

MINUTES LDAC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, 26 May 2020. 10.00-11.30h

Video conference with simultaneous interpreting (due to COVID-19)

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 and housekeeping rules for the meeting.

The Chair, Mr. Iván López, welcomes all attendees to the first virtual meeting of the LDAC Executive Committee.

Then the General Secretary, Mr. Alexandre Rodríguez, conveys the LDAC's sincere condolences for all human losses due to the COVID-19 pandemic and wishes a quick recovery of all those affected and their families. More precisely, he highlights that the LDAC would like to thank all fishers that have supplied the markets at these times of uncertainty and the European institutions that have shown their solidarity and have worked non-stop to find solutions to mitigate the socio-economic impact of this pandemic on the primary sector.

2. Approval of the agenda.

Prior to the approval of the agenda, the General Secretary, Mr. Alexandre Rodríguez, informs of the vote delegations received from the members that could not attend the meeting, which are the following:

- Due to Ms. Caroline Mangalo's absence, Mr. Marc Ghiglia is appointed as representative of CNPMEM.
- Mr. Aivaras Labanauskas (Lithuanian Long Distance Fisheries Association) delegates to Mr. Emil Remisz (NAPO)

After counting the representatives of the member organisations present and represented with delegation of vote, attendees are informed that, in conformity with Article XXIV of the LDAC Rules of procedure, the necessary quorum for adoption of decisions by simple majority (at least 50% of the members present or represented) is acquired, if so required.

The complete list of attendees (members and observers) is included in ANNEX I.

The agenda is then approved with no comments or modifications.

3. Approval of the minutes of the last Executive Committee meeting (Madrid, 28 Nov. 2019)



The minutes of the Executive Committee meeting held on 28 November 2019 are approved with no comments or modifications.

4. Update on processes and meetings calendar related to International Ocean Governance

The Chair, Mr. Iván López, welcomes the representatives of the European Commission, highlighting that the information they provide will help the LDAC to coordinate actions for the rest of the year 2020.

The representative of DG MARE at the European Commission, Ms. Stefanie Schmidt, thanks the LDAC for inviting her and emphasises its role as an important actor in international ocean and fisheries governance. Then, she presents the main results of the webinars that took place at the International Ocean Governance Forum recently co-organised by DG MARE and the work plan for the preparation of the conference to be held in December 2020. She says that, due to the COVID-19 pandemic and travelling restrictions between countries, the EC decided to change the International Ocean Governance (IOG) Forum, originally programmed to be held face-to-face on 22 and 24 April in Brussels, to take place on digital format as a webinar.

The three thematic working groups (TWG) of the IOG Forum were launched through spaced webinars, with the participation of more than 430 attendees including stakeholders and invited experts. Special thanks were given to the General Secretary and several LDAC members for their active participation at these forums, and their participation is also expected at the December session.

Thematic Working Group 1 focused on "Improving the international ocean governance framework".

Thematic Working Group 2 dealt with "Reducing pressure on the ocean and seas and creating the conditions for a sustainable blue economy".

Thematic Working Group 3 focused on "Strengthening international ocean research, data and knowledge".

According to feedback from surveys carried out, over 90% of respondents were satisfied with these webinars, and their main topics of interest were the sustainable use of oceans, climate change, sustainable management of food and the role of RFMOs when managing and preserving fisheries resources in the high seas, with special mention to their yield assessment. Other relevant topics were transparency of fisheries activities, social pillars and the importance of paying more attention to fair labour conditions in the fisheries sector.

All presentations and contents of these webinars were recorded and are available on the EC website: https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/maritimeforum/en/node/4466

Finally, she says that there will be new sessions in mid December in Brussels, in order to move forward in the 3 thematic working groups and to issue recommendations for action at the plenary session. To this end, online consultations will be promoted in the months to come to compile input from stakeholders. The LDAC will be informed on the dates when these consultations will be launched.



The General Secretary, Mr. Alexandre Rodríguez, thanks the representative of the EC adding that the LDAC wishes to continue taking active part both in consultations and in seminars.

