

## MINUTES

### EU LONG DISTANCE FLEET ADVISORY COUNCIL GENERAL ASSEMBLY

**HILTON STOCKHOLM SLUSSEN Hotel / Zoom (hybrid meeting)**  
*Guldgränd 8, 104 65 Stockholm, Sweden*

**Wednesday, 24 May 2023**  
**14:30 – 17:00h**

Chair: Iván López van der Veen

Vice Chairs: Béatrice Gorez, Juan Manuel Liria and Marc Ghiglia

Rapporteurs (Secretariat): Alexandre Rodríguez and Manuela Iglesias

#### **1. Welcome by the Chair.**

The Chair, Mr. Iván López, welcomes attendees reminding them that today, 24 May, is European Maritime Day.

He then gives a list of absent representatives of member organisations that delegate powers to present representatives of member organisations, as received by the Secretariat:

- Conxemar (Ms. Isabel Mariño) delegates to ORPAGU (Ms. Juana Parada)
- Vianapesca (Mr. Francisco Portela) delegates to ADAPI (Mr. Luis Vicente).
- Européche (Mr. Daniel Voces) delegates to CEPESCA (Mr. Javier Garat)
- Seas at Risk (Ms. Iris Ziegler) delegates to IPLNF (Ms. Emilia Dyer)

The list of participants (including members and observers) is included in **ANNEX I**.

The Secretariat informs the members that, in conformity with the rules of procedure, the necessary quorum for adoption of decisions is reached, since at least 50% of the total number of members are present or represented.

#### **2. Approval of the agenda.**

The agenda is approved with no changes to it.

#### **3. Adoption of the minutes of the previous GA meeting (Madrid, May 2022)**

The minutes of the previous General Assembly meeting held on 18 May 2022 are approved with no comments or amendments.

#### **4. Update on work collaboration between the LDAC and ICES:**

##### **4.1. Report from Secretariat on ICES MIAC-MIACO and WKSTIMP - Alexandre Rodríguez**

The General Secretary, Alexandre Rodríguez, summarises issues of interest to the LDAC addressed at the annual coordination meeting with ICES (MIAC-MIACO) held in January 2023. Moreover, he

notes that the official report and the executive summary of these meetings are available on the following links:

- Executive summary [ExSumm MIACO 2023.pdf \(ldac.eu\)](#)
- MIACO report: [MIACO Report 2023.pdf \(ldac.eu\)](#)
- MIAC report: [MIAC Report 2023 \(ldac.eu\)](#)

Then he summarises what happened at the ICES Workshop on Implementation of Stakeholder Engagement Strategy (WKSTIMP) held the previous week, from his experience as co-chair. The WKSTIMP was held in order to identify specific and necessary practical actions to capture the view and objectives of the strategy published in January. Moreover, these recommendations will help guide future protocols and guidelines for effective and transparent stakeholder engagement and commitment to the members of the ICES community, ensuring at the same time the independence of the latter.

The WKSTIMP gathered a group of multidisciplinary experts including members of the EU Advisory Councils, regional fisheries groups and environmental committees, relevant authorities of ICES member countries, as well as observers and other stakeholders.

A report was published in June that is available on this link: [https://ices-library.figshare.com/articles/report/Workshop\\_on\\_Implementation\\_of\\_Stakeholder\\_Engagement\\_Strategy\\_WKSTIMP\\_/23507958](https://ices-library.figshare.com/articles/report/Workshop_on_Implementation_of_Stakeholder_Engagement_Strategy_WKSTIMP_/23507958)

#### **4.2. Presentation on ICES fishery advice app - Luca Lamoni**

Mr. Luca Lamoni, ICES, informs that ICES has launched a test version of an online interactive app that visualises ICES fisheries advice. With this app, users have the opportunity to access and interact directly with the data behind ICES scientific assessments and advice figures. Precisely, it includes around 100 fish stocks representative of all the ecoregions and categories.

Further information about this app may be found in the following presentation: [https://www.ldac.eu/images/ICES\\_online\\_app\\_presentation\\_Luca\\_Lamoni.pdf](https://www.ldac.eu/images/ICES_online_app_presentation_Luca_Lamoni.pdf)

## **5. Policy Report on LDAC Financial Year 17 (1 June 2023 - 31 May 2024)**

### **5.1. Presentation of Strategic Plan / Annual Work Programme.**

Mr. Alexandre Rodríguez, General Secretary, explains the LDAC strategic plan together with the annual work programme for year 17 requesting the formal approval of the GA members. Full presentation available on the following link: [https://ldac.eu/images/LDAC\\_Presentation\\_GA\\_24.05.2023.pdf](https://ldac.eu/images/LDAC_Presentation_GA_24.05.2023.pdf)

### **5.2. Provisional calendar of meetings.**

Mr. Alexandre Rodríguez, General Secretary, informs about the provisional calendar of meetings, highlighting that Working Groups 1, 4 and 5 will meet in October in Brussels and that the Working Group 2 and the ExCom meetings will take place in Madrid in November.

