



MINUTES

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE Long Distance Advisory Council (LDAC)

**Tuesday, 31 May 2016. From 9.00 am to 12.30 pm
Altis Gran Hotel, Lisbon (Portugal)**

Acting chairperson: Juan Manuel Liria

1. Welcome.

The First Vice-Chairperson of the LDAC, as Acting Chairperson following agreement of the General Meeting held in Dublin in May 2015, in the absence of Mr. Cabral, welcomes those attending and recalls the decision to hold this meeting in Lisbon in tribute to and memory of Antonio Schiáppa Cabral, Chairperson of the LDAC since its incorporation, who passed away at the end of last year. He recalls that there will be a lunch-reception to which representatives of his organisation (ADAPI) and his family have been invited, during which a commemorative plaque will be presented.

He then invites those attending to introduce themselves, indicating their status (member or observer) as well as the organisation that they represent. Finally, he asks the Secretary to inform of the apologies received for absences as well as the delegations of vote received.

No apologies for absence have been received.

Delegations of vote:

- Ms. Sara Fröcklin (Swedish Society for Nature Conservation) delegates upon Ms. Béatrice Gorez (Coalition for Fair Fisheries Agreements-CAPE).
- Ms. Rocío Béjar (ONAPE) delegates upon Mr. Javier Garat (FEOPE).
- Mr. Boguslaw Szemioth (NAPO) delegates upon Mr. Iván López (AGARBA/FEABP).

The full list of participants is enclosed in Annex I.

After properly counting those present, he informs that, in agreement with article XXIV of the Charters of the LDAC, there is minimum quorum (simple majority of members present or represented) to adopt decisions.

2. Reading and approval of the agenda

The agenda of this meeting is approved with one change, on the Chairperson's proposal: move current point 5 relating to the presentation and discussion on the post election procedure (Chairperson and Vice-Chairpersons) and composition (members) of the new Executive Committee to the end of the morning, leaving at least half an hour for this and taking time from the current information points 6-7, if necessary.

3. Reading and approval of previous meeting (Madrid, 25 November 2015)

The minutes of the last meeting of the Executive Committee are approved, with the following correction: in point 5.2 change "tuna transparency initiative" to "fisheries transparency initiative" (FITI).

4. Report of the Working Groups (March-April 2016)

The Chairpersons of the Working Groups weigh up the actions completed in the first four-month period of 2016 and identify actions that are pending or are underway:

WG1 – TUNA AND STOCK OF TUNA FISH AND LARGE MIGRATORS, AND THEIR RFMOs

Presenter: Michel Goujon (WG1 Chairperson)

The presentation given by the Chairperson of this working group is included as Annex II.

The following actions must be carried out:

- International governance: Strengthening of EU role in the RFMOs:

An "ad hoc" drafting group will be established to prepare a mid-term action plan, indicating priorities respect to EU resources and actions in the different tuna RFMOs, as well as the personnel needs by the European Commission, to achieve an active defence of the sustainable management of international fisheries in keeping with the objective of achieving an ecosystem-based approach in 2020¹.

¹ NB: This action derives from the comment made by Second Vice-Chairperson of the LDAC, Raul Garcia, regarding the Inter-AC coordination meeting with the European Commission held on 24 February, where this question was raised.

The key questions to be addressed (e.g., fishing capacity management, use of FADs, monitoring, surveillance and control aspects, etc.) will be identified in the aforementioned action plan, and the Commission will be requested to provide DG MARE with further means to execute their fishing management policies within the EU's presence and active participation framework in the RFMOs. This demand is in line with the external audit that the actual Commission has ordered to optimise internal staff resources.

- WCPFC:

The Commission will be asked for an updated calendar of meetings of the WCPFC as well as details on the consultancy study on tropical tuna tagging programmes (YFT and BET) and of the work of this RFMO in the development of management plans for sharks.

- IOTC:

Members will send any comments they deem appropriate to the Secretariat on proposals to be discussed such as the prohibition of high sea transfers, the reduction in the number of FADs, the establishment of closed areas for the yellow fin tuna, etc. If there is sufficient basis, the Secretariat will coordinate the preparation of a position paper addressed to DG MARE for them to consider it in their preparatory work for the Annual Meeting of the IOTC. In this regard, the Commission has given a deadline of 2 weeks (that is, until Friday, 25 March).

