

DRAFT MINUTES
EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF THE LDAC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

**Hotel NH Brussels EU Berlaymont
Boulevard Charlemagne 11-19, 1000 Brussels**

**Wednesday, March 27, 2019
18:30 – 19:30**

Chair: Iván López Van der Veer
Vice-chairs: Béatrice Gorez and Juan Manuel Liria
Rapporteurs (Secretariat): Alexandre Rodríguez and Manuela Iglesias

1. Welcome by the Chair and adoption of the agenda.

The Chair, Mr Iván López, welcomes the attendees and conveys apologies on behalf of Mr Francisco Portela Rosa, of the Vianapesca organization, for not attending. In addition, the Secretariat informs that Mr Portela has delegated his vote to Mr Juan Manuel Liria, CEPESCA.

The full list of participants (members and observers) is included as Annexe I.

2. Election procedure for the election of members of the Executive Committee at the Annual General Assembly (Sopot, May 22 and 23, 2019)

2.1. Presentation of the applicable legal and regulatory framework

Ms Manuela Iglesias and Mr Alexandre Rodríguez, from the LDAC Secretariat, inform that at the next ordinary annual meeting of the LDAC General Assembly, confirmed for May 22, 2019, the elections for the Chair and the Vice Chairs of the LDAC will be held, as well as for the positions of the 25 members of the Executive Committee. In accordance with the statutory regulations, the term of office for all positions will be three years, from June 1, 2019, to May 31, 2022.

Next, they report on the applicable regulations: the Delegated Regulation (EU) 2017/1575, the Basic Regulation (EU) of the CFP No. 1380/2013, the Statutes of the LDAC and the Code of Conduct of the LDAC.

Finally, the following key ideas included in the conceptual note distributed to all members are explained:

- The General Assembly has the power to appoint the Chair, the Vice Chairs and the members of the Executive Committee.
- Any GA member organization that is up to date with payments is entitled to submit its candidature to the Executive Committee.
- The re-election of the current Executive Committee members is possible and no maximum term is established for them.

- A maximum of 25 members is provided for in the Executive Committee, which may be extended to a maximum of 30 members, after consulting the European Commission individually and reasoned on a case by case basis, to ensure adequate representation of the artisanal fleets.

As a regulatory novelty of the Commission, it is emphasized that the General Assembly will decide in which category, “*organizations of the fishing sector*” (60%) or “*other stakeholder groups*” (40%), the members of the advisory councils are classified [...] In addition, it is reported that the Commission has foreseen that, “based on the designations by the organizations of the sector and of the other stakeholder groups for the positions assigned to them respectively”, the General Assembly will appoint a Composite Executive Committee comprising a maximum of twenty-five members.

2.2. Proposed protocol for the election procedure

The Secretariat presents a proposal for an election procedure with a view to its adoption by the members. The document is available at the following link: **PENDIENTE DE COMPLETAR MEDIANTE ENLACE A NUEVA WEB**

The proposal lays down the modality and deadlines for the submission of candidacies for such candidates interested in running for the Chair or Vice Chairs of the LDAC. To this purpose, they must send their candidacies to the attention of the Secretary-General by means of a covering letter including the support/nomination of such candidacy by another member.

On the other hand, LDAC member organizations interested in becoming members of the Executive Committee must fill in an expression of interest form to be provided by the Secretariat. This form must be duly completed and signed by the designated representative(s) of the organization, otherwise, it will not be valid.

A period of 6 weeks, from April 8 to May 15, 2019, at 12 o'clock in Madrid (GMT+1/CET), is proposed as the deadline for the submission of candidatures.

On the other hand, it is reported that the Chair and Vice Chairs of the Executive Committee will be appointed by the General Assembly by a unanimous vote or by secret ballot if there is more than one candidate.

For the election of the Executive Committee members, if more candidates have been received for each group than seats are available, the members of each group shall be nominated, that is, 15 candidates for the fishing sector and 10 for other stakeholder groups.

Each group (60%-40%) shall elect their own candidates separately by a secret vote in ballot boxes. Any organization may delegate its vote to another by filling out the corresponding form, duly completed, signed and sent to the Secretary-General in due time.

The Secretariat will be in charge of supervising the process and counting the votes, and will report the outcome to the General Assembly.

Finally, candidates nominated by both groups will be subject to ratification by the General Assembly by secret ballot (Yes/No) with a view to their formal investiture.

2.3. Discussion and adoption

- After an exchange of opinions by the members, it is approved to adopt the electoral procedure modifying the following paragraph by replacing the word “*unanimity*” with “*consensus*” and adding the term “*secret ballot*” in the appointment by the General Assembly
- The text would read as follows: “*The nominees of the two groups will be then presented by the Secretariat, and the General Assembly must appoint the members of the new Executive Committee by consensus by secret ballot, formally constituted in an ordinary or an extraordinary session*”.
- Ms Jane Sandell, NFFO, and Béatrice Gorez, CFFA-CAPE, will review the English version of the aforementioned paragraph. The final document will be sent to all members in due time and proper course.
- In order to accommodate the changes, it is agreed that the date for the submission of candidacies begins on April 8 and ends on May 15, 2019, at 12 noon of Madrid (GMT+1/CET).

