

The Trawler

TOP NEWS – JANUARY 2018

COMMITTEE ON FISHERIES

Wednesday 24 January 2018, 14.30 - 18.30, Brussels Room PHS 4B001

Thursday 25 January 2018, 9.00 - 12.30, Brussels Room PHS 4B001

HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ Exchange of views with Mr. Rumen Porodzanov, Bulgarian Minister of Agriculture, Food and Forestry, representing the Presidency-in-office
- ▶ Exchange of views with Mr. Pascal Savouret, Executive Director of the European Fisheries Control Agency (EFCA) on the Agency's 2018 Work Programme
- ▶ Adoption of a draft opinion to the REGI report on "Lagging regions in the EU"
- ▶ Presentation of the draft report on the "State of play of recreational fisheries in the EU"
- ▶ Debate on the proposed denunciation of the Fisheries Partnership Agreement with the Union of Comoros

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Agenda

Next Fisheries Committee meeting:

26 - 27 February 2018

Next public hearings:

"Encounters between science and management in fisheries" 21 March 2018 at 14.30

"Implementation of the EMFF: achievements since 2014 and perspectives after 2020" 20 June 2018 at 14.30

WORDS FROM THE CHAIR



Alain CADEC
Chair of Committee on Fisheries

Dear Colleagues,

Dear Friends,

I wish you all a very happy New Year 2018!

This year, a lot of very important files will be dealt with by the Fisheries Committee, like the Multiannual plan for the Adriatic Sea, the Western Mediterranean Sea and the Western Waters, as well as the Control Regulation. We will also start negotiations with the Council on the Technical Measures file. Brexit will be another file in the focus of our Committee Members' interest. In the context of the upcoming negotiations on the framework of future relations between the European Union and the United Kingdom, we will pay close attention that fisheries will not become a simple "adjustment variable".

The Fisheries Committee meets for the first time this year on Wednesday 24 and Thursday 25 January. We will have the opportunity to meet the Bulgarian Minister for agriculture, food and forestry, Mr. Rumen Porodzanov, who will present us the priorities of the incoming Presidency. We will also hold a very important public hearing on the Multiannual plan for small pelagic stocks in the Adriatic Sea. As a co-legislator, we have to ensure that multiannual plans become efficient tools for the sustainable management of our fisheries.

Many challenges await us in this year 2018 and I am confident that we will manage to meet them!

Alain CADEC

ONGOING DOSSIERS

Reports	Rapporteur	Type of procedure	PECH Committee vote	Plenary Session Vote
Multi-annual plan for small pelagic stocks in the Adriatic Sea and the fisheries exploiting those stocks COM(2017)0097 - C8-0095/2017 2017/0043(COD) PECH/8/09349	Tomasic	COD	21-22/3/2018	APR 2018
Fishing mortality ranges and safeguard levels for certain herring stocks in the Baltic Sea COM(2017)0774 - C8-0446/2017 2017/0348(COD) PECH/8/11872		COD		
NLE Reports	Rapporteur	Type of procedure	PECH Committee vote	Plenary Session vote
EU/Mauritius Fisheries Partnership Agreement: fishing opportunities and financial contribution 2017-2021. Protocol COM(2017)048 - 2017/0223(NLE) PECH/8/11046	Nicolai	NLE	26-27/2/2018	APR 2018
Proposal for a Council Decision Denouncing the Partnership Agreement in the fisheries sector between the European Community and the Union of the Comoros, COM(2017)0556 final - 2017/0241(NLE) PECH/8/11185	Ferreira	NLE	26-27/2/2017	MAR II 2018
Resolution (interim report) Proposal for a Council Decision Denouncing the Partnership Agreement in the fisheries sector between the European Community and the Union of the Comoros, COM(2017)0556 final - 2017/0241(NLE) PECH/8/11185	Ferreira	NLE	26-27/2/2017	MAR II 2018
Reports adopted in PECH awaiting 1st/2nd reading agreements	Rapporteur	Type of procedure	PECH Committee vote	Plenary Session Vote
Multi-annual plan for demersal stocks in the North sea and the fisheries exploiting those stocks COM(2016)0493 - 2016/0238(COD) PECH/8/07563	Rodust	COD	Trilogue agreement concluded in Dec.17 Vote in PECH: 26-27/2/2018 (tbc)	SEP 2017 APR 2018
Conservation of fishery resources and protection of marine ecosystems through technical measures COM(2016)0134 final - 2016/0074(COD) PECH/8/06008	Mato	COD	21/11/2017	JAN 2018
Management, conservation and control measures applicable in the Convention Area of the South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation (SPRFMO) COM(2017) 128 final - 2017/0056 (COD) PECH/8/09619	Engström	COD	21/11/2017	JAN 2018

