



AGENDA

37th meeting of LDAC Working Group 5 - HORIZONTAL ISSUES

Wednesday 11th March 2026, afternoon session 14:00-17:00h CET

Thursday 12th March 2026, morning session 09:00-12:30h CET

Venue: Hotel Martin's Brussels EU Hotel
(Bvd. Charlemagne 80, 1000 Brussels)

AFTERNOON SESSION (Wednesday 11th March, 14:00h-17:00h)

14:00h

- 1. Welcome by the Chair**
- 2. Adoption of minutes of the last WG5 – 15-16 October 2025**
- 3. Adoption of the agenda**

14:15h

- 4. Fight against Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated fishing (IUU)**
 - 4.1- Overview of EU IUU carding process in relation to dialogues with non-EU countries: feedback by MARE on questions from members.

15:00h

- 4.2- Exchange of views with DG MARE: feedback from LDAC on provisions related to the external fleet, particularly the IT CATCH system

15:30h

- 4.3- Presentation by OCEANA on the report: *"Flags of convenience and hidden ownership: EU-owned fishing vessels in high-risk jurisdictions"* (Vanya V.)
 - 4.4- Next steps: ideas for drafting a LDAC advice on Flags of Convenience.

HEALTH BREAK 16:00-16:15h

16:15h

- 5. Draft advice on Impacts of Climate Change in non-EU waters fisheries**

16:45h

- 6. Report from Secretariat on:**
 - FAO Sub-Committee on Fisheries Management (Iceland, 23-27 Feb)
 - High-level conference ETP in EU Fisheries and Aquaculture (Bru, 17 Feb. 2026)
 - Date and agenda of next EFCA Advisory Board (Vigo, April)

17:00h-

CLOSE OF THE FIRST SESSION



MORNING SESSION (Thursday 12th March, 09:00h-12:30h)

09:00h

7. Evaluation of the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) and development of an Ocean Act

- 7.1- Update from DG MARE regarding the evaluation of the CFP regulation and the European Ocean Act
- 7.2- Presentation and exchange on "[A European Ocean Observation Initiative](#)"
- 7.3- Exchange of views and way forward

09:45h

8. EU strategy for fisheries external action:

- 8.1- Report by Chairs/Secretariat on outcomes of bilateral meeting with Director B MARE and his team (Madrid, 20 January 2026)
- 8.2- Update by Chair/Secretariat on process and timing for adoption of Communication: input of LDAC and next steps

10:00h

9. International Ocean Governance: Implementation of UN BBNJ

- 9.1- Update from DG MARE on calendar of meetings and policy developments made in the UN (Prep.Com3); and state of play of [EC proposal for a directive](#)
- 9.2- Discussion on LDAC draft advice on linkages and interaction between BBNJ and other international bodies including role of RFMOs

HEALTH BREAK 10:45-11:00h

11:00h

10. Social Dimension of CFP and labour issues linked to import and trade

- 10.1- EC report on [proposals to amend the due diligence Directive](#)
- 10.2- EC update on the [Forced Labour Regulation](#) (expert group on forced labour...)
- 10.3- Update on EU Social Partners project – Pillars of the Sea IV

12:00h

11. Presentation on ITF investigative report on [Labour Exploitation in Distant Water Fishing Vessels Registered With the SPRFMO: | ITF Global](#)

12:30h

CLOSING REMARKS