A scientist from SECOFAD will be invited to give an updated presentation on the management and use of the FADS (number, stress levels and impact on stock assessment, etc.).

WG2 – NORTH ATLANTIC AGREEMENTS BETWEEN THIRD COUNTRIES AND RFMOs.

Presenter: Iván López (Chairperson)

- A Doodle will be sent to select the date for the next WG2 during the last quarter of 2016 with several date proposals. It is suggested to adapt the date to the meetings of the Coastal States negotiations or to the Annual meeting of NEAFC, in London (November).
- The presentations given by EFCA and ICES will be placed at the disposal of all members and anyone else interested on the LDAC website.

- The pending answers to questions asked to the EFCA representative, on the quantification of the level of IUU illegal captures of blue whiting in NEAFC, will be sent in writing.
- An Organising Committee will be created and 2-3 Webex meetings will be held in May to start planning an international conference of the LDAC on the application of the External Dimension of the CFP: North Atlantic fisheries. The Organising Committee will be made up of Iván López, Jane Sandell, Gerard van Balsfoort, Esben Sverdrup-Jensen, and at least one representative of the NGOs (post occupied on an interim basis by Raúl García) and it will be coordinated by the LDAC Secretariat. The Executive Secretariat of the Pelagic AC will also be invited to participate with a view to possibly organising this event together.
- Landing obligation outside community waters:
 - With a view to preparing a conceptual note on the application of the landing obligation that will act as a basis for a possible LDAC opinion, representatives of member countries of the LDAC will be asked to provide data about the fisheries that could be affected by this measure, as well as data about discards and potential choke species.
 - Information will be sent to Jesus Iborra (European Parliament) on LDAC's work on the landing obligation in non-community waters.
 - A reminder will be sent to MS about the need to create a Member State Group on Application of the LO.
- EU-Norway:
 - The Secretariat will coordinate members' comments on management aspects and general principles of the annual agreements between the EU and Norway. Comments on exchanges of quotas or fishing possibilities will not be included.
 - Once agreed, the LDAC will send the note to the delegation of the European Parliament's Committee on Fisheries, which will be visiting Norway from 18 to 21 July, before that date.
- Svalbard: Any new aspects will be monitored, and an explanation will be requested from the Commission about rights to access certain fisheries (referring to the Commission's response to Norway on the Atlantic-Scandinavian Herring ASH).
- The Commission will be requested to allow LDAC representatives to take part in the benchmark workshop on data-mining and assessment of 3M Cod, scheduled for April/May 2017.



WG3 – OTHER RFMOs and INTERNATIONAL WATERS

Presenter: J.A.Suárez-Llanos (Chairperson)

- The title of point 5 of the agenda will be corrected in the agenda and will be changed on the website (it should say South Pacific region).
- Evangelia Georgitsi (AC coordinator) will be asked to request the General Meeting to carry out an update on the new Markets Advisory Council.
- A brief information note will be drafted with key points of interest, agreed by the LDAC delegation, and it will be sent to John Brincat prior to the preparatory meeting of the 3rd Conference on the Review of the New York Transzonal and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks Agreement (UN FSA)
- The Commission will be asked to send to us the answers received to the questionnaire on the UNGA Declaration on Responsible Fishing carried out in August.
- The draft letter on Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems in the South-west Atlantic will be amended to reflect the progress in implementing the VMS satellite system by Korean tall vessels, but the strict application of UN Resolution 61-105, and respect and observance of these VMEs will continue to be requested.
- Discards: A conceptual note will be coordinated between Juan Manuel Liria and Björn Stockhausen prior to its distribution for consultation among all LDAC members with respect to the application of the LO.
- SEAFO: The Commission representative (Orlando Fachada) gave a presentation that was considered to be extremely informative. It was agreed to monitor this RFMO in future meetings of the WG3.
- *EX POST COMMENT – A proposal was made for the Commission to include an information point at the next WG3 meeting on the new RFMO of the South Indian Ocean (SIOFA).*

WG4 – BILATERAL AGREEMENTS WITH THIRD COUNTRIES

Presenter: Julio Morón (Chairperson)