INI Reports	Rapporteur	Type of procedure	PECH Committee vote	Plenary Session vote
Towards sustainable and competitive European Aquaculture sector: current status and future challenges 2017/2118 (INI) PECH/8/10355	Iturgaiz	INI	23-24/4/2018	MAY II 2018
Optimisation of the value chain in the fishing sector 2017/2119 (INI) PECH/8/10357	Aguilera García	INI	23-24/4/2018	MAY II 2018
State of play of recreational fisheries in the EU 2017/2120 (INI) PECH/8/10358	Nicolai	INI	26-27/2/2018	APR 2018
Measures for establishing the conformity of fisheries products with access criteria to the EU market (<i>Implementation report</i>) COM(2017)0192 - 2017/2129 (INI) PECH/8/10379	Engström	INI	21-23/3/2018	MAY I 2018
Opinions	Rapporteur	Type of procedure	PECH Committee vote	Vote Lead Committee
Preparing the Parliament's position on the MFF post-2020 2017/2052 (INI) PECH/8/09711	Aguilera García	BUD	21/11/2017	BUDG (TBC)
Lagging Regions in the EU 2017/2208 (INI) PECH/8/11138	Caputo	INI	24-25/1/2018	REGI 20/2/2018
2016 discharge: EU general budget - Commission COM(2017)0365- C80247/2017-2017/2136 (DEC) PECH/8/10608	Cadec	DEC	26-27/2/2018	CONT 19/3/2018
2016 discharge: European Fisheries Control Agency (EFCA) COM(2017)0365 C8-0277/2017 - 2017/2166 (DEC) PECH/8/10814	Thomas	DEC	26-27/2/2018	CONT 20/3/2018
EU/Morocco Agreement: protection of geographical indications and designations of origin for agricultural products, processed agricultural products, fish and fishery products and amending the EC/Morocco Euro-Mediterranean Association Agreement COM(2015)0446 final - 2015/0203 (NLE) PECH/8/04498	Van Dalen	NLE	TBC	INTA (TBC)

**Note on procedures:*

COD: Ordinary legislative procedure; **CNS:** Consultation; **INI:** Own-Initiative;

NLE: Non-legislative (incl. consent to international agreements); **DEC:** Discharge; **BUD:** Budget

DELEGATED AND IMPLEMENTING ACTS

Procedure	Legal basis	Delegated act	Deadline to object / request an extension
C(2017)7678	Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013, Article 15(6) and Articles 18(1) and (3)	Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No .../... of 24.11.2017 amending Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1393/2014 establishing a discard plan for certain pelagic fisheries in North-Western waters	24.1.2018
C(2017)7875	Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013, Article 15(2)	Commission Delegated Regulation (EU).../... of 30.11.2017 amending Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2015/98 on the implementation of the Union's international obligations, as referred to in Article 15(2) of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council, under the International Convention for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas, regarding the Mediterranean stock of swordfish	30.1.2018
C(2017)8521	Regulation (EU) 2016/1139, Article 7	Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) .../... of 18.12.2017 laying down specifications for the implementation of the landing obligation as regards cod and plaice in Baltic Sea fisheries	18.2.2018

RESEARCH FROM THE POLICY DEPARTMENT 'B':

REQUESTED:

- *Training of fishers*
- *Landing obligation and choke species in mixed fisheries*
- *Seafood industry integration in the EU (part 2)*
- *Implementation and impact of the key European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF) measures on the CFP*
- *The European eel: reproductive biology, migration and sustainable management*
- *The discard ban and the landing obligation in the Western Mediterranean Sea*

PUBLISHED (SINCE 2014):

CFP and fisheries management

- *Sustainable blue growth in the EU and opportunities for small-scale fisheries*
- *The management of the fishing fleets in the outermost regions*
- *Seafood Industry Integration in the EU*
- *Socioeconomic role and environmental impact of recreational, subsistence, small-scale and other fisheries in European Union*
- *Impact of fisheries partnership agreements in the development of employment in the EU and in Third countries*
- *Markets of fisheries and aquaculture products: The added value chain and the role of promotion, labelling and consumer information*
- *The discard ban and its impact on the MSY objective on Fisheries*
- *Options of handling choke species in view of the EU landing obligation - the Baltic plaice example*
- *Social and Economic impact of the penalty point system*
- *A new technical measures framework for the new CFP (Workshop)*
- *The landing obligation and its implications on the control of fisheries*
- *The obligation to land all catches - consequences for the Mediterranean*
- *Future of the "Almadraba" sector. Traditional and sustainable tuna fishing methods in the EU*
- *Small scale fisheries and the zero discard target*
- *Best practice on the use of rights based management to reduce discards in mixed fisheries*
- *Infringement procedures and imposed sanctions throughout the EU*
- *Criteria for allocating access to fishing in the EU*
- *Alternative solutions for driftnet fisheries*
- *The conflict between static gear and mobile gear in inshore fisheries*
- *Inland fisheries and the CFP*
- *IUU fishing and sanctions in the EU*
- *Integration in the fisheries industry*
- *Regional ocean governance in Europe: the role of fisheries*
- *Sustainable 'blue growth' in the EU and opportunities for small-scale fisheries*
- *Feasibility of measuring socio-economic and environmental impacts of recreational and semi subsistence fisheries in the EU*
- *Regional ocean governance*
- *Recreational and semi subsistence fishing - its values and its impact on fish stocks and the environment*

Ecologic Impact

- *Sardine fisheries: resource assessment and social and economic situation*
- *Long-term economic and ecologic impact of larger sustainable aquaculture*
- *The impact of oil and gas drilling accidents on EU fisheries*
- *The use of FADs in tuna fisheries*

Stocks

- *Situation of the clam (*Tapes spp*) fisheries sector in the EU*
- *Pelagic fisheries and the canning industry in Outermost Regions*
- *Sea bass stocks and conservation measures in the EU*
- *Characteristics of multi-specific fisheries in the EU*
- *Scientific Advice in Fisheries Management - Introduction to Stock Assessment and Maximum Sustainable Yield Ranges*
- *The management of the fishing fleets in the outermost regions*

Structural Policy and economics

- *Prospects for the development of tourism activities related to fishing*
- *Seafood Industry Integration in the EU*

External dimension

- *Consequences of Brexit for the Common Fisheries Policy*
 - *Legal framework for governance*
 - *Trade and economic related issues*
 - *Resources and fisheries*
- *Fisheries management and the Arctic in the context of climate change*