3. Review of the structure of the Working Groups

3.1. Recommendations of the External Performance Evaluation Report of the LDAC (author: BG Consulting)

Mr Alexandre Rodríguez, LDAC, summarizes the result of the External Performance Evaluation Report of the LDAC, in the absence of its author Mr Benoit Guerin, BG Consulting. The document will be presented at the LDAC General Assembly on May 22. Likewise, it is announced that a paper edition will be published to be distributed.

The complete document has been distributed via email and is also available at the following website link: **PENDIENTE DE COMPLETAR NUEVA WEB**

3.2. Proposal by the Chair to review the Working Groups

The Chair, Mr Iván López, puts forward a proposal, open to discussion, to review or restructure the 5 Working Groups of the LDAC in order to be more efficient in terms of the work carried out. He stated that, in his opinion, the Executive Committee should meet more frequently and address substantive issues of a global nature.

Ms M^a José Cornax, OCEANA, expresses her surprise at the decrease in advice issued in the last year by the other work groups other than WG5, stressing that there are many overlapping topics. She takes advantage of this reflection to state that she had expected a more thorough analysis in the study of the performance review. Ms Cornax points out that for the time being, she does not have any opinion formed on a potential formula to restructure the WGs and therefore would appreciate a more detailed proposal in writing from the Chair. Finally, she highlights that the expert groups in the LDAC must make an effort to get ahead of the technical meetings with the Commission on RFMOs in order for our advice to arrive in advance and so it may be better taken into account.

Ms Béatrice Gorez, CFFA-CAPE, agrees with the views expressed by Ms Cornax. She believes that, in her opinion, it is positive that the Chair and Vice Chair of the WGs be made up of one member from the industry and another from the NGOs. She is also in favour of organizing more specific focus groups to address and make progress in certain issues. She believes that perhaps it is not a question of changing the WGs but making them more efficient.

Mr Javier Garat, CEPESCA, states that, in his opinion, the current working groups are working well and no restructuring would be necessary, although if that were the case one possibility would be to merge GT2 with GT3 if considered appropriate by the remainder of members. He reiterates that he believes that the work of the LDAC is efficient and it is not necessary to make any drastic changes.

Mr Juan Manuel Liria, FEOPE/CEPESCA, believes that merging Groups 2 and 3 would be complex because of the type of fleets involved (pelagic and demersal trawling) with different problems and interests. However, he believes that before reviewing the groups, the Chair should make a proposal in writing and the LDAC should reflect for a longer time since in his opinion the mix of fishing gears by regions would not be good in all cases.

Ms Sandell is sceptical about the need to restructure the working groups by regions and recalls that the WG2 she chairs is already regional and works moderately well.

Mr Iván López, AGARBA, points out that, in his opinion, there are certain issues on which the LDAC should issue advice on an ongoing basis, such as the coverage of all the RFMOs that are of interest to its members. Regarding common issues with the MAC, he believes that we should continue discussing them separately but also coordinated in the sense of maintaining a flow of communication with both the WG2 of the MAC and the European Commission.

ACTIONS:

- **The LDAC Chair will put forward a clear and detailed proposal in writing of the changes suggested in the revision of the working groups, stating the themes and competencies of each one, and the topics that will be addressed by the Executive Committee. The document will be submitted for discussion at the General Assembly on May 22.**



- **If no agreement is reached, this issue will be further discussed, if appropriate, at future meetings of the Executive Committee and the General Assembly.**

ANNEXE I: List of participants

Executive Committee of the Long Distance Fleet Advisory Council
Brussels, March 27, 2019

ATTENDING MEMBERS

1. Iván López. AGARBA/CEPESCA. Chair
2. Juan Manuel Liria. CEPESCA. 2nd Vice Chair
3. Javier Garat. CEPESCA
4. Caroline Mangalo. CNPMMEM
5. Luis Vicente. ADAPI
6. Erik Olsen. The Danish Society for a Living Sea
7. Beatrice Gorez. CFFA-CAPE. 1st Vice Chair
8. Emil Remisz. NAPO
9. Orestis Kargotis. EBCD
10. Frédéric Le Manach. BLOOM
11. Katarina Sipic. CONXEMAR
12. Haydeé Fernández. CONXEMAR
13. Juan Manuel Trujillo. ETF
14. Vanya Vulperhorst. OCEANA
15. Raul Garcia. WWF
16. Antonia Leroy. WWF
17. Sophie Nodzenski. EJF
18. Rosalie Tukker. Europêche

CHAIRS AND VICE-CHAIRS OF THE WGs

19. Jane Sandell. NFFO
20. Maria Jose Cornax. OCEANA
21. Julio Morón. OPAGAC

OBSERVERS

22. Edelmiro Ulloa. Anapa / Anamer / Acemix / Agarba
23. Sergio López. OPP-Lugo
24. Daniel Voces. Europêche
25. Anertz Muniategi. ANABAC
26. Ian Gatt. SPFA
27. Yaiza Dronkers. International Pole & Line Foundation
28. Irene Kingma. NSAC Vice Chair
29. Sonia Doblado. Coordinator, LDAC – FARFISH Project
30. Alexandre Rodríguez. Secretary-General LDAC
31. Manuela Iglesias. Policy and Communications Technician. LDAC Secretariat
32. Marta de Lucas. Administration and Finance Technician. LDAC Secretariat