



## **MINUTES**

### **LDAC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE Hotel NH Collection Eurobuilding Calle Padre Damián 23, 28036 Madrid (Spain)**

**Monday, December 3, 2018**

**11:00 – 17:00h**

**Chair: Iván López**

**Vice-Chairs: Béatrice Gorez and Juan Manuel Liria**

**1. Welcome by the Chair and opening by the Secretary-General for Fisheries of the Government of Spain, Ms Alicia Villauriz.**

The Chair, Mr Iván López, welcomes the attendees, thanking the Secretary-General for Fisheries, Ms Alicia Villauriz, for the unconditional support that the institution she represents has provided to the LDAC since its creation.

Next, Ms Villauriz, SGP, takes the floor to thank and congratulate the LDAC for the excellent work carried out in the preparation of advice regarding the management and conservation of distant-water fisheries in order to achieve better international governance of the seas and oceans.

She highlights the importance of listening to both the opinion of the representatives of the fishing industry and of the NGOs and the value of their contributions by consensus for the management and sustainable use of the oceans. She highlights the fight against illegal fishing, marine pollution and plastic, as well as the degradation of the marine environment among other elements that cause a negative impact on the environmental sustainability of the sea.

Next, she refers to the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) that are part of the UN 2030 Agenda, highlighting No. 14 that deals with the use and conservation of the oceans. She recalls that Spain was present and has actively participated in the United Nations Conference held in New York for this SDG.

On the other hand, she reiterates Spain's commitment as a country with a long fishing tradition and that plays a key role in the sustainable management of the seas and oceans. The General Secretariat of Fisheries considers the work in the design of a new international governance framework to be of the essence, mentioning, for example, its input in the EU contribution to the sustainable fisheries resolution of the UNGA, for which she also recognized the active role of the LDAC. She states that, at present, in addition to monitoring the role of the RFMOs and the evolution of FAO policies, one of the most relevant issues is the start of negotiations of a UN Treaty on biodiversity in waters beyond national jurisdiction (BBNJ).

Finally, she emphasizes the importance of fisheries having a prominent role in the blue economy and encourages the LDAC to play an active role.



The LDAC Chair, Mr Iván López, thanks the Secretary-General for her words, showing the good harmony existing between both organizations, and highlights the good example that Spain has given as a pioneer in the fight against IUU fishing, including the recognition of the Fisheries Control and Monitoring Centre with the international ISO 9001 certification.

The Secretariat then reports on the apologies for absence as well as of the proxy votes received from the members.

*The full list of participants is included in Annexe I.*

Proxy votes:

- Mr Juan Manuel Liria (FEOPE/CEPESCA) delegates to Ms Rocío Béjar (ONAPE/CEPESCA)
- Mr Michel Goujon (ORTHONGEL) delegates to Mr Marc Ghiglia (UAPF/CNPMEM)
- Ms Andrea Ripol (Seas At Risk) delegates to Ms M<sup>re</sup> José Cornax (OCEANA)
- Mr Frederic Le Manach (BLOOM) delegates to Ms Béatrice Gorez (CFFA-CAPE)

## **2. Adoption of the agenda**

After counting the representatives of the member organizations present and represented by proxy votes, it is informed that, in accordance with Article XXIV of the Statutes, the minimum quorum has been achieved (at least 50% of the members present or represented) for the adoption of decisions by simple majority, if applicable.

Then, the agenda is adopted.

## **3. Adoption of the minutes of the last meeting (Rome, May 31, 2018)**

The minutes of the last meeting of the Executive Committee were adopted without any further comments.

## **4. Report of the LDAC Working Groups (October-November 2018)**

### **4.1. Presentation of the work progress and pending actions of each WG:**

#### **Working Group 1 - Tuna Fisheries and their RFMOs**

The Vice-Chair of WG1, Mr Julio Morón, summarizes the agreements and actions:

- **FADs:** The document on the guide to good practices for the use and management of FADs will be revised by changing its structure and focus. The technical expert group or task force comprising Michel Goujon, Julio Morón, Anertz Muniategui and Josu Santiago will submit a revised draft that the Secretariat will distribute prior to the next meeting of WG1 with a view to its discussion.