The complete calendar of meetings is made available to all members in the following presentation on the section addressing this point:

[https://ldac.eu/images/LDAC\\_Presentation\\_GA\\_24.05.2023.pdf](https://ldac.eu/images/LDAC_Presentation_GA_24.05.2023.pdf)

### **5.3. Ratification/approval of items 1-2.**

The General Assembly members ratify the previous two items as follows:

#### **DECISION:**

**The General Assembly members approve the LDAC annual strategic plan for Year 17 and the provisional calendar of meetings there included. With the approval of the General Assembly, the process is concluded and the strategic plan is considered formally adopted in conformity with provisions set forth in articles XIII and XV, section a) of the LDAC rules of procedure.**

## **6. Administrative and Financial Report on LDAC Financial Years 16 and 17**

### **6.1. State of annual accounts (Income/Expenditure) in Year 16 (2022-2023)**

The General Secretary, Mr. Alexandre Rodríguez, on behalf of the Chair and of the Executive Committee, presents a summary of the work carried out by the organisation during Financial Year 16 (1 June 2022 - 31 May 2023) regarding the programme, summarising actions and agreements achieved. In addition, recommendations (letters and opinions) adopted during Year 16 were mentioned.

The presentation specifically prepared for the General Assembly is available on the LDAC website: [https://ldac.eu/images/LDAC\\_Presentation\\_GA\\_24.05.2023.pdf](https://ldac.eu/images/LDAC_Presentation_GA_24.05.2023.pdf)

Once the accounts of the current year are presented, it is proposed that the Assembly should give a vote of confidence to the accounts presented. The final accounts shall be sent once the year is over (31 May 2023) and they have been duly audited.

### **6.2. Budget proposal for Financial Year 17 (2023-2024)**

The General Secretary, Mr. Alexandre Rodríguez, presents the new budget proposal for year 17 (1 June 2023 - 31 May 2024). The draft budget has been sent in writing to all ExCom members for adoption via e-mail and to all GA members sufficiently in advance to the meeting as set forth in the rules of procedure (date sent: 21 March) and was approved by the fast-track procedure granting a period of 8 calendar days.

After the presentation of the draft budget proposal is made by the General Secretary and approved by the ExCom in good time and appropriate manner, the Chair recommends that the General Assembly should ratify this draft budget for the following financial year.

### **6.3. Approval/Ratification of items 1-3.**

**It is agreed to unanimously approve and ratify with no comments or amendments the financial report with updated accounts for year 16 and the new budget proposal for year 17, respectively.**

## **7. Update on administrative and organisational issues:**

### **7.1. Update of the rules applicable for the reimbursement of travel, accommodation (hotel) and daily allowance (per diem) for members and experts.**

The Secretary General, Alexandre Rodríguez, informs that reimbursement requests can now be sent by filling in the online form available on the LDAC website: [https://ldac.eu/en/?option=com\\_rsform&view=rsform&formId=3](https://ldac.eu/en/?option=com_rsform&view=rsform&formId=3)

He explains that the main advantage of this procedure is that reimbursement amounts are automatically calculated, so only basic personal details will have to be introduced (e.g. the number of nights or mileage to be reimbursed). In addition, it enables users to attach the requested supporting documents, allowing for swift processing. Finally, immediate confirmation of the reimbursement request is received via email with a summary of the information sent.

He then reports that the EC has increased daily allowances (per diem) by country for experts on mission, including members of the Advisory Councils, so they propose to change reimbursement rules in line with those of the EC.

Finally, he proposes to consider a specific maximum limit amount for flights between European countries (return ticket). The amount proposed is €1,200 and only one exception may be applied in assessed cases that are duly justified.

The following **ACTION** is agreed:

- **To update the LDAC reimbursement rules including the two proposals explained above regarding the increase in daily allowances to adapt to the EC rules and the maximum limit amount for flights set at €1,200.**

#### **7.2. Proposal for amendment of the Code of conduct for LDAC meetings.**

The Chair suggests updating the code of conduct to include aspects such as the fact that member organisations have to be registered and have their data updated at the EU Transparency Register; that in EU negotiations during the RFMO's annual meetings, the LDAC members ought to have a loyal role vis-à-vis the EC, addressing sensitive topics in preparatory meetings; or that to intervene on behalf of the LDAC in fora or meetings an authorisation is required from the Chair/Secretariat provided that there is an advice or express mandate on the issue in question.