Mission briefings

- *Fisheries in Madeira (mission 2017)*
- *Fisheries in Thailand (mission 2016)*
- *Fisheries in Norway (mission 2016)*
- *Fisheries in Poland (mission 2016)*
- *Fisheries in Galicia (mission 2016)*
- *Fisheries in Azores / Réunion (missions 2015)*
- *Fisheries in Germany (delegation 2014)*

@ You can access the studies and other documents via this [link](#)

FISHERIES NEWS IN BRIEF

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

[News - Press service](#)

New fisheries rules: add a ban on electric pulse fishing, say MEPs (16.01.2018)

New EU rules on how, where and when fish can be caught, were voted on Tuesday, 16 January 2018. MEPs inserted an amendment to ban the use of pulsed electric current for fishing.

The new law - updating and combining more than 30 regulations - would provide for common measures on fishing gear and methods, the minimum size of fish that may be caught and stopping or restricting fishing in certain areas or during certain periods. It also allows for tailor-made measures to be adapted to the regional needs of each sea basin.

An amendment calling for a total ban on the use of electric current for fishing (e.g. to drive fish up out of the seabed and into the net) was passed by 402 votes to 232, with 40 abstentions.

EU-wide prohibitions

The EU rules, designed progressively to reduce juvenile catches, would, *inter alia*:

- prohibit some fishing gear and methods,
- impose general restrictions on the use of towed gear and static nets (list fish and shellfish species for which fishing is banned)
- restrict catches of marine mammals, seabirds and marine reptiles, including special provisions to protect sensitive habitats, and
- ban practices such as “high-grading” (discarding low-priced fish even though they should legally be landed) in order to reduce discarding.

Regional measures

Regional measures would cover *inter alia* minimum conservation reference sizes, and closed or restricted areas. Member states and the Commission would have 18 months after the entry into force of the regulation to adopt regional rules on mesh sizes.

However, it would be possible to deviate from these regional rules, *via* a regional fisheries multiannual plan or, in the absence of such a plan, via a decision by the EU Commission. Member states could submit joint recommendations to this end, and MEPs ask them to “base their recommendations on the best available scientific advice”.

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

[News - Press service](#)

EU-Morocco Fisheries Partnership: launch of the negotiations for a new protocol (8/01/2018)

The European Commission has adopted a recommendation that aims at obtaining authorisation from the Council to open negotiations for the conclusion of a new fisheries protocol between the European Union and the Kingdom of Morocco. The current, 4-year protocol to the Fisheries Partnership Agreement with the Kingdom of Morocco will expire on 14 July 2018.

In 2017, both the Commissioner for Environment, Maritime Affairs and Fisheries Karmenu Vella and the Moroccan Minister for Agriculture and Sea Fisheries Aziz Akhannouch expressed their intention to renew this instrument which is essential for both parties.

An independent [evaluation study](#) underlines the positive impact of the current protocol in terms of sustainable fishing and its contribution to the socioeconomic interests of the fisheries sectors both in the EU and in

Morocco. In particular the sectoral support foreseen by the protocol, as support to the national Halieutis Strategy for the development of the fisheries sector, has benefited all regions covered by the protocol. The evaluation also highlights the clauses supporting economic development and benefiting local population, such as landings in ports and embarkation of local seamen (about 200 seamen being employed on board EU vessels).

It is expected that the Council endorses the recommendation in the coming weeks so that negotiations can start immediately afterwards to ensure continuity and legal security for fishermen and industry at the expiry of the current protocol. About 120 vessels from 11 EU countries (Spain, Portugal, Italy, France, Germany, Lithuania, Latvia, The Netherlands, Ireland, Poland and United Kingdom) are concerned.

EU deploys vessel in the Adriatic Sea to reinforce fisheries control (19/12/2017)

Since 1 December, the inspection vessel 'AEGIS I' has been patrolling in the Adriatic Sea as part of a joint deployment plan for the Mediterranean. The European Fisheries Control Agency (EFCA) is collaborating with Greece, Italy and Croatia who will have inspectors on board the vessel.

The main purpose is to monitor and carry out inspections on fishing vessels engaged in fishing of small pelagic species, blue fin tuna and swordfish. In addition, the operation will monitor fishing activity in the Jabuka/Pomo Pit area where a new fisheries restricted area will come into force in 2018 as part of a recommendation by the General Fisheries Council for the Mediterranean (GFCM).

This GFCM recommendation and the associated control regime are tangible results of the commitments made in the Malta [Medfish4ever ministerial declaration](#), which acknowledged that control and inspection are essential elements for the success of conservation and management measures in the Mediterranean. Moreover, the Declaration

sought to further develop both fisheries restricted areas and marine protected areas in the Mediterranean Sea. It is expected that the Declaration will ensure effective protection of least 10% of the Mediterranean by 2020, in line with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 14.5 and the priorities of the [Our Ocean conference](#) hosted by the EU in October.

Compliance with the rules of the EU's [Common Fisheries Policy](#) is crucial for achieving healthy and sustainable fish stocks. The European Fisheries Control Agency contributes to an effective and uniform application of these rules. Through joint deployment plans, EFCA facilitates cooperation between Member States by exchanging inspectors, joint planning and coordinating the deployment of national fisheries patrol vessels.

