisheries & aquaculture under Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive
 - Connection to sectorial legislation (e.g., IUU Regulation & CATCH, Fisheries Control Regulation & traceability requirements) and other legislation (e.g. Forced Labour Regulation)
 - Implementation period

AOB, ACTION POINTS, END OF MEETING

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