- The DG MARE Fishing Agreements Unit will provide the updated calendar of meetings of the next Scientific and Mixed Commissions of Morocco and Mauritania, with a view to greater transparency and participation of the stakeholders in the application process of these meetings.
- The Secretariat will invite the person from DG MARE who is responsible for updating and reviewing the European long distance vessel census (“*EU Fleet Register*”) and for computerising the issuance of licences.
- The LDAC will draft a letter whereby it will propose that the Commission should prepare a publication or infographics (similar in design and format to that of APPD/SFPA) that will contain figures and data about infrastructures, services and other investment actions carried out under the protection of the sectoral support in third countries that are beneficiaries of the fisheries agreement with the EU. The underlying idea is to communicate better or make visible the sectoral support that the EU provides, in the form of financing (port facilities, laboratories, ice plants, etc.).
- The LDAC will suggest that the Commission should develop a coherent strategy to improve international governance in the management of fisheries in the Atlantic and Indian Oceans. A proposal to DG MARE and DG DEVCO could be included in this document, about including LDAC as a party in the development project of its interest. In particular, the inclusion of LDAC as a partner or potential collaborator in the description of the *Smartfish 2* project (that will not begin before 2018-9) is requested.
- A letter will be drafted, addressed to the Indian Ocean Commission (IOC), offering the institutional collaboration of the LDAC by means of the possible signature of a memorandum of understanding (MoU) between both organisations. More specifically, the collaboration of the LDAC will be offered in terms of achieving a regional strategy or approach to harmonise the fishery agreements, as well as to improve transparency in decision-making and international governance, at RFMO level, and of the fight against IUU fishing.
- The Commission will keep the LDAC up to speed about the ECOWAS meetings.
- The LDAC will ask DG MARE to attend the next meeting of SWIOFC as an observer, under the EU delegation.

- Within the framework of the strategic collaboration with COMHAFAT, the terms of reference for the start-up of a regional programme of observers onboard fishing vessels for highly migratory species in Western Africa will be distributed among all members (if COMHAFAT authorises this).
- The LDAC will assist the COMHAFAT Secretariat in the preparation of the second seminar financed by the EU on Sustainable Fisheries Partnership Agreements of the EU. In this regard, it will send suggestions with names of speakers and institutions to be invited (including the World Bank, the African Union, the regional fisheries sub-commissions), as well as topics to be included in the work programme. This event is scheduled to be held in Al Jadida (Morocco) on 2 and 3 June 2016.
- The Commission will invite the LDAC to participate in the next meeting of EFDAN (European Fisheries Development Advisors Network).
- With respect to the International Fisheries Transparency Initiative (FITI), the LDAC will follow the work of this project in terms of defining the transparency standards, as well as the evolution of the multi-stakeholders' groups established in each country that is adhered to the initiative, in topics such as the verification of the data provided and information used to present annual reports. Whenever possible, the Secretary will attend the meetings of the Advisory Board (or Experts' Advisory Group) as observer and will limit his mandate and interventions to actions agreed within the LDAC and within the framework of the EU legislation and of the FAO on transparency. Members will be informed of the conclusions of the meeting and, if specific actions have to be carried out or a more formal role as an organisation has to be accepted, the unequivocal mandate or authorisation of the Executive Committee will be sought.

GT5 – HORIZONTAL QUESTIONS

Presenter: Alexandre Rodríguez (in the absence of the Chairperson, María José Cornax, and of the Vice Chairperson, José Carlos Castro)

- Fishing Authorisation Regulation (FAR) Proposal

The appointed members of the NGOs (Raul Garcia from WWF, Vanya Vulperhost from Oceana and Béatrice Gorez from CFFA-CAPE offered themselves as volunteers at the meeting) will send their draft position document (or revision of the existing working document) to the Secretariat within 2 weeks at the latest so that an “ad hoc” working group can review it and prepare an opinion draft. The ad hoc Group will be made up of members who directly express their interest to the Secretariat, establishing a reasonable maximum number of 5 to 8 people. The opinion draft will then be distributed among all WG5 members for discussion, and if appropriate, to be taken before the Executive Committee for adoption. The working document prepared by the Secretariat will be used as a basis and it will include the work carried out during the first quarter of the year by the Chairpersons and Vice Chairpersons of the LDAC WGs, both via Webex and face-to-face meeting held in Madrid.