- **Inter-RFMO cooperation:** The evolution of the Kobe process will be monitored in the tuna RFMOs and the progress in achieving the three pillars on which it is based. The Commission will be requested to have the RFMOs involved in this process make available to all the stakeholders their indicators of compliance with the objectives stated in the pillars.



Likewise, WG1 will put this discussion in context with the United Nations BBNJ process, in order to align the challenges for the improvement in the functioning of the RFMOs and the cooperation between them to achieve improved data.

- **IOTC:** It is reported that the Secretariat sent the representative of the EC, Ms Angela Martini, the exchange of correspondence between the LDAC and the Commission regarding the creation of a Working Group in the IOTC on the labour and socio-economic conditions in fishing in the Indian Ocean, and the interest in following up on this issue.

### **Working Group 2: Regional Fisheries Organizations and North Atlantic Agreements**

The Vice-Chair of GT2, Mr Gerard van Balsfoort, summarizes the agreements and actions:

- **NEAFC:** The Secretariat will contact the negotiating team of DG MARE for NEAFC in order to follow up the results of the Annual Meeting and explore specific joint actions to contribute towards the implementation of the management standards adopted for the demersal and deep-sea species that are the material remit of this RFMO.

- **Deep-sea Species:** The Secretariat will send as a reminder the exchange of correspondence between the LDAC and DG MARE in 2017 on their request for collaboration between DG MARE, ICES and PECMAS to improve the biological knowledge and management measures for deep-sea species.

- WG2 will continue to monitor future negotiations on the evolution of **bilateral agreements between the EU and Norway/Faroe Islands/Iceland.**

- The Secretariat will make available to all members the link provided by Ian Gatt on a recently published SEAFISH report, which includes a socio-economic impact study on the utilisation of the Fisheries Agreement between the EU and the Faroe Islands.

- **Snow Crab in Svalbard:** The Secretariat will coordinate and circulate a draft letter based on the text provided by Mr Daniel Voces (EUROPECHE) requesting the European Commission to update the report on its diplomatic strategy with Norway to solve the conflict of access to snow crab fishing in Svalbard by the EU fleet.

- **Seminar on the Impact of Brexit for the Advisory Councils:** The Secretariat and the Organizing Committee of the PELAC and the LDAC will finalize the agenda with the confirmation of the speakers and topics to be addressed. A conceptual note will be drafted and made available before the meeting, which will take place in Madrid on December 4. Both the documents mentioned above and the reference documentation will be made available to all registered participants via email and/or on the website before the meeting.

- **NAFO:** DG MARE will keep the LDAC informed about the work progress and the actions pending arising from the last NAFO Annual Meeting held in Tallinn in September. This will include comments on the work of the Ecosystem Working Group and the implementation of the performance review exercise of this RFMO.

- The Secretariat will make available to the members the presentation made by Dr Alfonso Pérez-Rodríguez (Wageningen) on the specific EU Project entitled "*Assessment of multi-specific fisheries in NAFO 3M*". It will also share with the members of WG2 the three



documents that request information and methodology on economic data so that they may bring forward information to contribute to this project.

Next, the Vice-Chair expresses congratulations on behalf of the Group to the negotiating team at DG MARE for the excellent work carried out in Tallinn and their capacity for dialogue and communication with the LDAC, which is beneficial for both parties.