The following **ACTIONS** are agreed:

- **The Management Team (chair and vice chairs of the Executive Committee) will draft a proposal to formally amend the code of conduct in order to present it at the next Executive Committee meeting for discussion and approval, if appropriate.**
- **The LDAC Secretariat will compile information to be conveyed to the Management Team regarding whether the rest of Advisory Councils have a code of conduct and what is established in them.**

#### **7.3. Annual ratification of the LDAC Chair.**

The Chair of the LDAC, Mr. Iván López, is unanimously ratified for the second year of his term of office.

## **8. Overview of LDAC members**

### **8.1. Presentation of new candidate organisations.**

The General Secretary, Mr. Alexandre Rodríguez, informs that the LDAC is currently made up of 54 organisations from 11 Member States. Regarding admissions and cancellations, no organisation has requested to be withdrawn during this financial year. As for admissions, the following organisation has applied to become a member of this Advisory Council, in the category of other interest groups:

- Aquatic Life Institute (ALI) with their European headquarters located in France.

Then, Ms. Giulia Malerbi, makes a presentation on the structure, work and priorities of ALI: [https://ldac.eu/images/Aquatic Life Institute ALI presentation for LDAC.pdf](https://ldac.eu/images/Aquatic_Life_Institute_ALI_presentation_for_LDAC.pdf)

Finally, she informs that Ms. Christine Xu is appointed as permanent representative.

### **8.2. Admission of new members**

The General Secretary, Mr. Alexandre Rodríguez, informs that the application submitted by Aquatic Life Institute was circulated among the members of the Executive Committee with all the necessary documentation, after having been sent to the Member States for extensive consultation and having informed the Commission, without having received any objection to it.

### **DECISION:**

**The organisation Aquatic Life Institute is ratified as LDAC member after having been previously approved by MS and in the absence of objections by the Executive Committee members.**

## **9. AOB - CLOSE OF THE MEETING**

### **Protocol for use and authorisation of the LDAC contingency fund.**

This point was not addressed in the end.

With no other issues to address, the Chair, Mr. Iván López, closes the session thanking the members and observers for their attendance and active participation, the interpreting team for their work throughout the meeting and the Secretariat staff for all the work in terms of logistics, organisation and content in preparation for this meeting.

**-END-**

## **ANNEX I: List of attendees**

**Long Distance Advisory Council General Assembly  
24 May 2023, Stockholm/Videoconference**

### **MEMBERS ATTENDING ON-SITE**

1. Iván López. AGARBA/CEPESCA
2. Béatrice Gorez. CFFA-CAPE
3. Sara Fröcklin. SSNC
4. Joelle Philippe. CFFA-CAPE
5. Francisco Mari. Bread for the World
6. Julien Daudu. EJF
7. Vanya Vulperhorst. OCEANA
8. Aivaras Labanauskas. Lithuanian Long Distance Fisheries Association
9. Julio Morón. OPAGAC
10. Edelmiro Ulloa. OPP3/OPNAPA/ACEMIX
11. Jacopo Pasquero. EBCD
12. Héctor Martín Fernández. Bolton Food
13. Juana Parada. ORPAGU
14. Xavier Leduc. UAPF
15. Raúl García. WWF

### **MEMBERS ATTENDING ONLINE (ZOOM)**

16. Szalay Ferenc. FIPS/CIPS
17. Rocío Béjar. CEPESCA
18. Juan Manuel Liria. CEPESCA
19. Luis Vicente. ADAPI
20. Felicidad Fernández. ANFACO/AIPCE-CEP
21. José Beltrán. OPP-7 Burela
22. Emil Remisz. NAPO
23. José Ramón Fontán. ANEPAT
24. Tim Heddema. Dutch Pelagic Fisheries Association
25. Emilia Dyer. IPNLF
26. Sean O'Donoghue. KFO
27. Ángela Cortina. OPNAPA

### **ON-SITE OBSERVERS**

#### **FAO**

28. Mariana Toussaint.

### **CAOPA- AFRIFISH Participants**

29. Dawda Foday Saine (The Gambia)
30. Ahmed Muktar Hamad Gamal (Madagascar)
31. Antónia Adama Djaló (Guinea Bissau)
32. Nancy Marcia Onginjo (Seychelles)
33. Gaoussou Gueye (Senegal)
34. Abdoulaye Soumah (Guinea)
35. Dorcas Kilola Malogho (Kenya)
36. Harouna Lebaye (Mauritania)
37. Raissa Nadege Leka Madou (Côte d'Ivoire)
38. James Judex Rampaul (Mauritius)
39. Lalaina Miarisoa Rakotonaivo (WWF Madagascar)
40. Okeloh Namadoa. AFRIFISH-Net:

### **ONLINE OBSERVERS (Zoom)**

41. Ana Sedenko. Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Lithuania.
42. Giulia Malerbi. ALI (Aquatic Life Institute)
43. Luca Lamoni. ICES

### **LDAC SECRETARIAT - ON-SITE**

44. Alexandre Rodríguez. LDAC
45. Manuela Iglesias. LDAC