- Fishing Control Regulation Assessment

A position of the LDAC in terms of the consultation (questionnaire) of the Control Regulation assessment has not been discussed or agreed, so in principle no opinion will be issued within the official consultation deadline established (13 March).

A delegation of the LDAC will attend the Commission Seminar on Friday, 18 March, where the preliminary results of the public consultation will be presented. The Secretariat will inform about any request from the Commission and/or actions to be taken.

The Secretariat will send the internal report prepared on topics of interest discussed in the Advisory Board of the European Fisheries Control Agency (EFCA), of which the ACs are members, to LDAC members for approval, and if appropriate, to the DG Mare Control Unit of the Commission.

- Improvement in the application of the Regulation to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing (IUU)

The LDAC will send a letter to the Commission requesting it to publish an updated list of countries have a “yellow card” and a “red card” on the website. Likewise, the IUU unit of the European Commission will be asked to explain the objective elements and criteria included to investigate a country and its subsequent identification as non-cooperating country, as well as the assessment methodology.

With reference to the additional measures of compliance with the control regulation, it is proposed that the LDAC should prepare an opinion on the importance of digitalising control instruments or tools such as capture certificates, logbooks and sales notes.

A proposal will also be included to improve the effectiveness of the controls by establishing a minimum import verification percentage, harmonised in the 25 Member States of the EU.

NB: This idea was proposed by José Carlos Castro (ANFACO-CECOPECA).

- GSP+ and Philippines

The Commission will give the Secretariat and members its first biannual report published on 28 January 2016 on GSP as well as information about the changes what will take place in January 2017.

The authors of the opinion draft (Béatrice Gorez and José Carlos Castro) will review its content, with the assistance of the Chairperson of WG5 and of the Secretariat, to give it a more general approach (not exclusively focused on Philippines) and the sources mentioned will be verified.

- Letter on Observance of International Regulation on Social, Occupational and Human Rights of Seafarers

The authors (Juan Manuel Trujillo and Irene Vidal), with the assistance of the Secretariat, will review the draft letter presented in WG5 to make it more consistent in points such as the mention of public sources, the verification of cases of breach of occupational rights in China or Philippines, or the inclusion of the EMFF in aid to third countries. Likewise, the commercial policy approach included in the letter will be reviewed. The revised version will be sent to all members of WG5 for them to send comments and, if appropriate, agreement, to take it before the Executive Committee.

- Application of the Landing Obligation outside the EU

The LDAC will send a letter to the Member States concerned, encouraging them to form a specific Working Group to give a coherent approach to the landing obligation, suggesting the creation of subgroups of RFMOs to improve the effectiveness of actions and specialisation.

The LDAC will continue working on an opinion to identify the fisheries and species where there are discard problems and which would be affected by this measure. This topic will also be discussed in WGs 2 and 3.

- Authorisation for transfer of fish products in third countries prior to their entry into the community market, pursuant to the provisions of UCC

The LDAC will prepare a letter expressing its concern about the application problems that the Delegation Regulation of the Commission 2446/2015, and its Execution Regulation 2447/2015 might cause for the EU long distance fleet (mainly longliners, tuna seiners and freezer trawlers). The aforementioned Regulation sets out the disappearance of form T2M and the entry into force, in its place, on 1 May 2016, of a new model. There is no standard form yet for this new model nor a protocol of action to validate this transfer with the customs authorities of third countries.

The new system requires the full collaboration of the competent health and customs authorities of the third countries. Therefore, the Commission is urged to contact the competent authorities to ensure that they are ready to adopt and apply the new system approved by the EU.

In the letter, DG TAXUD and DG MARE will be requested to carry out the necessary actions to adapt the legislative provisions of the UCC to the reality of the fisheries, providing a formula that will permit the fast issuance of transfer authorisations, without depending on the unjustified late reaction of the third country authorities.

- Veto to the trade and transport of sharks by shipping companies

This topic will continue to be discussed in the LDAC until it is solved, and the manager of the European Community Shipowners' Association will be invited to future LDAC meetings to explain the reasons for this decision.