#### **Working Group 4 - Bilateral fisheries agreements with third countries**

The Chair of WG4, Mr Julio Morón, summarizes the agreements and actions agreed upon:

- **Collaboration with COMHAFAT:** The Secretariat and the Chairs and Vice-Chairs of the LDAC will advance in the work with COMHAFAT at the next annual meeting scheduled for early 2019 with the endeavour to launch initiatives such as the regional program of observers at sea and the regional scheme of port control in the African coastal States. An LDAC delegation will meet with the European Commission (DG MARE and DEVCO) to analyse the role of ECOWAS and other organizations and be clear about the role or fit that COMHAFAT could have, for example, in developing actions in projects such as PESCAO.

- **Infographics:** The Secretariat will prepare a small infographic presentation to show the existing projects with community funding (DG MARE and DG DEVCO) and international organizations such as FAO, the World Bank or cooperation agencies. The purpose of this infographic presentation is to map the synergies that may exist in the field of international fisheries governance and the management of resources and to analyse their value.

- **Fishing investments in third countries:** The Secretariat will request the members to send their ideas on fishing investments of the fleets and of the European fishing sector in third countries as well as specific examples of the elements in the value chain of certain European investments. These examples will be sent to Ms Isabelle Viallon (DG DEVCO) so she may include them in the analysis that the Commission is carrying out on fisheries value chains (e.g. species caught, number of vessels, operational dynamics, etc.).

- **Social Responsibility in the fisheries value chain:**

The Secretariat will be in contact with the Fisheries Department of FAO to assess the possibility of participating in the public consultation of the stakeholders to be launched at the end of the year to promote social responsibility in the fisheries sector throughout the value chain, by virtue of the agreement reached at the 33<sup>rd</sup> Session of the FAO Committee on Fisheries (COFI).

- **Regional governance in the Indian Ocean:** The Secretariat will include in the budget and work program of the Fiscal Year 13 (June 2019 - May 2020) the organization of an international conference on the EU strategy to improve regional and bilateral governance in fishing affairs with third countries of the Indian Ocean such as Seychelles, Mauritius or Madagascar.

Ms Béatrice Gorez, CFFA-CAPE, highlights the importance of having a clear regulatory framework for investments in third countries, taking into account, among other features, environmental and socio-economic sustainability. On the other hand, she mentions the case of Côte d'Ivoire regarding the value chain or the conversion of *sardinella* into fishmeal in



West Africa, underlining the importance of the involvement of artisanal and coastal fisheries of African countries in this dialogue.

Mr Ment var den Zwan, EUROPECHE, highlights the importance of the FAO consultation on social responsibility in the fisheries value chain, stressing that there should be joint work together with the ILO and the European Social Dialogue Committee.

Mr Iván López points out that the FAO is studying the development of a guide of good practices for investments in third countries, opening a process of consultation with the stakeholders. Therefore, this matter requires follow-up and we ought to aim to offer our contributions as LDAC.

Mr Gerard van Balsfoort, DFTA, on the stock of *sardinella* in West Africa, stresses the importance for the Secretariat to keep in touch with DG DEVCO in order to let them know of such concerns. Ms Béatrice Gorez, CFFA-CAPE, adds that such kind of actions is key for food security and that projects such as PESCAO are the ones that could select such kind of actions. In her point of view, the consistency of any actions that are directed towards sustainable development should be intensified.

It is agreed to create an ad hoc group to work on draft advice on the different aspects related to the access, management and research or science for small pelagic fisheries in order that they may be included in the negotiations of fishing agreements and have a common approach for Central Africa, Senegal and Mauritania. The importance of coordination between DG MARE, DG DEVCO and the other institutions involved is highlighted.

#### **Working Group 5 - Horizontal issues**

Ms M<sup>a</sup> José Cornax, Chair of WG5, summarizes the agreements and actions:

- **Trade agreements and negotiations with third countries:** The members of WG5 will provide the Secretariat with topics of strategic interest as well as specific aspects to be included in the agenda for the next meeting on trade agreements, in order to draw attention and be able to invite representatives of DG MARE and/or DG TRADE to future meetings of WG5, given that, currently, the representatives of DG TRADE do not attend the LDAC meetings to report because the Commission gives priority to the MAC in that it falls within its scope of competence.