Then, the Secretary provides some context and comments on the information conveyed by Mr. John Brincat prior to his delayed contribution owing to technical issues. He points out that, due to the current pandemic, there is a lot of uncertainty regarding the organisation of meetings programmed by the UN. For instance, the Annual Intersessional Conference of the Parties to the New York Agreement (ICPS-15) was postponed from May 2020 to March 2021, as it occurred with the UN Ocean Conference related to SDG14, initially planned to be held in Lisbon in June 2020, the actual date of which is yet to be decided. The same happens with the 4th Intergovernmental Conference (IGC4) for the adoption of a Treaty on Biodiversity beyond areas of national jurisdiction (UN BBNJ). The UN is regularly analysing the evolution of the pandemic before taking a final decision in this regard. Therefore, it is difficult to foresee now what will happen with the aforementioned meetings, as well as with other such as the Seminar on Bottom Trawling Gear or the November informal consultations on the UN annual resolution on sustainable fisheries.

The representative of the EC, Mr. John Brincat, joins in and informs that the UN BBNJ IGC4 has been provisionally postponed for August, although international travelling will not be allowed until the end of the year. Mr. Brincat shows his willingness to regularly inform the LDAC on any update regarding the UN meetings calendar.

Mr. Matthew Gianni, Deep Sea Conservation Coalition, informs that the International Seabed Authority (ISA) Council meeting, initially planned for July, has also been postponed and is meant to take place in October. He says that there are mining exploration and prospecting activities in areas in international waters in the Pacific Ocean that could have an impact on migrations of tuna stocks and on traditional fishing grounds for the tuna fleet. He adds that Kiribati and Tonga are some of the countries that support and even sponsor some of these prospecting activities. Finally, he points out that the biodiversity strategy recently published by the EU could fund mining activities in deep waters.

Mr. Alexandre Rodríguez, General Secretary, recalls that the LDAC requested underwater mining be subject to a moratorium in international waters insofar there is no robust scientific evidence in unanimously adopted 2019 which the advice in May is available here: https://ldac.eu/images/ES Dictamen LDAC Mineria Submarina R.04.19.WG5 Mayo2019.pdf The response given by the EC is available on the following link: https://ldac.eu/images/Commission_reply_Deep_sea_mining_R.04.19.WG5.pdf

Mr. Juan Manuel Trujillo, ETF, thinks that restrictions are imposed on the fisheries sector but not on underwater mining/wind farms for energy supply.

The representative of the EC, Ms. Stefanie Schmidt, clarifies that the agenda on international governance and biodiversity is cross-cutting within the European Commission and recalls that the DG ENV is also involved; it is something that demands a joint effort by everybody. In response to a question asked by Mr. Trujillo, she indicates that in European waters the idea is to promote offshore energy, both wind and mining.

Mr. John Brincat, representative of the EC, declares that at the DG MARE Governance Unit they are committed to respecting the provisions of the international law of the sea and that the EC is trying to move forward in order to protect marine ecosystems using new legislative and technological tools based on a regional approach on a case by case basis.



Mr. Raúl García, WWF, says that the climate and environmental crisis continues and that we need to urgently adopt global tools for fisheries and for the rest of human activities on the high seas such as, for instance, prospecting activities in underwater mining. He hopes that the LDAC may continue collaborating and reflecting upon this in order for the European Commission to find a suitable framework for international negotiations.

Mr. Javier Garat, CEPESCA, shows his disappointment with the EC's biodiversity strategy communication, since he believes that the European fisheries sector efforts have not been taken into account, nor has been the recovery of fish stocks in the last decade in European waters within maximum sustainable yield levels. He also thinks that the fisheries sector has been discriminated against vis-à-vis other economic activity sectors, in spite of it being the one producing a smaller carbon footprint in the primary sector, devoted to food and supplying the European market with high quality proteins. He cannot understand why marine energy and wind farms are being supported. Besides, he says that he is against the idea of setting as an aim that 30% of waters worldwide should become marine protected areas by 2030, since he thinks it is a random figure without scientific basis. Finally, he suggests the EC should acknowledge the effort made by the fisheries sector on topics such as economic and environmental sustainability and asks the EC why it promotes the development of other sectors, such as wind energy, to the detriment of fisheries in the field of marine spatial planning and blue growth strategies.

Mr. John Brincat, representative of the EC, says that they are aware of the efforts made by the fisheries sector, but in his opinion, there is still room for improvement. He believes that finding a balance among the activities of all sectors is necessary.

