



LONG DISTANCE ADVISORY COUNCIL

Executive Committee

Venue: BFW Berlin
Wednesday 22nd May 2024
9:30h-12:30h



AGENDA Executive Committee

- 1. Welcome by the Chair and opening from the German Government**
- 2. Adoption of the agenda**
- 3. Adoption of the minutes of the Executive Committee (Brussels, 7 March 2023)**
- 4. Presentation on the work of the European Fisheries Control Agency (EFCA) in International Fisheries and fight against IUU fishing**
- 5. State of play and request for adoption of LDAC working papers and advice**
- 6. Update on Working Groups:**
 - 6.1. Ongoing actions from the LDAC Working Groups: report from Chairs / Vice Chairs
 - 6.2. Introduction of the elected new Chairs / Vice-chairs of the Working Groups
 - 6.3. Chair's proposal for debate on expanding RFMOs coverage in LDAC work
- 7. Summary report on state of play of partnerships and collaborations:**
 - 7.1. FAO
 - 7.2. ATLAFCO-COMHAFAT
 - 7.3. AFRIFISH-Net
- 8. Feedback on INTER AC work**
- 9. AOB AND CLOSE OF THE MEETING**

DRAFT JOINT LETTERS FOR ADOPTION TODAY

(already circulated)



1. LDAC-AFRIFISH joint letter on regional basis for negotiation of fisheries arrangements (R-04-24/WG4-WG5)
2. Joint AC-Letter addressing concerns regarding the EU-funded "Fishers of the Future" project (R-05-24/ExCom)
3. NWWAC-PELAC letter of request to the Commission asking to set up a workshop on the implementation of the new EC Fisheries Control Regulation



Actions from Working Groups – 5-7 March 2024

- **Working Group 1 on Tuna and Tuna-like RFMOs** - *Michel Goujon*
 - ICCAT: Advice on Atlantic tunas (BET-YFT-SKJ-ALB), Swordfish and shark stocks
Inter-AC cooperation – Michel’s time plan
 - IOTC: Follow up of advice on CMM for tropical tunas and sharks -
recommendations of 28 Annual Session 2024 (e.g. Work on FADs)
IOTC socio-economic working group - Setup, scope, tasks
Cooperation with CCRUP in exchange of information & topics
 - WCPFC: EC priorities related to CMM of tropical tunas and sharks for the year;
MCS, monitoring of transshipments, IUU fishing, observer coverage, climate change
 - IATTC: Identification of priorities and questions posed by EC to be dealt with.
 - ATLAFCO: Resume collaboration (e.g. regional observer programmes at sea and
harmonised port control in African Atlantic coastal states for tuna vessels).



Actions from Working Groups – 5-7 March 2024

- **Working Group 2 on North Atlantic Fisheries** – *Iván López (acting)*
 - NAFO: Kick-off preparatory work to produce an advice for Annual Meeting (Halifax, September 2025) – topics: MSEs, annual fishing opportunities for key commercial stocks (COD, RED, GHL, PRA...), technical measures, VMEs, EBFM, climate change
 - NEAFC: Governance (interactions with Coastal States arrangements and stakeholder participation), performance review, cooperation with OSPAR/ICES, EBFM, VMEs, MPAs/OECMs, climate change
 - Inter AC: Brexit Forum (LDAC to host meeting in late August-early September ahead of SCF)
 - Norway: Trade, governance, sustainability issues (salmon farming, Arctic snow, snow crab)
 - Northern Fisheries Bilateral and Trilateral Agreements: State of play negotiations with UK, Norway, Iceland, Faroe Islands and Greenland
 - Other RFMOs: Possibility to expand coverage to other oceans (e.g., NPFC, SPRFMO, SIOFA)

- **Working Group 4 on EU SFPAs** – *Julio Morón*

- State of play and implementation of SFPAs: prepare LDAC advice or feedback to EU retrospective evaluation and MRAG study on future benefits and challenges for coastal communities in third countries
- Fisheries management for shared small pelagic stocks in West African countries: improve quality of scientific assessment, regional approach, enhance role of CECAF, promote EU funded projects aimed to enhancing governance and capacity building and tackle IUU fishing particularly from non-EU fleets.
- Improve the implementation of the social dimension in SFPA: fine tune the content and application of social clause; promote the adoption and ratification of international instruments of maritime safety at sea + training of fishers (ILO-IMO-FAO)
- Partnerships with ATLAFCO-COMHAFAT & AFRIFISH-Net: make progress on actions such as role of women in fisheries, regional dimension for negotiations of fisheries agreements, transparency of fishing activities of foreign fleets in coastal states, IUU fishing, MCS and regional observer programmes, advice to RFMOs, etc.
- EU Fisheries investments in Third countries: development of a legal framework to enhance the role of sustainable “joint ventures” for food supply, nutrition, social and economic development of coastal communities.