- **LDAC-MAC work coordination:** After a discussion among the members, it was agreed that there is a need for greater coordination between the two Advisory Councils. Therefore, it is agreed that the Secretariats and the Chairs of the LDAC and MAC must meet to try to organize a focus group or technical committee to jointly address trade issues of common interest.

- **FARFISH H2020 Project:** The Secretary will attend the coordination meeting of project leaders and case studies of the H2020 FARFISH project in Mindelo (Cape Verde), scheduled for November, and will duly inform the interested members on any progress via e-mail and at future meetings of WG5 and the Executive Committee.



- **SMEFF Regulation:** The Secretariat will provide all the members with the presentation by the European Commission on the review of monitoring systems and the implementation of the SMEFF Regulation. WG5 will assess the possibility of drafting a position paper or advice in which the degree of implementation of the SMEFF Regulation is analysed. EUROPECHE and OCEANA have agreed to join the drafting group.

- **Underwater mining in international waters of the high seas:** The Secretariat will provide all the members with the presentation by Mr Matthew Gianni (DSCC) on current management regimes for deep-sea species and habitats and the potential impact of underwater mining on them. A draft letter or advice on this subject will be drafted for approval by the Executive Committee.

- In reply to the invitation made by the representative of DG MARE at the meeting, the LDAC will seek to contribute with its specific sectoral knowledge to the EU API Project.

- **CBD / IUCN / Aichi:** Ms Despina Symonds will follow the progress of these international organizations and will report at future meetings of WG5.

- **Social and labour aspects connected to fishing:**

WG5 will discuss the content of a future letter to be sent to DG EMPLOYMENT to increase visibility and conduct a campaign to raise awareness of the importance of the social dimension in fisheries, with a copy to DG MARE.

Related to the item above, the LDAC will propose to organize a joint technical meeting with the European Social Dialogue Committee to identify issues of common interest (e.g. ratification of international instruments such as STCW, ILO C188). To this purpose, a preparatory meeting will be convened with Europeche and ETF at the end of the year.

Once the aforementioned meeting has been held, an action plan will be agreed upon to organize a high-level event on safety at sea, labour rights and decent working conditions in fishing. The event will be organized after the elections to the European Parliament in the second half of 2019, once the EMPs and the new Cabinet of the Commission have been appointed. Representatives of the ILO, FAO, the European Commission and relevant international organizations will be invited to this event.

- **Subsidies harmful to fisheries:** The Secretariat will update and distribute the draft advice on subsidies harmful to fisheries with a view to its adoption by the Executive Committee, if applicable.

- **International Ocean Governance:** The draft governance advice was revised, incorporating the changes agreed to at the meeting, and an introductory page was added with the general and specific recommendations of the document for a better understanding. The document will be distributed for consultation among all members of WG5 with a view to its adoption by the Executive Committee.

#### **4.2. Adoption by the Executive Committee of proposals and recommendations of the Working Groups**

Mr Alexandre Rodríguez, Secretary-General of the LDAC, informs that the documents submitted for adoption have been circulated among the members.

Next, the following documents are submitted for approval:



- **LDAC Letter: “Report on the state of the negotiations and the consultation on the EU position in relation to the management of the Snow Crab and access to the Svalbard Fisheries Protection Zone”**

**ADOPTED – Ref. R-04-18/WG2**

- **LDAC Advice on Fishing Subsidies R-03-18/WG5**

The Secretary-General explains the background, the comments received in successive rounds of consultations and presents the latest version of the document, noting that the contribution and substantial changes by the BLOOM representative are missing.