Then, Ms. Anne-Laure Gassin, representative of EC DG SANTE, makes a presentation on the EU Green Deal and the Farm to Fork strategy, highlighting the mains aims: neutral or positive environmental impact on the production of food; ensuring food security and public health, and preserving food availability at an affordable cost.

The full presentation is available on the following link: https://ldac.eu/images/Presentation GreenDeal EU FarmtoFork 26May2020 MARE.pdf

- 5. Adoption of the recommendations and/or letters agreed by Working Groups
 - Advice: Addressing women in fisheries issues: The example of EU sustainable fisheries partnership agreements (WG4)
 - Letter: Request of a brochure on COVID-19 pandemic for EU fishing fleets (WG5)
 - Recommendations to improve work of EFCA Advisory Board and participation of ACs in EFCA Administrative Boards (WG5)
 - Response to EC Public Consultation on GSP (WG5)

The General Secretary, Mr. Alexandre Rodríguez, sums up each draft proposal of letter and advice circulated in good time and appropriate manner, stopping at the comments received and requesting explicit adoption by the members of the Executive Committee.



There are no additional comments and the following **DECISIONS** are adopted:

- To approve and send the advice: Addressing women in fisheries issues: The example of EU sustainable fisheries partnership agreements (WG4)
- To approve and send the letter: Request of a brochure on COVID-19 pandemic for EU fishing fleets (WG5)
- To approve and send the Recommendation to improve work of EFCA Advisory Board and participation of ACs in EFCA Administrative Boards (WG5)
- Response to the EC Public Consultation on GSP (WG5): The Secretary, Alexandre Rodríguez, points out that many comments were received, evidencing the great effort made by all participating members. It shall be sent to the EC by 3 June, and the members of the Executive Committee approve extending the review period of said document until 29 May to have time to read the final version. In the event that no additional comments are received, it shall be deemed approved and the Secretariat shall fill in the online form via EU Login so that it is dully registered.
- 6. Report by the WG Chairs on main work issues and outstanding actions
 - 6.1. <u>Proposal by the LDAC Chair regarding the functioning of LDAC Working Groups and Focus Groups during the COVID-19 pandemic</u>

The LDAC Chair, Mr. Iván López, reminds attendees that at the next working group meetings, chairs and vice-chairs of working groups 1, 2, 4 and 5 shall be elected. He recalls that WG3 has been withdrawn according to a decision adopted by this body.

Due to the current situation with the coronavirus pandemic (SARS-CoV-2), he believes that the work needs to be structured and adapted to the new normality until the end of the year.

Although he is aware that it is most likely that there will not be any face-to-face LDAC meetings until 2021, the ways for members to continue with their active participation in the consultations and debates of each WG online shall be studied.

Therefore, the Secretariat is given power, prior approval by the coordinators of each group (including current Chairs and Vice-Chairs and candidates to these positions), to organise and call focus groups for specific topics in order to prepare draft advice and work documents that will be subsequently subject to discussion at the working group meetings. In addition, the need to hire remote or virtual simultaneous interpreting services shall be studied on a case by case basis.

Moreover, he suggests that standard terms of reference shall be prepared for each virtual focus group in order to enhance transparency regarding the functioning of meetings, the work calendar and the drafting of advice in a homogeneous and coordinated fashion.

The Secretariat then informs about the expressions of interest received within the agreed period for the positions of Chair and/or Vice-Chair of each WG:

- Working Group 1: Chair: Mr. Michel Goujon; Vice-Chair: Mr. Julio Morón



- Working Group 2: Chair: Mr. Gerard van Balsfoort; Vice-Chair: Mr. Xavier Leduc
- Working Group 4: Chair: Mr. Julio Morón and Ms. Antonia Leroy; Vice-Chair: vacant.
- Working Group 5: Chair: Sr. Julien Daudu; Vice-Chair: Mr. Daniel Voces

The Chair, Mr. Iván López, suggests that, until elections are held, all candidates should work as a team and coordinate efforts. He also suggests that all interest groups shall be represented (both industry and NGOs). Therefore, and taking into account that most probably 2020 sessions will have to take place online, including the Executive Committee to be held in November, he requests NGOs to choose unofficial coordinators for WG1 and WG2.

Ms. Béatrice Gorez, CFFA-CAPE, thinks that the most important thing is to keep on working effectively and for all interests represented within the LDAC to have the opportunity to include items in the agenda and in draft documents and to make proposals.

