



# WORKING GROUP 2 – EU MARKET

Stefan Meyer

Chair

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

Thursday, 11 June 2026

# AGENDA (CET TIME ZONE)

- 09:30 Welcome from the Chair, Stefan Meyer
- 09:35 Adoption of the agenda and of the last meeting's minutes (23.03.26)
- 09:40 Actions points
- 09:45 Trade Agreements & Trade Policy Instruments
- 10:30 Autonomous Tariff Quotas
- 11:00 *Break*
- 11:15 Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing
- 12:00 CATCH
- 12:30 Traceability
- 12:50 AOB
- 12:55 Summary of actions points
- 13:00 End of the meeting

# ACTION POINTS (23 MARCH 2026)

## Traceability:

- Once an initial draft of the delegated act is available, Working Group to proceed with the development of advice – if necessary, via written procedure.
- Pending.

## CATCH:

- Based on the proposal from Seafood Europe, draft advice on the implementation of CATCH to be considered via an ordinary written procedure and, if needed, to be followed by urgent written procedures.
- First urgent written consultation of Working Group: 24 March to 8 April 2026

# ACTION POINTS (23 MARCH 2026)

## Due Diligence:

- Secretariat to collect additional information on the state-of-play of the upcoming sector-specific reporting standards, including through the potential scheduling of exchanges with DG FISMA or the EFRAG.
- Following the Omnibus I proposal, EFRAG's work on sector-specific standards under the Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive was discontinued
- Technical work for simplification of the European Sustainability Reporting Standards by EFRAG is ongoing

## AOB:

- Secretary General to contact the Secretariat of the Long Distance Advisory Council for the potential joint consideration and adoption of the draft advice on "addressing risks in global squid fisheries"
- Joint MAC-LDAC consideration of the draft advice is ongoing

# TRADE AGREEMENTS & TRADE POLICY INSTRUMENTS

## ➤ Update on latest trade developments

### ▪ Kinga Malinowska-Facci (MARE B3)

- Australia (market access offers under the Free Trade Agreement)
- India (market access offers under the Free Trade Agreement)
- Indonesia (adoption of the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement)
- USA (section 301 investigations, implementation of CATCH, retaliatory measures to the aluminium and steel tariffs)

## ➤ Exchange of views

## ➤ Way forward

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

# AUTONOMOUS TARIFF QUOTAS

- Update regarding the preparation of the next legislative proposal for fishery and aquaculture products, including planned improvement to the sustainability of imported products
  - Pawel Szatkowski & Mariana Côrte-Real (MARE B3)
    - Current Regulation: 2024-2026 period
    - Integration of sustainability criteria: Pending (ambition reaffirmed in the European Ocean Pact)
    - Legislative proposal for next period: Pending
- Exchange of views
- Way forward
  - Drafting of advice? Monitoring of developments?

# AUTONOMOUS TARIFF QUOTAS

- **MAC Advice on “Integration of sustainability criteria under the regime of Autonomous Tariff Quotas for certain fishery products” (28 April 2025)**
  - Consider the regulatory situation of other food sectors in the EU market
  - Consider the application of other pieces of legislation (e.g., IUU Regulation, Forced Labour Regulation, Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive, Regulation on countries allowing non-sustainable fishing, revised Fisheries Control Regulation)
  - Enhance cooperation with “yellow-carded” countries + controls & implementation
  - Promote ratification of the most relevant international agreements (e.g., UNCLOS, UNFSA, FAO Compliance Agreement) + RFMOs membership
  - Ensure that operators and countries linked to IUU fishing and serious labour abuses do not benefit from preferential market access
  - Invest in enhanced diplomatic efforts, including trade relationships, to influence third countries
  - Assess how potential legislative changes to the ATQ regime would impact competitiveness in the EU (e.g., geopolitical power shifts, competition for raw material, reduction of supply, relocation of processing industries and de-industrialisation, economic viability, employment, boosts to processing capacities of third countries, imports of final products, protein substitution, administrative burden + potential positive benefits)
  - Ensure that the ATQ regime aims for the adequate supply of sustainable raw material to the EU’s processing industry (e.g., avoid market disruption, generate added value and employment, complementarity with EU production & FTAs, avoid undue pressure on prices of EU producers)

# AUTONOMOUS TARIFF QUOTAS

- **MAC Advice on “Integration of sustainability criteria under the regime of Autonomous Tariff Quotas for certain fishery products” (28 April 2025)**
  - Promote ratification of ILO conventions (e.g., Work in Fishing Convention), Port State Measures Agreement, Cape Town Agreement
  - Clarify the planned next steps of the assessments
  - Transparency during the decision-making process of future ATQ regulations and duty-free tariff quotas
  - If import restrictions are in place for certain third countries, these should also apply to products caught by vessels flagged to those countries but processed in other third countries
- Annex
  - Views of Group I - Favour a “new ATQ scheme with sustainability criteria”
    - Limitation of imports benefiting from ATQ regime to, at least, sourcing from countries that ratified key international agreements on labour conditions and fisheries management
    - No access to “yellow-carded” countries
  - Views of Group II - Favour a “Baseline Scenario”
    - Sustainability should be regulated via other legislation. Existing significant administrative workload of ATQs (“end use obligations”)
    - Insufficient raw material, and lacking trade arrangements
    - Importance for competitiveness and fight against inflation

BREAK

➤ **BACK AT 11:15**

# ILLEGAL, UNREPORTED AND UNREGULATED FISHING

- **Overview of existing procedures and dialogues with third countries**
  - **Desiree Kjolsen & Elliott Valverde (MARE B4)**
- **Exchange of views**
- **Way forward**
  - Drafting of advice on specific third country? Monitoring of developments?

# CATCH

- **Presentation on the practical experiences of operators**
  - **Jacobien Hoefnagel (Seafood Connection)**
- **Exchange of views**

# TRACEABILITY

## ➤ Exchange of views on the upcoming draft delegated act on traceability under the Fisheries Control Regulation

- According to information shared by DG MARE, a new delegated act on traceability would be prepared soon following a technical meeting with the Member States (April / May 2026)
- Stakeholders were encouraged to maintain contact with national authorities

## ➤ Way forward

# AOB, ACTION POINTS, END OF MEETING

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