EU and Arctic partners agree to prevent unregulated fishing in high seas (1/12/2017)

The European Union, together with partners engaged in Arctic matters (Canada, the People's Republic of China, the Kingdom of Denmark in respect of Greenland and the Faroe Islands, Iceland, Japan, The Republic of Korea, Norway, the Russian Federation and the United States), have succeeded in reaching an international agreement to prevent unregulated commercial fishing in the Arctic high seas. That is, until sufficient scientific information to support the sustainable exploitation of fish stocks in the region is available.

The Arctic region is warming at almost twice the global average rate, causing a change in the size and distribution of fish stocks. As a result, the Arctic high seas may become more attractive for commercial fisheries in the medium to long term. However, until present, most of the Arctic high seas were not covered by any international conservation and management regime.

The agreement, reached in Washington DC at the fifth and final round of negotiations, will be a first step towards the creation of regional fisheries management organisations for the Central Arctic Ocean, to ensure that any future fishing is carried out sustainably.

The agreement will enter into force when all ten Parties have signed and subsequently ratified the agreement.

EU welcomes progress on legal instruments to protect biodiversity in high seas (7/12/2017)

European Commissioner for Environment, Maritime Affairs and Fisheries, Karmenu Vella, welcomed the adoption by the United Nations General Assembly of a resolution that sets modalities to negotiate a legally-binding instrument for the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction (BBNJ), better known as the high seas.

The UN General Assembly adopted also two other important resolutions concerning the oceans, one on Oceans and the Law of the Sea and one on sustainable fisheries.

EU urges international community to walk the talk on oceans:

At the debate, the EU has called on the international community to take its responsibility and implement its obligations and commitments in order to protect the marine environment and ensure that the Sustainable Development Goals are met.

While underlining the importance of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea as the overarching legal framework for ocean governance, the EU stressed that it needs to be able to meet future challenges.

The EU also emphasised the importance of addressing illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fisheries which hamper the achievement of sustainable fisheries. It encouraged States to ratify the FAO Port State

Measures Agreement as well as to eliminate harmful subsidies which exacerbate the problem.

Western Mediterranean countries strengthen co-operation to promote Blue Economy in the region (30/11/2017)

The Ministers of Western Mediterranean countries gathered in Naples (Italy), on 30 November 2017, to endorse and launch the Initiative for the sustainable development of the blue economy in the Western Mediterranean – a goal-oriented series of joint actions to make the common sea space safer, cleaner and more productive.

Ministers agreed on the Initiative's system of governance and decided that its steering committee will be co-chaired by Algeria and France in 2018, France and Morocco in 2019 and Morocco and Italy in 2020. The informal meeting culminated with the adoption of a declaration signed by the 10 participating countries (Algeria, France, Italy, Libya, Malta, Mauritania, Morocco, Portugal, Spain and Tunisia).

In parallel to the Ministerial Meeting, the 2-day Union for the Mediterranean Stakeholder Conference on the Blue Economy took place on 29-30 November in Naples. The conference gathered 400 participants from 30 countries representing national, regional and local authorities, the private sector, international organisations, academia and civil society organisations engaged with marine and maritime issues. Stakeholders discussed opportunities and challenges for blue economy sectors in the Mediterranean, and ways to stimulate the economy and create jobs.

Stakeholders discussed in 12 workshops about innovative financing of maritime investment, ocean energy, integrated approach to coastal community development, maritime governance, MPAs (Marine Protected Areas), tackling marine litter, state of play of MSP (Maritime Spatial Planning) and existing gaps, sustainable fisheries and aquaculture,

marine research and innovation (BLUEMED Initiative), sustainable tourism, blue entrepreneurship, youth employability and maritime skills, maritime safety, and marine knowledge.

At the end of the conference's high-level plenary session, the Secretariat of the Union for the Mediterranean and the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM-FAO) signed a Memorandum of Understanding on sustainable fisheries.

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

[News - Press service](#)

Agriculture and Fisheries Council on 11-12 December 2017 (11/12/2017)

Council agreement on 2018 fishing quotas in the Atlantic and North Sea:

On 13 December 2017 after all-night negotiations, the Council reached a political agreement on a regulation concerning the 2018 fishing opportunities for the main commercial fish stocks in the Atlantic and the North Sea.

As a result of this Council decision, the number of fish stocks managed at maximum sustainable yield (MSY) levels will increase next year to 53, nine more than in 2017. The agreement sets out solutions for the critical state of eel and seabass stocks.

In view of the critical state of eel fisheries, it will be prohibited to fish for European eel of an overall length of 12 cm or more in Union waters of ICES areas, including the Baltic Sea, for a consecutive three-month period, to be determined by each member state, between 1 September 2018 and 31 January 2019. That is the time when eels are migrating and therefore are most vulnerable. Member states will have to inform the Commission of the chosen period by 1 June 2018.

The decision is complemented by a joint declaration by the European Commission and

member states which aims to further protect the stock of European eel, for instance in inland waters, by strengthening eel management plans during all stages of the eel lifecycle.

Concerning sea bass, the Council acknowledged the bad state of stocks in the Celtic Sea, Channel, Irish Sea and southern North Sea and its importance for many countries. It consequently decided to make additional efforts by only allowing limited fisheries with certain gears in those areas, while providing for a two-month closure to protect spawning aggregations. Recreational fishing is further restricted, with only catch-and-release fishing allowed for the entire year. A lower daily bag limit for recreational fisheries is also fixed in the Bay of Biscay.

Next meeting of the [Agriculture and Fisheries Council](#) 29/01/2018

WORLD TRADE ORGANISATION

[News - Press release](#)

11th Ministerial WTO Conference - Fisheries subsidies (13/12/2017)

WTO members wrapped up their 11th Ministerial Conference (MC11) in Buenos Aires on 13 December with a commitment from members to secure a deal on fisheries subsidies which delivers on Sustainable Development Goal 14.6 by the end of 2019. They also committed to improve the reporting of existing fisheries subsidy programmes.