Mr. Alexandre Rodríguez, General Secretary, says that it is very useful to have focus groups and coordinators that analyse and set priorities regarding subjects for discussion and send all the information. Therefore, he supports the idea of setting up a team made up of acting and candidate Chairs and Vice-Chairs together with the Secretariat to meet the objectives of the annual work programme sent to the Commission (June 2020 - May 2021).

DECISION:

It is agreed to approve this proposal as a working method and there is a proposal to draft a protocol or terms of reference for the organisation of virtual focus groups.

6.2. Report by the WG Chairs on main issues and outstanding actions

Working Group 1 (Tuna Fisheries and Highly Migratory Stocks and their RFMOs):

Mr. Michel Goujon, WG1 Chair, informs that all actions agreed upon at the last meeting held in October 2019 have been completed, highlighting the advice sent for the ICCAT Annual Meeting.

Regarding work priorities, he explains that concerning the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT), the LDAC will participate in the technical meeting between the European Commission and stakeholders in preparation for the next ICCAT Annual Meeting. This technical meeting is planned for October 2020 and the idea is to issue a new LDAC advice.

As for the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC), the LDAC will submit comments and will aim to present specific recommendations for ongoing negotiations. It shall also offer guidance on specific consultations by the EC negotiation team when it is so requested, and on its own initiative it could develop considerations on how to improve data compilation reports and compliance in line with MCS. The Secretariat will prepare a concept note including the arguments put forward by the members of the tuna fleet and the NGOs that will be the basis for the preparation of advice to be discussed within a Focus Group / future Working Group 1. This advice shall be ready prior to the following IOTC meeting, which was postponed to November 2020.

Regarding the Atlantic and Indian oceans, promotion of initiatives in the field of transparency enhancement of fishing activities and collaboration projects for the development of coastal communities in third countries shall continue. The LDAC will proactively try to establish partnerships (through memorandums of understanding or informal agreements) with relevant



regional organisations and stakeholders in the Atlantic and Indian Oceans, such as the African Union or the ECOFISH project, where the fisheries industry and the LDAC fleets are actively present and have investments.

Working Group 2 (Regional Fisheries Organisations and North Atlantic Agreements)

Mr. Gerard van Balsfoort, WG2 Vice-Chair, informs that all actions agreed at the last Working Group meeting have been completed, highlighting the advice on NAFO sent to the EC.

He explains that priorities will focus on closely monitoring the EU proposals and providing comments on the implementation of Fisheries Bilateral Agreements with United Kingdom, Norway, Iceland, Faroe and Greenland.

Regarding the North East Atlantic Fisheries Commission (NEAFC), consultations by coastal States shall be monitored and guidance shall be given on issues other than fishing opportunities, such as:

- Management of deep water species.
- Protection of vulnerable marine ecosystems and effectiveness review, including impact assessment studies carried out by ICES / OSPAR.

As for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organisation (NAFO): The LDAC will participate in the EC preparatory meeting with stakeholders and will set up a working group to provide complete guidance prior to the following NAFO annual meeting.

As for the impact of Brexit on the composition, structure, functioning and competencies of Advisory Councils, for Year 14, the LDAC will resume work with chairs and secretariats of PELAC, NSAC and NWWAC in a focus group to reflect upon a joint meeting to follow up on ACs in order to issue joint recommendations for common structure and competencies for ACs in a post-Brexit scenario. The aim is to provide and channel guidance from EU stakeholders to the European Commission in the negotiation process with the United Kingdom in areas affecting them.

Working Group 4 (EU sustainable fisheries partnership agreements with third countries):

Mr. Julio Morón, WG4 Chair, informs that all actions agreed at the last WG4 meeting have been completed, except one that is under way which is the international conference or event in partnership with COMHAFAT-ATLAFCO about regional dialogue with third countries on the implementation of SFPAs.

He then summarises WG4 work priorities based on the work programme (June 2020-May 2021):

- Regarding Sustainable Fisheries Partnership Agreements (SFPAs), it is a priority to know what
 the state of play is regarding negotiations; to follow up on the implementation of valid and
 renewed agreements; employment conditions and the application of international
 conventions; improved communication with coastal States' administrations; transparency and
 improved access to information and compliance with fisheries agreements.
- Efforts will still be made to advise the European Commission to achieve consistent and



holistic regional ocean governance to promote sustainable fisheries in the Atlantic, Indian and Pacific oceans.