Update on Working Groups - Actions

- **Working Group 5 on Horizontal Issues** - *Julien Daudu*

- EC Evaluation of CFP: advice to MARE on Governance, Stakeholder Involvement and External Policy of the CFP
- EU new Fisheries Control System: feedback to new legislative developments on control for external fleets (MoT for tuna PS, monitoring transshipments at sea and port, EMS for high-risk fleets, etc.)
Recommendations to improve implementation of revised IUU Regulation, in particular application of IT-CATCH and CDS
- Fight against IUU Fishing: develop country specific advice related to carding system.
- International Ocean Governance: take part on consultation meetings with MARE - FAO COFI, UNFSA, BBNJ, CBD, ISA, etc.
- LPF: International Trade with China and IUU fishing and labour abuses of its DWF – analyse EC reply to the LDAC-MAC joint advice received in Feb 2024 and select topics to address
- Labour & social aspects related to DWF: work closely with EU SDC-F on maritime safety and training for fishers, migrant workers, social GTs and fishing capacity, and develop own initiative advice on aspects related to abuses of human and labour rights at sea and in land (forced labour, due diligence, full traceability of the FVC...)
- Impact of Climate change for long distance fisheries: reboost work initiated on May 2024 – produce report with recommendations and a draft outline for advice to be tackled in a Focus Group (June-July)
- Deepsea mining in the high seas and impacts on distant water fisheries: LDAC to lead this advice, complete a draft advice in time for discussion in June and aimed to be adopted before the start of ISA Council in July 2024.

INTRODUCTION ONLY OF NEW ONES! (2-3 minutes each)

- Who am I (professional and academic background)?
- What do I do in my day work (organisation, topics)?
- What are my interests/priorities as Chair/Co-Chair of WG?

Working Group 1 on Highly Migratory (Tuna and Tuna-like) Stocks and its RFMOs



Chair
Anne-France Mattfet
(Europêche Tuna Group)



Vice-Chair
Louis Lambrechts
(WWF)

Working Group 2 on North Atlantic RFMOs and Fishing Agreements



Chair
Emil Remisz
(NAPO)



Vice-Chair
Tim Heddema
(DPA)

Working Group 4 on Bilateral Relations with Third Countries



Chair
Béatrice Gorez
(CFPA)



Vice-Chair
Angela Cortina
(OPNAFA)

Working Group 5 on Horizontal Issues



Chair
Julien Daudu
(EAF)



Vice-Chair
Daniel Voces de Onaindi
(Europêche)



WG1 deals already with all the main tuna RFMOs
(ICCAT, IOTC, WCPFC, IATTC...)

WG2 deals with NAFO and NEAFC (North Atlantic)

