

## DISCUSSION NOTE FOR EXCOM Mtg. – Brussels, 27 March 2019

### **ELECTIONS TO THE LDAC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

#### **Introduction – Regulatory framework**

At the next annual general meeting of the LDAC General Assembly, on 22 May 2019, there will be elections of the LDAC Chair and Vice Chairs positions as well as of the 25 members of the Executive Committee.

Term of Mandate: 3 years, starting on 1 June 2019 and ending on 31 May 2022.

#### Applicable rules and regulations:

- Delegated Regulation (EU) 2017/1575 amending Delegated Regulation (EU) 2015/242 laying down detailed rules on the functioning of the Advisory Councils under the CFP.
- Regulation (EU) 1380/2013 on the CFP, namely Articles 41-43 and Annex III
- LDAC Rules of procedure (art. XIV, XV, XIX, XXII)
- LDAC Code of conduct (items 15, 16, 17)

#### Key ideas

- The General Assembly has the power and competence to appoint the Chair, the Vice Chairs and the members of the Executive Committee.
- Any LDAC member organisation of the GA that is up to date with payments is entitled to submit its expression of interest for the elections to the Ex.Com.
- There is a novelty regarding the previous mandate: the General Assembly shall decide under what category - “*organisations representing the fishing sector*” or “*other interest groups*” - the advisory council members are classified [...] and “*Based on nominations by fishing sector organisations and other interest groups for the positions that they are allocated respectively*, the General Assembly shall appoint an Executive Committee made up of a maximum of twenty-five members.
- The current members of the Executive Committee may be re-elected, and there is no maximum term of mandate set for them.
- The Executive Committee will have a maximum number of 25 members that may be enlarged up to 30 on a case by case basis, prior consultation with the Commission, in order to ensure the appropriate representation of small-scale fleets.



## **Proposed Election Procedure (for adoption)**

### **- SUBMISSION OF EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST FOR THE ELECTION TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:**

Those members interested in running for the position of LDAC Chair or Vice Chair shall send their expressions of interest to the attention of the Secretary General with a letter of motivation including the support of another member.

Those LDAC member organisations interested in becoming members of the Executive Committee shall fill in the relevant expression of interest form to be sent by the Secretariat. The application form shall be duly completed and signed by the representative/s appointed by the organization, being invalid otherwise.

### **- DEADLINE FOR RECEPTION OF EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST:**

From 8 April to 15 May 2019 at 12h Madrid time (GMT+1/CET).

### **- ROLE OF THE SECRETARIAT**

The Secretariat shall guarantee the lawfulness of the course of action in its role as arbitrator in charge of coordinating and supervising the procedure to observe its impartiality and independence.

In this regard, once the deadline for reception of expressions of interest has been met, the Secretariat shall be responsible for reviewing the eligibility of candidatures as well as the classification of organisations nominations into the allocated categories (60% to the fisheries sector and 40% to other interest groups).

### **- VOTING AND APPOINTING EXCOM POSITIONS AND MEMBERS**

The positions of Chair and Vice Chairs of the Executive Committee shall be appointed by the General Assembly either by unanimity or following a voting procedure in the event by secret ballot that there is more than one candidate.

As for the election of the Executive Committee members, in the event that the number of expressions of interest received is higher than that of available seats for each of the groups, the nomination process of the members of each group shall be carried out, i.e., 15 candidates for the fisheries sector and 10 for other interest groups.

Each group (60%-40%) shall separately choose its own candidates by secret ballot in a ballot box. Vote delegations shall be allowed for provided that the relevant form is duly completed, signed and submitted on time to the attention of the Secretary General.

The Secretariat shall be in charge of monitoring the process and counting the ballots for communication to the General Assembly. Expressions of interest that have been rejected within the groups shall not be accepted in the formal ratification process at the plenary session of the General Assembly.

Those candidates nominated by each of the groups shall be presented by the Secretariat and appointed as members of the new Executive Committee by majority of the General Assembly. This will be done through secret voting by ballot (YES/NO) by the members present and represented of the General Assembly, formally held in an ordinary or extraordinary session.