- For the fourth consecutive year, the annual coordination meeting between LDAC and COMHAFAT-ATLAFCO is meant to be held at the beginning of 2021. This time, and after three years being held in Spain (Vigo, Madrid and Bilbao), this meeting will take place at the COMHAFAT-ATLAFCO Secretariat headquarters in Rabat (Morocco).

Working Group 5 (Horizontal issues):

Mr. Alexandre Rodríguez, summarises the work carried out by WG5 since the group has currently no Chair or Vice-Chair and was temporarily coordinated by the LDAC Chair, First Vice-Chair and Secretariat at the last session.

Regarding actions agreed at the last WG5 meeting, he explains that they are still working on some of them, such as:

- Preparation of a draft advice on reaching a level playing field in terms of regulations and operational capacity for the production and marketing of fishery products from EU and non EU fleets and industries.
- The joint Work Plan with the European Social Dialogue Committee (composed of EUROPECHE and ETF) on working and social conditions and the inclusion of the transposition of international conventions as legislation on maritime safety. In this sense, the idea is to issue recommendations in 2020 on two studies of the "Pillars of the sea" project funded by the EU, aiming to address issues such as training and certification of fishers (IMO STCW-F) or the definition and measurement of the fishing capacity.
- Update on the FAO consultation regarding social responsibility and sustainability in the fisheries value chain.

Regarding work priorities for the second half of 2020, he highlights that guidance is still going to be provided on consultations initiated by EU institutions on key legislative areas under review, such as international ocean governance, control system, fight against IUU fishing, social dimension of the CFP, EMFF regulations and the assessment of protection of marine vulnerable ecosystems.

In addition, work will be carried out in coordination with the Market Advisory Council (MAC) to develop guidance regarding topics of common interest such as the way to ensure a level playing field in terms of wild caught, frozen and processed fishery products marketed and/or imported in the EU market; public consultation for the review of GSP/EBA, or tariff quotas for tuna loins, among other.

Finally, more information shall be provided about the progress of the work regarding the Fisheries International Transparency Initiative (FiTI), with the possibility of inviting its General Secretary, Sven Biermann, to the next WG5 meeting.

6.3. RFMOs meetings calendar (Anders Jessen - DG MARE)



The head of unit of RFMOs in DG MARE, Mr. Anders Jessen, points out that the RFMOs meetings and negotiations calendar has also been affected by the coronavirus pandemic. He informs that they will contact the Secretariats and contracting parties of the different Regional Fisheries Organisations to identify urgent matters to be discussed this year in the event there is a remote or virtual meeting, such as budgetary issues or conservation measures.

He warns that subjects for discussion will be most likely reduced and prioritised owing to time restrictions and encourages the LDAC to continue working in the preparation of advice.

Regarding ICCAT, he informs that holding a meeting online does not seem a very realistic option, since it would be difficult to manage due to the number of contracting parties and delegates attending (over 500). He explains that panels 1 and 4 inter-sessional work has been delayed. PA1 has been postponed until September in Azores, although it seems complicated that it will take place.

He highlights the difficult situation of scientific work within RFMOs, which have in turn been affected as well. In fact, there will not be the same volume or quality regarding scientific advice due to the problems to compile data and carry out surveys.

He believes it will be very difficult for some RFMOs (like ICCAT) to approve conservation measures of great technical complexity and political dissent by video conference, so he insists on the importance of focusing on the essential this year.

He thinks it is very important to keep in touch and to continue coordinating work with the LDAC, and requests to have this AC send the priorities of the members in a fast and concise way, since the EC is trying to set its own priorities.

The Chair, Mr. Iván López, thanks Mr. Jessen for his participation in this meeting.

DECISION:

The LDAC Secretariat will keep in touch with Mr. Jessen and his unit in order to plan a technical coordination meeting for each RFMO of interest in the next few months.

7. Next meeting and closing

With no other issues to address, the session is adjourned by the Chair thanking the representatives of the European Commission for their participation; the LDAC Secretariat for their efforts in organising and coordinating logistics and documents; and the members for their attendance and participation.