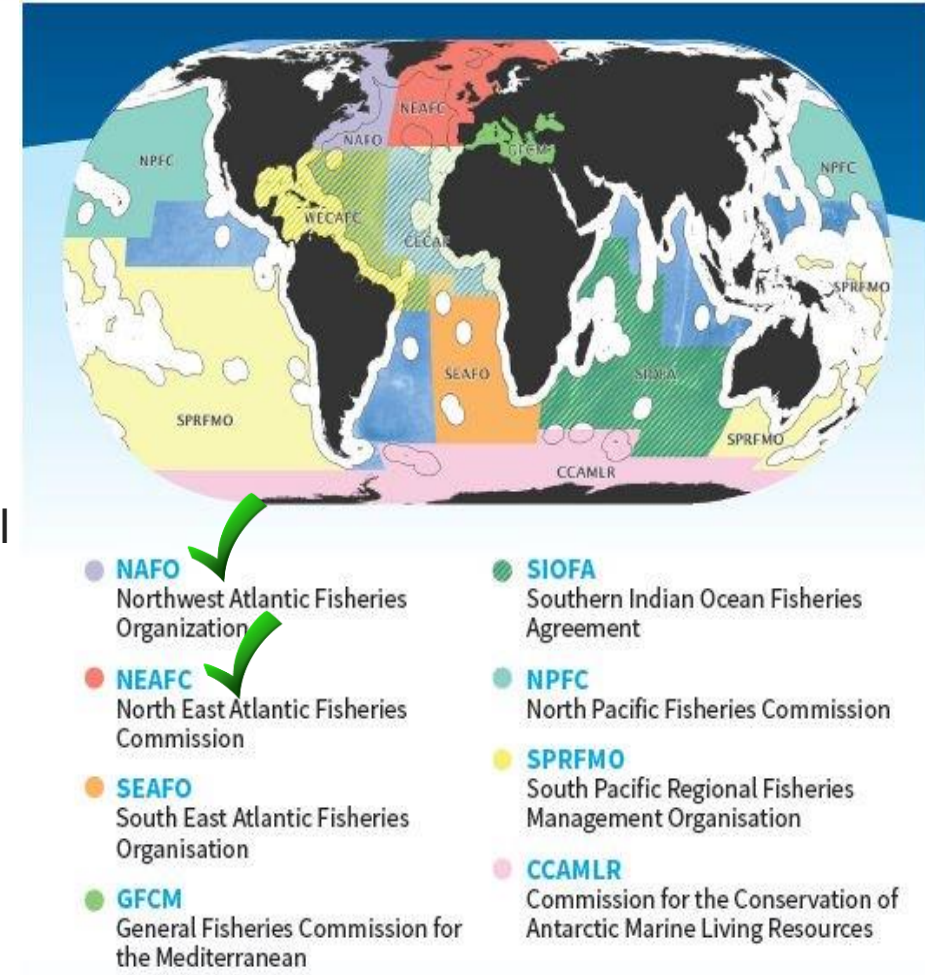
The extinct WG3 used to discuss other RFMOs (SPRFMO, SIOFA, CCAMLR) which are now missing.

Proposal from LDAC Chair: Restructure WG2 and expand its geographical scope to take over some of this work

To begin with for 2024-2025:

- **NPFC:** North Pacific Fisheries Commission
- **SPRFMO:** South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation

Other ones pending of discussion (e.g. SIOFA, CCAMLR)?