The approval by the Executive Commission of three recommendations is requested:

1. *Position Document of the LDAC in response to the Draft Regulation of the Commission on Fishing Authorisations (“FAR”).*

Ms. Vanya Vulperhorst, OCEANA, and Mr. Björn Stockhausen, Seas at Risk, express their disagreement with the document presented, arguing that it does not reflect their stances, to which Mr. Javier Garat, CEPESCA, answers that they should send them in writing to be able to enclose them in an annex.

Ms. Béatrice Gorez, CFFA-CAPE, indicates that the document should exclusively focus on the consensus points reached by all LDAC members and not just reflect the position of the fisheries sector.

Mr. Juan Manuel Liria, FEOPE, proposes that the document should focus on general points of consensus and that the annex should contemplate the other stances that have resulted from comments and work by the fisheries sector.

Mr. Raúl García, WWF, believes that the document is very weak and Mr. Björn Stockhausen, Seas at Risk, believes that there is only consensus in the first two pages drafted by the Chairperson of WG5, Ms. Cornax (OCEANA).

Mr. Javier Garat, CEPESCA, expresses his surprise about the late opposition of the NGOs, insofar as the original document was discussed and coordinated for 3 months and no comments in writing were received from the NGOs. He does not understand why the NGOs have not indicated the points they agree with and those they do not in all this time, and which they now object to.

Mr. Julio Morón, OPAGAC, supports the intervention of Mr. Garat and states that as at today nobody in the LDAC knows what is the position of the NGOs as they have not sent anything in writing.

DECISION: It is agreed to adopt the document once reviewed and to expressly include the annex as position of the fisheries sector, although, on future occasions, an attempt will be made to improve coordination among all parties. Both the Chairperson and the Secretariat request all members to send their opinions in writing within the deadlines established.

2. *Letter from the LDAC requesting the European Commission to lead the Protection of Occupational, Social and Human Rights for Fish Workers*

It is agreed to revise the letter, including additional references suggested by Dutch Pelagic Fishing Trawler Association, and distribute it to members for their subsequent review and approval, if appropriate.

3. *Opinion on the Review of the Application of the Generalised Scheme of Preferences (GSP+), with specific exemplification of the Philippines case.*

The decision proposed is adopted by consensus without comments.

5.- Secretariat's Report.

Electoral Procedure for the New Executive Committee

The General secretary of the LDAC recalls the community regulation in force [Regulation 1380/2013 of the CFP and Delegation Regulation (EC) 242/2015], and he explains the electoral procedure for the posts and members of the Exec. Committee:

a) Chairperson and Vice-Chairpersons:

In agreement with the Charters of the LDAC, the Chairperson of the Executive Committee will also be the chairperson of the General Meeting and will be elected by the members of the General Meeting. With respect to the Vice-chairpersons, these will be elected by the Executive Committee once they have been appointed by the General Meeting. The quorum for decision-making is for at least 50% of the members to be present or to have expressly delegated powers.

The term of mandate for these posts is 3 years, and the current period expires today, that is, on 31 May 2016.

Since May 2015, the First Vice-chairperson, Mr. Juan Manuel Liria Franch (FEOPE-CEPESCA), has been undertaking the role of acting chairperson. The Second Vice-chairperson is Mr. Raúl García (WWF) and the Third Vice-chairperson is Mr. Marc Ghiglia (CNPMEM).

Members are urged to present their candidates for election during the General Meeting that will be held this afternoon.

b) Members of the Executive Committee: Composition and distribution

In agreement with the Charters of the LDAC, apart from the Chairperson, and taking into consideration article 4.3 of the Decision of the Delegated Regulation (EU) 2015/242 of the Commission, of 9 October 2014, the Executive Committee will have a maximum of 25 members who will be elected by the General Meeting on proposal of their respective organisations. The 25 members will have right to vote. Their mandate will last for three years and they may be re-elected.

The LDAC will assign 60% of the seats on the Executive Committee to representatives from the fisheries sector (that is, 15 members), and 40% to representatives from the other stakeholders (that is, 10 members) affected by the Common Fisheries Policy, in agreement with the definitions of the Delegated Regulation that have been replicated in article VIII of the Charters of the LDAC.