## **5. Annual Economic Report (AER) 2018 of STECF on the EU Fishing Fleet**

### **5.1. Presentation of the new regional chapter on the distant-water fleet (DWF) - Michael Keatinge (Chair EWG AER STECF)**

Mr Michael Keatinge makes a presentation that may be found at the following link:

[http://ldac.eu/images/documents/events/EC-03-12-18/eu\\_fishing\\_fleet.pdf](http://ldac.eu/images/documents/events/EC-03-12-18/eu_fishing_fleet.pdf)

Mr Keatinge highlights the need to improve and obtain the data, and thanks the Secretary of the LDAC for his valuable work and contributions as an expert invited by the STECF in the definition, re-elaboration and qualitative analysis of the data to be reflected in the regional chapters dedicated to the long-distance fleet for the first time since its creation.

The Chair and members congratulate the STECF for this important work, which serves as a basis or socio-economic foundation when adopting management measures.

### **5.2. Report by the LDAC Executive Secretary on his participation in the Expert Working Group (EWG), (BIM Dun Laoghaire, June 2018): request to renew the mandate for the 2019 EWG meeting.**

The Executive Secretary, Mr Alexandre Rodríguez, states the importance of this work for the improvement of the knowledge of the economic behaviour and the value in terms of employment and generation of wealth of the European long-distance fleet.

**DECISION: On the proposal by the Chair and unanimously by all those present, it is approved to renew the Executive Secretary's mandate to continue participating as a rapporteur for fisheries in distant waters in the AER-2 STECF Expert Working Group and congratulate him for the good work carried out in 2018.**

## **6. Working conditions in fishing**

- 6.1. **Working report by the European Social Dialogue Sectoral Committee.**
- 6.2. **Challenges in the implementation of international regulations on labour and safety issues on board fishing vessels.**





Mr Ment van der Zwan (Europeche) makes a brief presentation of the work of the European Social Dialogue Sectoral Committee. Mr Ment van der Zwan also provides the LDAC with a technical document entitled "*Training and certification of fishermen: the role of the European social partners in sea-fishing*". This document is available at the following link:

[http://ldac.eu/images/documents/events/EC-03-12-18/Training\\_and\\_certification\\_of\\_fishermen.pdf](http://ldac.eu/images/documents/events/EC-03-12-18/Training_and_certification_of_fishermen.pdf)

The presentation by Mr Van der Zwan on behalf of EUROPECHE is available at:

[http://ldac.eu/images/documents/events/EC-03-12-18/work\\_in\\_fishing\\_convention.pdf](http://ldac.eu/images/documents/events/EC-03-12-18/work_in_fishing_convention.pdf)

For his part, the representative of the European trade union ETF, Mr Juan Manuel Trujillo, highlights in his presentation the lack of legislative protection and security in the EU labour legislation, and he also makes certain proposals to contribute to the social dialogue that will allow progress on issues such as negotiating a minimum framework agreement for the fishing sector, based on ILO Convention 188 and the European Directive 2017/159. He also explains the global legislation with the various Conventions and their ratifications by the different countries (Torremolinos Protocol, Cape Town Agreement, implementation of the STCW-F or the Work in Fishing Convention).

Finally, Mr Trujillo stresses the need for the Government of Spain to ratify ILO Convention 188, to promote the IMO International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers 1995 (STCW-F 1995) and to update the Torremolinos International Convention for the Safety of Fishing Vessels of the IMO, 1977.

The presentation by Mr Trujillo on behalf of the ETF is available here:

[http://ldac.eu/images/documents/events/EC-03-1218/COMIT%C3%89\\_EJECUTIVO\\_LDAC\\_.pdf](http://ldac.eu/images/documents/events/EC-03-1218/COMIT%C3%89_EJECUTIVO_LDAC_.pdf)

Time for questions by the members:

Several members of the Executive Committee expressed the need to discuss the revision of the gross tonnage model (GT) as a measure of fishing capacity and the limitations that this entails for the improvement of living conditions on board fishing vessels. GT is actually a volume measure and therefore it would be necessary to reflect and propose an alternative model to the capacity limits that does not indirectly penalize safety on board. This is a particular problem for small and medium-sized vessels.