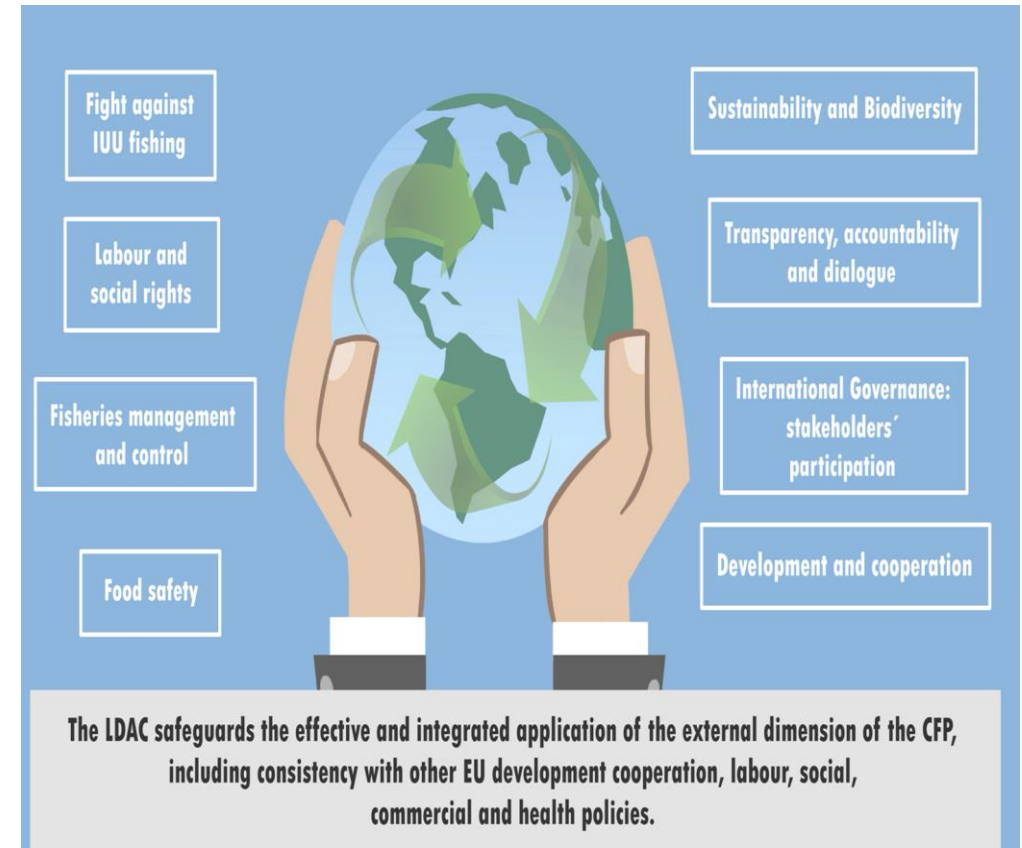


EVALUATION OF THE CFP REGULATION

- CFP Fisheries Package adopted in Feb 2023
- Breaking news - Statement by Commissioner Sinkevicius on the Informal Fisheries Council in Bruges on 24-25 March to undertake a full evaluation/review of the CFP.

Information by DG MARE on the process / timeline:

- First meeting MARE D4 unit - AC Secretaries only (7 May)
- Launch of “EU Better Regulation” and call for evidence in June
- Public consultation planned (questionnaire) + targeted ACs.
- Evaluation will cover the entire CFP Reg. – building blocks:
 1. Managing fisheries measures for the conservation and sustainable exploitation of marine biological resources
 2. **Governance, regionalization, stakeholder involvement (incl. ACs)**
 3. Common market organization
 4. **External Policy**
 5. Aquaculture
 6. Control and enforcement



DG MARE is also carrying out several studies feeding into the evaluation (i.e. landing obligation, EMFF (ex-post) and EMFAF (mid-term)).

SOCIAL DIMENSION OF FISHERIES

Fisheries & Oceans Pact

Reaffirms the importance of "empowering people in fishing communities"

Acknowledges the challenges ahead that will have an impact on the sector

Recognised the importance of training and skills of fishers.



With the Fisheries and Oceans Pact, the European Commission has committed to:

1. Training and certification of fishers: Consider implementation of IMO STCW-F into EU law
2. Further develop social indicators to be used in socio-economic analysis (through STECF EWG + EU forum)
3. Develop a Vademecum on allocation of fishing opportunities (in line with Article 17 CFP Regulation)
4. Conduct a foresight study on how "fishers of the future" will look like.



“Fishers of the Future” – EU Foresight Project

- EU initiative which looks into fishers' hopes, fears, expectations and needs, to understand how the profession is likely to evolve by 2050.
- Focus is mainly on fishers working in EU waters although there is reference to external fleets.
- Based on a mixed of interviews in ports, online questionnaires and workshops, 13 fishers' profiles have been developed (they are provisional and currently under revision).
- A consortium of consultancy companies led by Tetra-Tech is in charge of developing a study to be presented by the end of 2024.
- It is structured in 3 phases:
 - Phase 1: the development of baseline profiles of fishers in today's world.
 - Phase 2: exploring the future scenarios in which fishers might be living and working in 2050 (3 workshops already held, last one on 14 May; next one and final workshop is confirmed for 6 June).
 - Phase 3: the development of profiles of fishers in 2050, using drivers and scenarios previously developed (discussions expected to take place via targeted interviews with ACs from September 2024).



Feedback on inter-AC work and MARE consultations (III)

INTER AC BREXIT FORUM (NWWAC-PELAC-NSAC-MAC-LDAC)

- Last meeting hosted by NSAC on 17 May. Next meeting planned for 3rd week of June hosted by the MAC (and then LDAC).
- Open to all AC members who wish to be part; deliberations confidential and report only circulated amongst participants.
- New officer in MARE C5 unit replacing Erik Lindebo (Adela Rey).
- List of priority topics to be updated by the concerned ACs.
- LDAC Chair's proposal on possibility to expand remit of this Forum beyond Brexit, to other third NEA countries + trilaterals.

EU REQUESTS FOR SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL ADVICE TO ICES AND STECF

- NSAC and LDAC Secretaries volunteered to take up this work: aim enhance AC participation in formulation and shaping of requests for advice. Meeting held in February with Unit C3 (HoU: Raluca Ivanescu)
- First step: Steering Group NSAC-PELAC-LDAC to work on a draft guidelines to articulate AC input via EC for formulation of non-recurrent requests for advice to ICES.
- Potential CF in future (so far participation from AC reps in EWG in expert or observer capacity is satisfactory).