TOTAL ALLOWABLE CATCHES TAC

2018 EU TOTAL ALLOWABLE CATCHES (TACs) IN THE BALTIC SEA						
		COMMISSION proposal			COUNCIL agreement	
Name	ICES FISHING ZONES	TACs 2017	2018	2018	TACs 2018	variation
Latin name		in tonnes	in tonnes	variation	in tonnes	in %
Bothnian herring <i>Clupea harengus</i>	Baltic Sea subdivisions 30-31	140.998	70.617	-50%	84 599	-40%
Western herring <i>Clupea harengus</i>	Baltic Sea subdivisions 22-24	28.401	12.987	-54%	17 309	-39%
Central herring <i>Clupea harengus</i>	Baltic Sea subdivisions 25-27, 28.2, 29, 32	191.129	238.229	+25%	229 355	+20%
Riga herring <i>Clupea harengus</i>	Baltic Sea subdivision 28-1	31.074	28.999	-7%	28 999	-7%
Eastern cod <i>Gadus morhua</i>	Baltic Sea subdivisions 25-32	30.857	22.275	-28%	28 388	-8%
Western cod <i>Gadus morhua</i>	Baltic Sea subdivisions 22-24	5.597	5.597	0%	5 597	0%
Plaice <i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>	Baltic Sea subdivisions 22-32	7.862	6.272	-20%	7 076	-10%
Main basin salmon <i>Salmo salar</i>	Baltic Sea subdivisions 22-31	95.928	106.096	+11%	91 132	-5%
Gulf of Finland salmon <i>Salmo salar</i>	Baltic Sea subdivision 32	10.485	10.003	-5%	10 003	-5%
Sprat <i>Sprattus sprattus</i>	Baltic Sea subdivisions 22-32	260.993	262.310	+1%	262 310	+1%

Legend: Latin name - English name/ Nom français/ Deutsche name

Clupea harengus - herring/ hareng/ Hering

Gadus morhua - cod/ morue/ Dorsch

Pleuronectes platessa - plaice/ plie/ Scholle

Salmo salar - Atlantic salmon/ saumon atlantique/ Lachs

Sprattus sprattus - sprat/ sprat/ Sprotte

MEETINGS OF THE ADVISORY COUNCILS

RAC	DATE	PLACE	TYPE	Main issues
NWW AC	29/1/2018	Dublin	NWWAC Advice drafting group on landing obligations	
BS AC	29/1/2018	Copenhagen	Joint BALTFISH BSAC workshop on recreational fishery for cod in the Baltic Sea	
ICES/CIEM	29-31/1/2018	Copenhagen	Herring Assessment WG	
BS AC	30/1/2018	Copenhagen	ExCom	
NS AC	1/2/2018	Brussels	ExCom Members meeting + Members Brexit Focus Group	
NS AC	2/2/2018	Gothenburg	Skagerrak and Kattegat WG	
ICES/CIEM	5-9/2/2018	Copenhagen	WG on Biodiversity Science	
ICES/CIEM	5-8/2/2018	Copenhagen	WG with the aim to develop assessment models and establish biological reference points for sea trout populations	
NS AC	7/2/2018	London	Demersal WG	
NS AC	21-22/2/2018	Edinburgh	Socio-Economics in MPAs + Ecosystem WG	
PEL AC	1/3/2018	Den Haag	WG1+2	
NS AC	6/3/2018	Gothenburg	NSAC ExCom	
NWW AC	7-8/3/2018	Madrid		
NS AC	29/3/2018	Hamburg	Saithe Workshop	
PEL AC	12/4/2018	Den Haag	WG1+2	
NS AC	19-20/6/2018	London	ExCom + GA	
PEL AC	5/7/2018	tbc	WG1+2	
PEL AC	6/7/2018	tbc	ExCom	

Abbreviations:

- NWW AC: North Western Waters Advisory Council ([link](#))
- PEL AC: Pelagic Advisory Council ([link](#))
- NS AC: North Sea Advisory Council ([link](#))
- MED AC: Advisory Council for the Mediterranean ([link](#))
- SWW AC: South Western Waters Advisory Council ([link](#))
- LD AC: Long Distance Fleet Advisory Council ([link](#))
- BS AC: Baltic Sea Advisory Council ([link](#))
- AAC: Aquaculture Advisory Council ([link](#))
- MIRAC: ICES/AC meeting ([link](#))
- **GA**: General Assembly, **ExCom**: Executive Committee, **WG**: Working Group, **FG**: Focus Group

MAIN INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS AND EVENTS

NORWAY/FAROE ISLANDS/COASTAL STATES/NEAFC

Date	Organisation	Type of meeting	Venue
January 2018			
30 Jan	NEAFC	VME and continental shelf WG meeting	London
30-31 Jan	NEAFC	Ad hoc working group on ERS	London
February 2018			
6-7 Feb	EU-Norway	WG on technical measures in Skagerrak	Göteborg
27-28 Feb	NEAFC	JAGDM	London
March 2018			
6-7 Mar	NEAFC	VME and continental shelf WG meeting	London
April 2018			
24-26 Apr	NEAFC	PECMAC	London
May 2018			
7-8 May	NEAFC/OSPAR	Collective arrangements 2018	London
15-16 May	NEAFC	VME and continental shelf WG meeting	London
June 2018			
5-6 Jun	NEAFC	Ad hoc WG on ERS	London
September 2018			
11-12 Sep	NEAFC	Ad hoc WG on ERS	London
25-27 Sep	NEAFC	PECMAC	London
28 Sep	NEAFC	WG Statistics	London
October 2018			
2-3 Oct	NEAFC	PECMAS	London
November 2018			
13-16 Nov	NEAFC	Annual meeting	London
Nov-Dec	EU-Norway	Consultation on fisheries arrangements for 2019	tbc
December 2018			
December	EU-Faroe Islands	Consultation on fisheries arrangements for 2019	tbc