Mr Van der Zwan replies that a scientific report commissioned by Europeche on this issue will soon be available. He agrees with the need to start this discussion with the European Commission and seek exemptions from the limitations to increase GT, as long as it is justified by issues of safety on board and comfort for crews. He states that there are other ways to measure a vessel's capacity such as displacement volume or simply reviewing the tonnage calculations to remove some elements from this equation. He encourages the LDAC to participate in this discussion with the Social Dialogue Committee in order to find valid arguments.





The Chair of the LDAC, Mr Iván López, recalls that in the past there were exemptions in Spain in the calculation of the GT to improve the living conditions on board provided that it was above deck. In Norway, for example, the volume of the gear is measured and not that of the vessels. The key is to control the capacity and ensure safety on board. He agrees that we are in a grey, sensitive area and that we must fine-tune our arguments to try to achieve a common understanding and consensus within the LDAC.

Mr Van der Zwan points out that ILO Convention 188 already contains requirements for the living conditions of the crew so that the EU countries and the signatory parties should adapt to comply with this on both newly built vessels as well as on those in use.

Ms María José Cornax requests that OCEANA may participate in this discussion and offer their interpretation of the adequacy of the measures proposed to measure the capacity in GT or other modalities. We need to have clear figures regarding the size of the hold, stowage plans, etc., as well as impacts for fishing conditions on board vessels of different sizes to understand the arguments and rationales.

Mr Sean O'Donoghue, KFO, requests that the new CFP expressly include in its articles some regulations on work and safety conditions on board since they have been deleted from the current CFP Regulations. He suggests that the wording of the previous CFP, in which they were already listed, could be used.

Mr Daniel Voces, EUROPECHE, expresses his agreement with Ment and Sean. He says that another viable option could be to include in the current reform of the Technical Measures Regulation some provisions to introduce changes to improve safety conditions on board in order to adapt to the requirements of the landing obligation, which requires the storage of by-catches in the hold with the consequent loss of space. The Europeche report will be available in EN-FR at the end of the year.

Mr Iván López, AGARBA, suggests creating an ad hoc working group to analyse this issue in depth, including living conditions, fishing conditions and the impact of GT measurement for distant-water fleets, and issues of generational replacement.

**ACTION: It is proposed that the LDAC meet with the Social Dialogue Committee, with the participation of all interested members. Terms of reference will be then drafted with a view to their adoption at the next Executive Committee.**

## **7. International oceans governance and sustainable development.**

### **7.1. Discussion and/or adoption of a position paper by the LDAC.**

Mr Ment van der Zwan, Europeche, on the draft LDAC advice on strengthening the EU's role in international fisheries governance (R-05-18/WG5) suggests adding an item to include the obligation to comply with Art. 94 of UNCLOS. On the other hand, Ms Béatrice Gorez, CFFA-CAPE, agrees with the suggestion by Mr van der Zwan and proposes to delete the references to the document on Blue Growth Economy.

**ACTION: It is then approved to incorporate these changes into the document and circulate it with a minimum consultation period of 2 weeks prior to its adoption.**



## **7.2. Results of the “Our Ocean” conference (Bali, October 2018)**

The representative of the EC, Mr Ramón van Barneveld, summarizes the highlights of the “Our Ocean” Conference held in Bali in October of 2018, highlighting the success of the Conference, with a large representation of more than 4,000 participants and the presence of 6 heads of state including the Prince of Wales and John Kerry.

At the Conference, 305 commitments announced by governments, international organizations, as well as representatives of the scientific community, sectoral and professional organizations, NGOs, businesses and civil society. He states that the EU as a global player made 23 commitments from different countries as well as the EIB on different topics: climate change, pollution, plastic and 7 specifically on sustainable fisheries, highlighting that there was no reference to maritime safety and that the Copernicus Program was present.

Regarding the follow-up of the commitments, the status of each one may be checked at the website, although they recognize that it is increasingly difficult to follow up, hence Commissioner Vella committed to creating a database (“EC Ocean Tracking Tool”) on the status of compliance with the 960 commitments, which is expected to be operational in the spring of 2019.