INTER AC COORDINATION MEETING WITH MARE

- Date confirmed for 4 October 2024 (online) – DG Vitcheva is expected to deliver the opening statements.
- Desire expressed to work with MARE D3 on finetuning the format and streamlining the agenda and timing based on ACs input.



Feedback on inter-AC work and MARE consultations (IV)

DEEP SEA MINING (LDAC-NWWAC-PELAC-SWWAC?)

- Lead AC: LDAC with support from PELAC and NWWAC (discussed at the Joint Horizontal Working Group in Dublin).
- Aim: update two last advice from 2019 and 2021 and insert new elements (e.g. references to scientific evidence on impacts of DSM on high-seas fisheries; Norway drilling plans contested by fishers, civil society, scientists).
- Way forward: following informal discussions with a pool of members, the Secretary is preparing a first draft outline of a position paper. This draft will be circulated together with a call of interest for a Focus Group in early June 2024.
- The aspiration is to get an advice adopted in time for next ISA Council and Commission scheduled for mid-July.

COOPERATION ON ADVICE FOR ICCAT (LDAC, SWWAC, MEDAC, CCRUP)

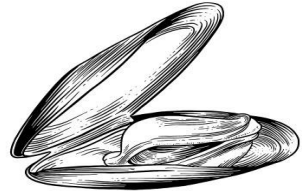
- This idea kicked off in 2023 with several informal online meetings between Chairs and Secretaries, following request from MARE to coordinate our views and aim to produce joint advice / coordinated inputs in the future.
- Scoping exercise first: identify stocks of interest, fleets and areas of interest for each AC and share advice
- An in person meeting took place in Brussels btw Chairs/Secretariats on February 2024 to discuss and develop written ToR for cooperation with time-based short term, medium term and long term actions.
- The document has been extensively circulated and adopted by Working Groups of 3 out of 4 Acs (MEDAC: 20 June) and then will be put forward to the ExCom for adoption.



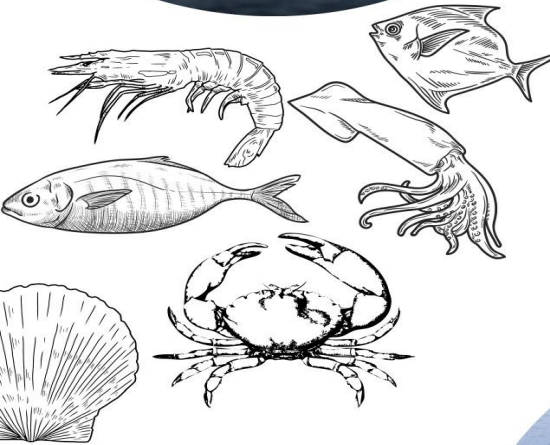
SIDE EVENT OF THE ACs at EMD 2024



30 May 2024
15.00 - 16.15



WORKSHOP



EU Advisory Councils:
Stakeholder engagement
in policymaking for
healthy and productive
fisheries and aquatic
ecosystems



Join Us at
European Maritime Days
30-31 May 2024,
Svendborg, DK
Register [HERE](#).



Moderator: Mark Dickey-Collas / Facilitators: AC Secretaries
Speakers: Marta Ballesteros, Antonia Leroy, Jesper Raakjaer
More info on EMD: https://maritime-day.ec.europa.eu/index_en
More info on Advisory Councils (MARE website): https://oceans-and-fisheries.ec.europa.eu/fisheries/scientific-input/advisory-councils_en

Formalised one voice: legitimacy, opportunity, access	Agreeing to disagree is constructive & helpful	One body: multiple realities	Effort constructing common understanding
Space for structured & iterative dialogue	Effective & trusted secretariats & chairs enable dialogue	Representation & power dynamics	Incentives to participate
New way for information exchange	Mechanisms for considering values	Fighting against The clock: timing	Maintaining impact & influence





THANK YOU / GRACIAS/ MERCI

**Do not forget to suscribe to our
bi-monthly e-newsletter “Fishing Far”–**

May-June no #14 now released

**You can also subscribe and watch our own
videos of the Youtube Channel:**

<https://ldac.eu/en/topical/video/10-what-is-the-ldac>

<https://ldac.eu/en/topical/video/9-promoting-better-ocean-governance-and-sustainable-fisheries>



Promoting Stakeholders' Dialogue
and Better Ocean Governance
for Sustainable Fishing and Trade.



@LDAC_eu

www.ldac.eu