REGIONAL FISHERIES ORGANISATIONS AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS

Date	Organisation	Type of meeting	Venue
January 2018			
26 Jan - 3 Feb	SPRFMO	Annual meeting	Lima
February 2018			
5-9 Feb	IOTC	Technical committee on allocation criteria - Technical committee on performance review	Seychelles
29 Feb	ICCAT	IYS	London
March 2018			
5-7 Mar	ICCAT	Intersessional meeting PA2	Madrid

6-9 Mar	CCSBT	Strategic Fisheries Management WG	Canberra
April 2018			
9-12 Apr	ICCAT	Intersessional meeting IMM	Madrid
16-18 Apr	UN	BBNJ Intergovernmental conference 1st meeting	New York
May 2018			
2-4 May	OECD	121st COFI meeting	Paris
14-25 May	IOTC	Annual meeting	Thailand
21-23 May	ICCAT	Dialogue scientists managers	tbc
22-23 May	UN	13th round - informal consultations of states parties to the UN fish stocks agreement (ICSP/13)	New York
24-25 May	ICCAT	WG convention amendment	tbc
June 2018			
6-7 Jun	GFCM	High level conference on Black Sea fisheries	Bulgaria
11-14 Jun	UN	28th meeting of state parties	New York
12-15 Jun	NASCO	35th annual meeting	Portland
18-22 Jun	UN	19th informal consultative process on oceans and low of the sea	New York
25-29 Jun	SIOFA	Annual meeting	Thailand
July 2018			
3-5 Jul	NPFC (tbc)	Annual meeting	Japan
9-13 Jul	FAO-COFI	Committee on fisheries 33rd session	Rome
16-20 Jul	ICCAT	Stock assessment BET	Pasaia
16-30 Jul (tbc)	IATTC/AIDCP	Annual meeting	Guatemala
23-25 Jul	ICCAT	Intersessional meeting PA1	Bilbao
tbc	JBSFC	Annual meeting	Russia
September 2018			
4-17 Sep	UN	2nd meeting BBNJ Intergovernmental conference	New York
17-21 Sep	NAFO	Annual meeting	Tallinn
18-19 Sep	ICCAT	Port inspection expert group for capacity and assistance	Madrid
20-21 Sep	ICCAT	Meeting of the online reporting technology working group	Madrid
24-28 Sep	ICCAT	SCRS species working group	Madrid
25-26 Sep	GFCM	High level conference on small scale fisheries	Malta
October 2018			
1-4 Oct	UN	First round: informal consultations on UNGA resolution on "Oceans and the law of the sea"	New York
1-5 Oct	ICCAT	SCRS Plenary	Madrid

11-18 Oct	CCSBT	Compliance committee and annual meeting	Noumea, New Caledonia
22 Oct - 2 Nov	CCAMLR	Annual meeting	Hobart, Australia
22-26 Oct	GFCM	Annual meeting	Bucharest
tbc	AIDCP	2nd Annual meeting	La Jolla, USA
November 2018			
6-13 Nov	UN	Informal consultations on UNGA resolution on “sustainable fisheries”	New York
10-11 Nov	ICCAT	Intersessional meeting compliance committee	Croatia
12-19 Nov	ICCAT	Annual meeting	Croatia
14-20 Nov	UN	Second round: informal consultations on UNGA resolution on “oceans and the law of the sea”	New York
19-21 Nov	OECD	122nd COFI meeting	Paris
26-30 Nov	SEAFO	Annual meeting	tbc
December 2018			
3-7	Sharks MoU	Tri-annual meeting	Monaco
10-14	GFCM	Fisheries forum	tbc
tbc	Western & Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC)	Annual meeting	Pohnpei, FSM