END

EX POST NOTE: Due to her technical sound problems with the microphone, Ms. Felicidad Fernández, AIPCE, could not voice her opinion at the meeting, so the content of her contribution is included below upon her express request:

"At ANFACO-CECOPESCA, we would like to convey that, regarding the adoption of the new Regulation that, among other quotas, sets an autonomous tariff quota for tuna loins for 2021-2023, there is currently a debate being held within the Market Advisory Council (MAC), with an Executive Committee meeting to be held on Friday 29, as well as a specific Working Group meeting on Wednesday 3 June, where they will probably address this matter and the main operators of the



European tuna sector will be represented, who are also members of the LDAC, like Europêche, who promoted the advice. Discussing this issue in both Councils does not seem the best option if we want to effectively use taxpayers' resources. Finally, I would like to point out that the LDAC shall promote the adoption of advice that have been adopted by consensus of its members, and here we find ourselves discussing a purely commercial topic, so it is difficult to reach consensus, as it could happen when addressing TACs/Quotas".

ANNEX I: LIST OF ATTENDEES



Long Distance Advisory Council Executive Committee Video conference, 26 May 2020

MEMBERS

- Iván López. AGARBA/CEPESCA
- 2. Béatrice Gorez. CFFA-CAPE
- 3. Emil Remisz, NAPO
- 4. Javier Garat. CEPESCA
- 5. Juan Manuel Liria. CEPESCA
- 6. Sara Fröcklin. Swedish Society for Nature Conservation
- 7. Michel Goujon. ORTHONGEL
- 8. Sean O'Donoghue. KFO
- 9. Juan Manuel Trujillo. ETF
- 10. Luis Vicente. ADAPI
- 11. Francisco Mari. BFW
- 12. Vanya Vulperhorst. OCEANA
- 13. Felicidad Fernández/ Haydeé Fernández. AIPCE
- 14. Marc Ghiglia. CNPMEM
- 15. Raúl García. WWF
- 16. Despina Symons/ Jacopo Pasquero. EBCD
- 17. Erik Olsen. Danish Society for a Living Sea
- 18. Justine Guiny. Birdlife International
- 19. Jane Sandell. NFFO
- 20. Gerard van Balsfoort. Pelagic Freezer-Trawler Association.
- 21. Esben Sverdrup-Jensen. Danish Pelagic Producers Organisation
- 22. Julien Daudu. EJF
- 23. Andrea Ripol. Seas at Risk

OBSERVERS

- 24. Rocío Béjar. CEPESCA
- 25. Julio Morón. OPAGAC/AGAC
- 26. Katarina Sipic. AIPCE
- 27. David Troncoso. ANASCO
- 28. Edelmiro Ulloa. Anapa, Anamer, Agarba and Acemix
- 29. José Manuel F. Beltrán/Sergio López. OPP Lugo
- 30. Rosalie Tukker. EUROPECHE
- 31. Yaiza Dronkers. International Pole & Line Foundation
- 32. Benoit Guerin. BGSea Consulting
- 33. Matthew Gianni. Deep Sea Conservation Coalition

OBSERVERS – COMMISSION, FAO, MEMBER STATES AND ACS SECRETARIATS



- 34. John Brincat. EC (DG MARE UN Processes and Law of the Sea)
- 35. Stefanie Schmidt. EC (DG MARE International Ocean Governance)
- 36. Anne-Laure Gassin. EC (DG SANTE EU Green Deal)
- 37. Dora Borreira. EC (DG ENV EU Green Deal)
- 38. Sarah Vitiello Ferrara. EC (DG MARE Fisheries Control EFCA)
- 39. Anders Jessen. EC (DG MARE-RFMOs)
- 40. Pascale Colson. EC (DG MARE ACs coordinator)
- 41. Carlos Ossorio. Secretariat General for Fisheries, Spain
- 42. Mónica Corrales. Secretariat General for Fisheries, Spain
- 43. Amaia Silanes. Secretariat General for Fisheries, Spain
- 44. Mariana Toussaint. FAO
- 45. Marcio Castro De Souza. FAO
- 46. Pedro Reis. MAC Executive Secretary

LDAC SECRETARIAT

- 47. Alexandre Rodríguez. LDAC
- 48. Manuela Iglesias. LDAC
- 49. Marta de Lucas. LDAC