6.- Participation of the LDAC in forums, projects and external initiatives

The General Secretary, Mr. Alexandre Rodriguez, recalls that the Secretariat receives many invitations to participate in consortiums and project applications and that the Commission authorises this, providing that it does not diminish the ordinary activity and does not affect the achievement of the objectives laid down in the annual working programme of the LDAC. Likewise, he recalls that, by virtue of the principle of budgetary transparency, and the non-double counting of income for the same concept, a clear separation (in terms of accounting, auditing and taxation) must be made of income received from financing sources outside the actual Community grant and the members' quotas, which are earmarked for the functioning of the organisation.

The Secretary introduces each one of the points below and invites members to reflect upon the level of engagement and participation that they would like the LDAC to have as an organisation in this context. This topic will continue to be discussed at the next meeting of the Executive Committee.

- 2020 Horizon Candidate Projects: FARFISH Project Consortium

The General Secretary, Mr. Alexandre Rodriguez informs that at the previous meeting of the Executive Committee, the LDAC accepted to participate as a partner in this project, providing that financing was earmarked to complete the assigned tasks and that the expenses incurred by interested members for attending and participating would be reimbursed. The project is based on applying an ecosystem-based approach to fisheries management (EBAFM) in non-community waters, both in the EEZ of third countries subject to fisheries agreements (SFPA) and in high sea.

It is observed that this topic fits in with the LDAC working priorities.

Regarding chronology, this consortium has successfully passed the first selection phase, and is now one of the two finalist candidate consortiums. It is informed that there will be a meeting of the project coordination group in Copenhagen at the end of June to advance in drafting the report and budget to be presented for the second selection phase, with deadline on 17 September. The Secretariat will keep in contact and inform members of any progress, requesting own financing to undertake its tasks.

Mr. José Antonio Suárez-Llanos, ANAMER-AGARBA-ANAPA-ACEMIX, points out that he believes that the participation of the LDAC as a partner in a H2020 project is very interesting, and also obtaining extra financing. He agrees to go ahead providing that no competitive tendering or conflict of interest arises with any member that should run as a separate candidate.

Ms. Béatrice Gorez, CFFA-CAPE, thinks that a hasty decision must not be taken and we should wait to see what happens with the selection phase.

Mr. Björn Stockhausen, Seas at Risk, asks the EC representative if there could be any accounting problems for the LDAC by proposing themselves for projects of this type.

Ms. Evangelia Georgitsi, EC, points out that there is no problem providing that the budgets and the accounting are totally separated and that the Commission is kept informed.

- Calls for Studies of the DG MARE (EMFF)

The General Secretary, Mr. Alexandre Rodriguez, informs that, in its articles, the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF) includes financing mechanisms that the Advisory Councils could request for studies related to the CFP. The calls for proposals of the Commission will continue in order to carry out studies related to the application of the CFP in case any should be of special interest for the LDAC.

- DG DEVCO: assistance and cooperation with ATLAFCO-COMHAFAT

The General Secretary explains that the idea is to strengthen the cooperation with ATLAFCO-COMHAFAT through technical assistances for them to be able to get financing to develop projects of common interest such as combating IUU fishing or improving the VSC/MCS tools and regional coordination. Periodic coordination meetings will be held with DG DEVCO to explore this pathway.

- Fisheries Transparency Initiative (FITI)

The General Secretary informs that there will soon be a meeting of the Advisory Group of the Fisheries Transparency Initiative in Madrid, so he asks anyone interested in attending to inform the LDAC Secretariat.

- Regional Fishery Organisations (RFOs)

This topic was not addressed. The LDAC usually attends the annual meetings of the RFMOs of interest in which decisions are issued (NAFO, ICCAT,...) as an observer within the EU delegation.

7.- Application of the Memorandum of Understanding (“MoU”) with COMHAFAT

A reflection on this topic is proposed in order to realise the stipulations of the MoU. Thus, organising an annual coordination meeting between COMHAFAT and the LDAC is suggested, with 5-6 members from each organisation, as well as both secretariats, exchanging ideas on common working priorities and calendars of meetings, and issuing minutes of these meetings.