FISHERIES PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENTS

COUNTRY		EXPIRATION DATE OF CURRENT PROTOCOL	Financial Value	NEXT JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING (JCM) (2017-2018)		NEGOTIATIONS SESSIONS FORECAST 2017		LEGAL PROCESS			COMMENTS	
				Date	Location	Date	Location	Estimated date of adoption of proposal for negotiating mandate by the Commission	Estimated date of adoption of negotiating mandate by Council	Estimated date of adoption of Council Decision on signing and provisional application		
Mixed Agreements	Mauritania	15/11/2019	59 125 000 €	Summer /Autumn 2018	Nouakchott						The Protocol entered into provisional application on 16/11/2015. The last JCM took place in September 2017.	
	Morocco	14/07/2018	30 million €	tbd	Rabat	Feb / March	tbd	Jan-18	Feb-18	1st half 2018		
	Senegal	19/11/2019	1 738 000 (3rd year)	Apr-2018	Brussels	-	-	-	-	-		
	Guinea Bissau	Dormant since Nov 2017	9 200 000 EUR			tbd	tbd		tbd (depends on the outcome of negotiations)	tbd (depends on the outcome of negotiations)	The current 3-year Protocol expires on 23/11/2017. Negotiations on the new Protocol are ongoing. 4 rounds of negotiations took place, but no final agreemnt reached. Exchange between parties is ongoing. The 5th round to be fixed.	
	Greenland	31/12/2020	16 099 978 €, plus 1 700 000 € financial reserve for additional species.	Apr-18	tbd							
WEST AFRICA	Cape-Verde	22/12/2018	550 000 € (years 1+2); 500 000 € (years 3+4)	Apr-18	Cap Verde	Apr-18	alternate	Mars 2018	April 2018	01/12/2018	The current 4-year Protocol expires on 22/12/2018. The Terms of Refrence for the evaluation study has been launched and the contractor will soon start the evaluation, with a view to finish it in February 2018.	
	Côte d'Ivoire	30/6/2018	680 000 €	Dec-2017 / Jan-2018	30 Jan - 1st Feb	12-16 Feb	Abidjan			2018	Last Joint Committee took place in Abidjan on 30/11 - 2/12/2016.	
	Gabon	Dormant since July 2016	1 350 000 €				Libreville				Resuming of negotiation pending political situation.	
	Ghana	No Agreement/ Protocol				1st half 2018	tbd			Depends on the timing and number of negotiation rounds	The ex-ante evaluation was conducted end of 2016 and mandate adopted in March 2017.	
	Liberia	8/12/2020	715 000 € (1st year); 650 000 € (2nd, 3rd and 4th years); 585 000 € (5th year)	Spring 2018	Monrovia					Signed on 09/12/2016	The Protocol was signed and entered into provisional application on 9/12/2015.	
	Equatorial Guinea	N.A.	N.A.									The ex-ante evaluation was approved end of November 2016.
	São Tomé and Principe	23/05/2018	710000 € (675000 en fin d'application)	10-11 January 2018	Brussels	24 - 26 January	Sao Tome				May 2018	The current 4-year Protocol expires on 23/05/2018.

COUNTRY	EXPIRATION DATE OF CURRENT PROTOCOL	Financial Value	NEXT JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING (JCM) (2017-2018)		NEGOTIATIONS SESSIONS FORECAST 2017		LEGAL PROCESS			COMMENTS
			Date	Location	Date	Location	Estimated date of adoption of proposal for negotiating mandate by the Commission	Estimated date of adoption of negotiating mandate by Council	Estimated date of adoption of Council Decision on signing and provisional application	
INDIAN OCEAN	Comoros	<i>Dormant since December 2016</i>								The current Protocol expired at the end of December 2016. Last Joint Committee was in March 2016. A new Protocol was negotiated and initialled in March 2016, but never provisionally entered into force. The country is identified as non-cooperating country on te IUU matters (red card).
	Madagascar	31/12/2018 <i>1 566 250 € (2015 & 2016) 1 487 500 € (2017 & 2018)</i>	Apr-2018 (tbd)	Brussels	March - May 2018	alternate	February-March, 2018	March 2018	01/12/2018	The current 4-year Protocol expires on 31/12/2018. The Terms of Reference for the evaluation study has been launched and the contractor will soon start the evaluation, with a view to finish it in February 2018.
	Mauritius		Jan-2018	tbd					October/ November 2017	New 4 year protocol signed 8/12/2017
	Mozambique	<i>No protocol in force</i>			tbd	tbd				Negotiations for a new Protocol suspended until further notice to enable further reflection by both Parties to narrow divergences. Last Joint Committee Meeting in February 2016. Possible resuming of negotiation to be confirmed.
	Seychelles	17/1/2020	31 January - 3 February	SEY						
	Mayotte (Access agreement)	19/05/2020	31 January - 3 February	SEY			/	/		No financial implications for the EU; as access agreement for Seychelles flagged vessels to EU waters.
	Tanzania	<i>No Agreement/ Protocol</i>			tbc	tbc		Adopted on 16 June 2015	Depends on the timing and number of negotiation rounds	This would be a new agreement. A first technical meeting took place in Dar-Es-Salaam 4-6 July 2016. Tanzania did not officially inform COM (partially due to a complex institutional setting) and information available point to various directions but there seems to be an interest in discussing an SFPA with the EU. Date of first round pending confirmation.
	Kenya	<i>No Agreement/ Protocol</i>			tbc	tbd				This will be a new Agreement. A technical meeting took place 20-21 January 2015. Confirmation of interest by Kenya on 21/03/2016, but date to start negotiation not agreed upon yet.
PACIFIC	Cook Islands	13/10/2020	23-24 Jan 2018	Brussels						The current 4-year Protocol is in force since 14/10/2016. Currently the only SFPA in the Pacific.
	Kiribati				Spring 18	tbd				No Protocol in force, which expired on 15/09/2015. 3 rounds of negotiations took place, the last November 2017.

OVERVIEW OF EXISTING IUU PROCEDURES AS REGARDS THIRD COUNTRIES

Source: DG MARE 16/11/2017

Country	Pre-Identification	Pre-Identification Revoked	Identification	Listing	Delisting
Belize	November 2012	N/A	November 2013	March 2014	December 2014
Cambodia	November 2012	N/A	November 2013	March 2014	
Comoros	October 2015	N/A	May 2017	July 2017	
Curaçao	November 2013	February 2017			
Fiji	November 2012	October 2014			
Ghana	November 2013	October 2015			
Kiribati	April 2016				
Korea	November 2013	April 2015			
Liberia	May 2017				
Panama	November 2012	October 2014			
Papua New Guinea	June 2014	October 2015			
Philippines	June 2014	April 2015			
Republic of Guinea	November 2012	N/A	November 2013	March 2014	October 2016
Sierra Leone	April 2016				
Solomon Islands	December 2014	February 2017			
Sri Lanka	November 2012	N/A	October 2014	February 2015	June 2016
St Kitts and Nevis	December 2014				
St Vincent and Grenadines	December 2014	N/A	May 2017	July 2017	
Taiwan	October 2015				
Thailand	April 2015				
Togo	November 2012	October 2014			
Trinidad and Tobago	April 2016				
Tuvalu	December 2014				
Vanuatu	November 2012	October 2014			
Vietnam	October 2017				

COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE ON FISHERIES

BUREAU			
Chair	Mr Alain CADEC		
1st Vice-Chair	Ms Linnéa ENGSTRÖM	3rd Vice-Chair	Mr Werner KUHN
2nd Vice-Chair	Mr Jarosław Leszek WAŁĘSA	4th Vice-Chair	Ms Renata BRIANO

COORDINATORS			
EPP	MATO ADROVER Gabriel	ECR	VAN DALEN Peter
S&D	SERRÃO SANTOS Ricardo	GUE/NGL	FERREIRA João
ALDE	MARINHO E PINTO António	EFDD	HOOKEM Mike
Greens/EFA	ENGSTRÖM Linnéa	ENF	GODDYN Sylvie

COMMITTEE ON FISHERIES FULL MEMBERS			SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS		
AFFRONTE Marco	IT	Greens/EFA	BILBAO BARANDICA Izaskun	ES	ALDE
AGUILERA GARCÍA Clara Eugenia	ES	S&D	BLANCO LÓPEZ José	ES	S&D
BRIANO Renata	IT	S&D	CAPUTO Nicola	IT	S&D
CADEC Alain	FR	EPP	CHRISTENSEN Ole	DK	S&D
COBURN David	GB	EFDD	D'AMATO Rosa	IT	EFDD
CORBETT Richard	GB	S&D	ERDOS Norbert	HU	EPP
DODDS Diane	GB	NI	FLACK John	GB	ECR
ENGSTRÖM Linnéa	SE	Greens/EFA	GARDINI Elisabetta	IT	EPP
FERREIRA João	PT	GUE/NGL	GIESEKE Jens	DE	EPP
GODDYN Sylvie	FR	ENF	HAZEKAMP Anja	NL	GUE/NGL
HOOKEM Mike	GB	EFDD	HEUBUCH Maria	DE	Greens/EFA
HUDGHTON Ian	GB	Greens/EFA	HOC Czesław	PL	ECR
ITURGAIZ Carlos	ES	EPP	JADOT Yannick	FR	Greens/EFA
KUHN Werner	DE	EPP	JAMET France	FR	ENF
MARINHO E PINTO António	PT	ALDE	KELLY Séan	IE	EPP
MATERA Barbara	IT	PPE	LOPE FONTAGNÉ Verónica	ES	EPP
MATO ADROVER Gabriel	ES	EPP	MCAVAN Linda	GB	S&D
NI RIADA Liadh	IE	GUE/NGL	MILLÁN MON Francisco José	ES	EPP
NICOLAI Norica	RO	ALDE	MOBARIK Nosheena Baroness	GB	ECR
RODUST Ulrike	DE	S&D	MONTEIRO DE AGUIAR Cláudia	PT	EPP
SCHREIJER-PIERIK Annie	NL	EPP	PAKSAS Rolandas	LT	EFDD
SERNAGIOTTO Remo	IT	ECR	SÂRBU Daciana Octavia	RO	S&D
SERRÃO SANTOS Ricardo	PT	S&D	SASSOLI David-Maria	IT	S&D
THOMAS Isabelle	FR	S&D	SENRA RODRÍGUEZ María Lidia	ES	GUE/NGL
TOMAŠIĆ Ruža	HR	ECR	TORVALDS Nils	FI	ALDE
VAN DALEN Peter	NL	ECR			
WAŁĘSA Jarosław Leszek	PL	EPP			

NEXT FISHERIES COMMITTEE MEETINGS

2018

- Monday, 26 February, 15:00-18:30
- Tuesday, 27 February, 9:00-12:30

- Wednesday, 21 March, 9:00-12:30
- Wednesday, 21 March, 14:30-18:30
- Thursday, 22 March, 9:00-12:30

- Monday, 23 April, 15:00-18:30
- Tuesday, 24 April, 9:00-12:30
- Tuesday, 24 April, 14:30-18:30

- Monday, 14 May, 15:00-18:30
- Tuesday 15 May, 9:00-12:30

- Wednesday, 20 June, 9:00-12:30
- Wednesday, 20 June, 14:30-18:30
- Thursday, 21 June, 9:00-12:30

- Wednesday, 11 July, 9:00-12:30
- Wednesday, 11 July, 14:30-18:30
- Thursday, 12 July, 9:00-12:30

- Wednesday, 29 August, 14:30-18:30

- Monday, 24 September, 15:00-18:30

- Monday, 8 October, 15:00-18:30
- Tuesday, 9 October, 9:00-12:30
- Tuesday, 9 October, 14:30-18:30

- Wednesday, 21 November, 14:30-18:30
- Thursday, 22 November, 9:00-12:30

- Tuesday, 27 November, 9:00-12:30

USEFUL LINKS

- @ EP Committee on Fisheries [link](#)
- @ DG MARE (European Commission) [link](#)
- @ Bulgarian Presidency of the Council [link](#) (1st half of 2018)
- @ Austrian Presidency of the Council [link](#) (2nd half of 2018)
- @ FAO Fishery and Aquaculture [link](#)
- @ ICES International Council for the Exploration of the Sea [link](#)