He announces that the next conferences will be held in Palau in 2019, in Lisbon in 2020 and in Panama in 2021.

## **7.3. Proposed meetings or dialogues with third countries and international organizations in the Atlantic and Indian oceans: development of an action plan**

Mr Julio Morón, OPAGAC, emphasizes that the dialogues in the Atlantic Ocean could be carried out through the COMHAFAT, though for the Indian Ocean they are not clear with which partner or organization they may count on. He also reports that the ECOFISH program is not yet operational, although countries like Mauritius or Madagascar are very interested in the supply of tuna.

## **7.4. Future collaboration initiatives with EU, FAO, international organizations.**

Mr Iván López, AGARBA, believes that we must increase the relationship with organizations such as FAO or the ILO, translating the current good dialogue and collaboration climate into concrete actions for strategic issues in the short and medium term. He encourages members to bring forward their proposals to the Secretariat.

## **8. Work Plan for Year 12 of the LDAC**

### **8.1. Intermediate financial and activity report of FY 12 - Secretariat**

The Executive Secretary makes a presentation of the mid-year report, both in its financial aspects as well as its activities and operations. Regarding income, he recalls that the fees of



one Member State and eleven associations are pending, highlighting that they are still on time to make the relevant payments.

On the other hand, he reports that the LDAC received the Spanish contribution in full on April 3, 2018, for the amount of 139,810 euros, and it has been incorporated into the budget, which remains very similar to last year's.

The presentation may be found at the following link:

[http://ldac.eu/images/documents/events/EC-03-12-18/Mid-term\\_report\\_LDAC\\_Y12.pdf](http://ldac.eu/images/documents/events/EC-03-12-18/Mid-term_report_LDAC_Y12.pdf)

## **8.2. Preparation for the General Assembly (May 2019): elections.**

The Executive Secretary informs about the election procedure and its timing:

- In the first quarter of 2019, the LDAC Secretariat will launch a call for candidatures and expressions of interest for the positions of Chair, Vice-Chairs and members of the Executive Committee.
- In the month of May 2019, the elections to renew the positions of Chair, Vice-Chairs of the LDAC and members of the Executive Committee will be held at the General Assembly.
- In the month of October/November 2019, the elections for the Chairs and Vice-Chairs of the Working Groups will be held.

## **9. Update on the External Performance Assessment of the LDAC**

- 9.1. Presentation of the preliminary recommendations – Benoit Guerin**
- 9.2. Comments by the Members and discussion**

Mr Benoit Guerin, BG Sea Consulting, explains the methodology used to draft the performance assessment report of the LDAC, explaining that, in order to reach the recommendations made, a preliminary analysis was conducted. The methodology used was a mixed one with an interview phase for the members, EC staff and the Secretariat; and attendance to different LDAC meetings during the second half of 2018.

On the advice, he emphasizes that although this year there has been less, the quality has increased, in addition to the importance of consensus when adopting it.

To summarize, he makes three main recommendations:

- 1) To restore the LDAC's main work priorities through consultation to the members of the General Assembly focused on the three main areas of LDAC work (advice, consistent international EU policy, organising events) and selecting the priorities better and more swiftly.
- 2) To increase the preparatory work through specific focus groups comprising 4-5 members with legitimate interest and genuine knowledge on the relevant topics. To also include, whenever possible, a designated scientist invited to participate.
- 3) To point out to the European Commission the importance of carrying out a specific consultation, initially limited to the LDAC and a broader (public) consultation in a second step.