8.- Proposal to hire a scientific coordinator for the LDAC

The Secretary, Mr. Alexandre Rodriguez, explains the proposal to hire a scientific coordinator, with specific functions to boost the work of the Secretariat and improve the quality of the contents of the opinions.

In broad outlines, the main functions of this coordinator, who would be supervised by the General Secretary and members of the Executive Committee of the LDAC, would be: to compile scientific lines of argument to supply the opinions of the LDAC; to act as a link and coordinator with scientific bodies and organisations such as national oceanographic institutes or the CIEM; to participate in forums, symposiums or scientific workshops, to later inform members about aspects of interest; to help in the preparation of opinions and observations to discard plans or biological aspects of the application of the landing obligations outside community waters; to identify research priorities and locate financing and collaboration opportunities in European and/or international project consortiums.

The selection process would be carried out through publications of an advertisement, previously approved by the Executive Committee, indicating the job requirements .

A Selection Committee would be created, made up of members of the LDAC and the Secretariat as process facilitator. The contract could initially be for one year with

possible renewal depending on the budgetary availability, considering a global amount of around 40,000 to 50,000 Euros.

Some members think that before launching the call, it would be necessary to consider the qualifications of the person as well as his/her mandate, to be sure of finding the right person and for there to be a clear delimitation of his/her functions. Another idea would perhaps be to regularly invite scientific experts to attend the LDAC meetings or to hire external consultants of prestige to develop occasional work that requires expertise or specific knowledge in the matter. In any case, this should be a person who has previous and verified working experience with European institutions (mainly the European Commission) and scientific organisations such as ICES, STECF, etc.

After a brief discussion, it is agreed to discuss this topic at the next meeting of the Executive Committee, where the Secretariat will present a more detailed proposal, bearing in mind the considerations expressed by the members.

9.- Miscellaneous issues, next meeting of the Executive Committee and Closure

No others matters to be discussed are proposed.

The Secretariat informs that the next meeting of the Executive Committee will be held in Madrid at the end of November this year, as in previous years.

The Chairman thanks members for attending and participating, the Secretariat for organising the event, and the interpreters for the quality of their services.

The meeting is closed at 12.30 pm.



ANNEX I. LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Executive Committee Lisbon, 31 May 2016

MEMBERS

Juan Manuel Liria. FEOPE
Beatrice Gorez. CFFA-CAPE
Erik Bjørn Olsen. Living Sea
Sandra Sanmartín. EBCD
Javier Garat. FEOPE
Marc Ghiglia. CNPMEM
Toomas Tamme. EL DFA
Björn Stockhausen. Seas at Risk
Sean O'Donoghue. KFO
Gerard VanBalsfoort. DPFTA
Juan Manuel Trujillo. ETF
Claus Ubl. DHV
Juan Manuel Vieites. ANFACO-CECOPECA
Raúl García. WWF
Esben Sverdrup-Jensen. DPPO
Vanya Vulperhorst. OCEANA

CHAIRPERSONS OF THE WORKING GROUPS

Michel Goujon (GT1). ORTHONGEL
Iván López (GT2). AGARBA/FEABP
José Antonio Suárez-Llanos (GT3). ANAMER-AGARBA-ANAPA-ACEMIX
Julio Morón (GT4). OPAGAC

OBSERVERS

Irene Vidal. EIJF
Anertz Muniategi. ANABAC
Mike Park. SWFPA
Luis Vicente. ADAPI
Jose Taveira. EL DFA
Ian Gatt. SPFA
Lise Johnsen. DPPO
Juana Parada. ORPAGU
Francisco Mari. Bread for the World
Katarina Sipic. CONXEMAR
Evangelia Georgitsi. DG MARE – European Commission
Alexandre Rodríguez. LDAC
Manuela Iglesias. LDAC
Marta de Lucas. LDAC

ANNEX II. PRESENTATION OF THE WORKING GROUP 1 CHAIRMAN

Bilan du travail effectué par le GT1 “Stocks de grands migrateurs et organisations régionales de gestion des pêches correspondantes” pour la période 2015-2016

Réunions

Le groupe de travail 1 s’est réuni 2 fois à Bruxelles pendant cette intersession: le 21 octobre 2015 et le 10 mars 2016.