The presentation of the recommendations may be found at the following link:  
[http://ldac.eu/images/documents/events/EC-03-12-18/LDAC\\_performance\\_review.pdf](http://ldac.eu/images/documents/events/EC-03-12-18/LDAC_performance_review.pdf)

## **10. Update on the FARFISH H2020 Project**

- 10.1. Initial meeting on the launching and validation of case studies (Vigo, June) /**
- 10.2. Coastal States Leaders Workshop (CS) (Mindelo, November 14-15)**

The General Secretary, Mr Alexandre Rodríguez, reports on the work progress at the last two meetings of the project which he attended as the person in charge. The main action in this phase of the project is essentially focused on the discussion and validation of the management objectives in order to develop in the coming months the phase of elaboration of the management plans for the fisheries in the case studies. Likewise, actions will be developed regarding the development of self-sampling programs in fisheries for black hake, tunas and sharks; and training actions through specific courses directed to coastal State administrations and fishing operators.

### **10.3. Result of the recruitment process for the Coordinator of the LDAC Project.**

The Secretary-General, Mr Alexandre Rodríguez, reports that after the selection process, it has been decided that Ms Sonia Doblado, a marine biologist with training in statistics and modelling, is the candidate chosen to be the LDAC coordinator for the FARFISH project. Her incorporation will take place in January 2019.

## **11. Terms of reference and discussion topics at the Inter AC meeting on the impact of Brexit on the functioning of Advisory Councils (Madrid, December 4)**

The Secretary-General, Mr Alexandre Rodríguez, explains that the aim of this meeting is to analyse the current functioning of the Advisory Councils (ACs) in the current regulatory framework, as well as to identify possible structures for the ACs to continue exerting their influence and guaranteeing the participation and the continued engagement of British and European stakeholders in decision-making in a *post-Brexit* scenario.

To this purpose, a conceptual note was drafted with the ideas submitted for the discussion, which, once agreed upon, could serve as the basis for the development of a common position or as information points for future collaborations between the ACs in order to improve the role, influence and tasks of the Advisory Councils depending on how the negotiations between the EU and the United Kingdom develop.

### **Closure**

The Chair thanked all attendees for their participation and declared the meeting to be closed.



## **ANNEXE I. List of participants**

### **Executive Committee of the Long Distance Fleet Advisory Council Madrid, December 3, 2018.**

#### **MEMBERS**

1. Iván López. AGARBA/CEPESCA. Chair.
2. Rocío Béjar. ONAPE/CEPESCA
3. Marc Ghiglia. UAPF/CNPMEM
4. Claus Ubl. DHV
5. Juan Manuel Trujillo. ETF
6. Luis Vicente. ADAPI
7. Erik Olsen. Danish Society
8. Béatrice Gorez. CFFA-CAPE. 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-Chair.
9. Roberto Alonso ANFACO-CECOPECA
10. Emil Remisz. NAPO
11. Francisco Mari. BFW
12. Sean O'Donoghue. KFO
13. Esben Sverdrup-Jensen. DPPO
14. Gerard van Balsfoort. DPTFA
15. Despina Symons. EBCD

#### **CHAIRS AND VICE-CHAIRS OF THE WGs**

16. María José Cornax. OCEANA. Chair, WG5.
17. José Antonio Suárez-Llanos. Anapa, Anamer, Agarba and Anasol. Chair, WG3
18. Julio Morón. OPAGAC. Chair, WG4.

#### **OBSERVERS and AUTHORITIES**

19. Daniel Voces. EUROPECHE
20. Ment van der Zwan. EUROPECHE
21. Michael Keatinge. Presidente CCTEP/STECF
22. Natalia Walczak. ETF
23. Ian Gatt. SPFA
24. Alberto Martín. MSC
25. Benoit Guerin. BG SEA CONSULTING
26. Alicia Villauriz. Secretariat-General for Fisheries
27. Mónica Corrales, Subdirector-General for Legal Affairs and International Fisheries Governance
28. Carlos Ossorio. Secretariat-General for Fisheries
29. Margarita Mancebo. Secretariat-General for Fisheries
30. Alexandre Rodríguez. LDAC
31. Manuela Iglesias. LDAC
32. Marta de Lucas. LDAC