Composition du groupe

La composition du groupe est restée inchangée et la participation est assidue. La participation de la DG MARE à ces groupes de travail a été constante et assurée par plusieurs personnes de la direction des Affaires internationales de la DG MARE. Des représentants du Parlement européen ont également régulièrement participé à ces réunions. Les principaux absents restent comme toujours les représentants des administrations des Etats membres.

Travail réalisé

Plusieurs membres du groupe de travail ont préparé puis activement participé à la conférence internationale du LDAC sur la mise en œuvre de la dimension externe de la PCP qui s’est tenue à Las Palmas, le 16 et 17 septembre 2015. Cette conférence a été très appréciée par les quelques 150 participants et la centaine de participants virtuels et elle a permis de renforcer l'image institutionnelle du LDAC comme unique organisation européenne représentant les différents stakeholders et regroupant des avis aussi divers que variés ainsi que de solides connaissances pratiques de la réalité des pêcheries. Un document regroupant plusieurs recommandations visant à consolider l'application de la dimension externe de la PCP a également été rédigé à partir des conclusions de la conférence.

Au cours des réunions du groupe de travail, la question de l’obligation de débarquement des requins avec leurs ailerons attachés est restée d’actualité avec le souhait de la part des membres du CCPL de promouvoir cette mesure – à laquelle seule la flotte européenne est soumise – au sein des ORGP thonières. Le groupe de travail a émis un avis relatif aux mesures de restauration du stock de patudo de l’Atlantique. Une lettre relative à l'amélioration de la transparence du système VDS au sein de la WCPFC a également été préparée et envoyée à la Commission.

Après consultation des membres du groupe de travail, le secrétariat du CCPL a participé à la plénière de la CICTA qui s’est tenue à Malte du 10 au 17 novembre 2015.

Concernant la coopération avec la COMHAFAT, un appui technique et logistique pour la réalisation de deux ateliers COMHAFAT sur la mise en place de programmes d'observateurs régionaux et la promotion des accords de pêche durable a été fourni par le Secrétariat du CCPL et certains membres du groupe de travail. Le premier atelier (observateurs) s’est tenu à Marrakech le 27 et 28 octobre 2015. Le second (sur les APPD) se tient dans 2 jours au Maroc.

Enfin, plusieurs membres du groupe de travail ont participé à la réunion sur la révision du règlement sur les autorisations de pêche qui s'est tenue à Madrid le 11 février 2016 dont l'avis est soumis aujourd'hui à l'approbation du Comité exécutif.

Plan de travail pour 2015-2016

L'actualité des ORGP est assez chargée avec des questions portant sur la restauration du stock de patudo en Atlantique et du stock d'albacore en Océan Indien. A ceci s'ajoute, la question de l'encadrement de la pêche sur DCP qui est devenu un sujet important pour toutes les ORGP thonières, et celle, à moyen terme, des règles d'exploitation.

A ce titre, le groupe de travail envisage d'inviter à sa prochaine session un scientifique pour une présentation des résultats du programme CECOFAD. Une révision du livre du CCPL sur les DCP a été envisagée.

Le rapport demandé par l'UE sur l'impact socio-économique de la mesure d'obligation de débarquement des requins avec leurs ailerons attachés a été reçu par le secrétariat et sera étudié avec soin.

Dans le cadre de cette gouvernance internationale, le groupe de travail a considéré qu'un renforcement du rôle de l'UE au sein des ORGP était souhaitable. Un groupe de rédaction *ad hoc* sera établi afin d'élaborer un plan d'action à moyen terme, en indiquant les priorités concernant les ressources et les actions de l'UE au sein des différentes ORGP thonières, ainsi que les besoins de capacité (personnel) à engager par la Commission européenne pour promouvoir une gestion durable des pêcheries internationales, en accord avec les objectifs de la PCP (pêche au niveau de la PME et approche écosystémique en 2020), tout en préservant les flottilles européennes.

Enfin, le groupe de travail souhaite pouvoir disposer à l'avenir d'un calendrier prévisionnel des réunions des ORGP et d'un suivi des programmes de marquage de thonidés tropicaux ainsi que des plans de gestion pour les requins.