

# Annual Meeting between ICES, Advisory Councils and other Observers (MIACO 2023)

VOLUME 3 | ISSUE 4

ICES BUSINESS REPORTS



## International Council for the Exploration of the Sea Conseil International pour l'Exploration de la Mer

H. C. Andersens Boulevard 44–46  
DK-1553 Copenhagen V  
Denmark  
Telephone (+45) 33 38 67 00  
Telefax (+45) 33 93 42 15  
[www.ices.dk](http://www.ices.dk)  
[info@ices.dk](mailto:info@ices.dk)

Cover Image: © Crown Copyright / Marine Scotland. All rights reserved.

This document is approved by the ICES Advisory Committee and produced under the auspices of the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea.

© 2023 International Council for the Exploration of the Sea.

This work is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License (CC BY 4.0). For citation of datasets or conditions for use of data to be included in other databases, please refer to ICES data policy.



# ICES Business Reports

Volume 3: Issue 4

## Annual Meeting between ICES, Advisory Councils and other Observers (MIACO)

Recommended format for purpose of citation:

ICES. 2023. Annual Meeting between ICES, Advisory Councils and other  
Observers (MIACO)

ICES Business Reports, 3:4. 16 pp. <http://doi.org/10.17895/ices.pub.21896640>



**ICES**  
**CIEM**

International Council for  
the Exploration of the Sea  
Conseil International pour  
l'Exploration de la Mer

# Contents

i	Executive summary .....	ii
1	Welcome and opening of the meeting .....	1
2	Adoption of agenda .....	1
3	Review of 2022 .....	1
4	ICES and Quality Control.....	1
	4.1 General quality control of data .....	1
	4.2 The data profiling tool .....	2
5	Evolving advice .....	2
	5.1 Advice on conservation aspects.....	2
	5.2 Stakeholder perspectives and engagement strategy.....	3
	5.3 Update on reference points and rebuilding plans .....	4
6	Renewable energy opportunities and challenges .....	4
7	Benchmarks and reviews (Doc 07) .....	6
8	Emerging science needs .....	6
9	Overviews - are they advice? .....	8
10	What messaging from ICES helps deliver your objectives? .....	10
11	Mixed Fisheries (Doc 11) .....	10
12	Providing advice in 2023.....	11
	12.1 ICES Advisory Work-plan 2023.....	11
	12.2 Benchmark procedure (Doc 12b).....	11
13	Wrap up and close.....	11
14	List of action points .....	11
Annex 1:	List of participants.....	12
Annex 2:	Draft Agenda .....	14
Annex 3:	List of documents.....	16

## i Executive summary

MIACO is the annual meeting between ICES and Advisory Councils and other Observers. An overview of the advice process and the advice provided in 2022 was given. MIACO was invited to review the advisory process in 2022 and to discuss any issues and concerns that had arisen since the 2022 MIACO meeting.

MIACO 2023 specifically considered quality control and assurance of data and advice, conservation aspects of advice, stakeholder engagement, reference points and rebuilding plans. MIACO also discussed the challenges of renewable energy for human maritime activities and marine ecosystem, and science needs in the medium term. It was informed on the proposed new benchmark guidelines, and changes in the manner that overviews are produced. The report from the subgroup on stakeholder perspectives on advice was discussed and MIACO commented on the new format for mixed fisheries advice.

# 1 Welcome and opening of the meeting

The meeting was welcomed by the ACOM Chair and reminded that ICES is a scientific network. The new ICES General Secretary, Alan Haynie, was introduced and presented himself as well as also welcoming all to the meeting.

The new [ICES code of ethics and professional conduct](#) was presented and Covid guidelines were pointed to.

Participants in the meeting room and online introduced themselves in a round table.

# 2 Adoption of agenda.

The agenda that had been available online since 3 January was adopted without further comments (see Annex 2).

# 3 Review of 2022

ICES presented the report of ICES advice in 2022. Highlights were the provision of Data limited stocks (DLS) advice enabling 42% of the cat.3 stocks to have advice based on MP or MSY (compared to 4% in 2021). Advice on bycatch of protected, endangered and threatened species was further developed during 2022 and this work will continue in 2023. New methods for the Ecosystem Overviews, involving a semi-quantitative risk assessment, were highlighted as well that only one ecoregion (the Faroes) now miss an Ecosystem Overview. Fishery Overviews are available for all ecoregions where commercial fishery exists. Aquaculture Overviews are available for two ecoregions, including the Celtic Seas which is the first ecoregion with multiple nations involved.

Retrospective inconsistencies in 2022 remains a focal point, the community is working intensively on this through the benchmark system (33 planned for 2023) to address these through a case by case basis. Changes to headline advice were listed. Main reasons for such corrections are adjusted model settings, changes to input data or on a rare occasion change in basis of advice.

Further reporting on progress on evidence provision for ecosystem-based management and for ecosystem informed advice rules was presented.

Discussion occurred about advice for Baltic Sea stocks, and for salmon and the potential impact of the suspension of Russian experts from ICES.

# 4 ICES and Quality Control

## 4.1 General quality control of data

Moves by ICES to improve data quality control and quality assurance were presented to MIACO.

MIACO has recognized the commitment of ICES to improve its quality control systems and it also recognize that CoVid-19's negative effect that has slowed down some of the progress. It was pointed that getting the quality assurance right is paramount for ICES and the system is as good as its testing. ICES was asked to consider testing of its procedures for quality. ICES was

asked to show on its advice sheets whether TAF had been used. ICES responded that this would be put to ACOM for discussion.

It was mentioned that an external review was a good idea although the system is not ready yet for testing. When the Core Trust Seal accreditation was selected other frameworks were also explored that would encompass the entire advisory framework but nothing was ready available would fit the ICES needs.

#### 4.1 Action point:

ICES to add agenda item to the ACOM meeting, to scope the inclusion of a tag to all ICES advice that uses TAF.

## 4.2 The data profiling tool

ICES summarized the purpose of this tool. This tool is designed for data outside ICES data management system to prove that ICES has rights to use it, that knows its veracity, where it is stored and that others know where to find it.

ICES was asked if the tool will be able to spot inconsistencies in the data. The data profiling tool is not a quality control tool for the data, but for its veracity and ownership. It helps understand the lineage and the background of the data. Experts using data in ICES, sourced from outside will be the ones deciding on the quality of the data and if it is of good enough quality that can be used in ICES advice.

The system is complex. One of the purposes of the benchmark processes is to identify new data that is not used and to evaluate it in workshops and look if there are any issues and or errors that can be fixed. Not all data are incorporated in an assessment but at a benchmark all relevant data available should be considered and if deemed important it should be used in the assessment and the profiling tool helps in this process.

ICES was asked about who can bring new data to benchmark to which the reply was data evaluation workshops are open to full participation. However, data submitted for evaluation are best submitted in partnership with researchers. ICES disseminates notice of these workshops in advance.

A question asked if there is a document with the compiled catch option tables for all the single stock advice. The reply is there is currently no such document but a new database online should be available by the end of the year.

## 5 Evolving advice

### 5.1 Advice on conservation aspects

The additional advice on conservation aspects was explained to MIACO, with the associated guidelines <https://doi.org/10.17895/ices.advice.21435987>. Advice on conservation aspects has already been used for the 2022 advice on European eel <https://doi.org/10.17895/ices.advice.19772374>.

ICES introduced the conservation aspects of advice that was an ACOM initiative in 2021 when it was first discussed. The concept was further developed and tested on a few stocks with the European eel being the first published advice (in 2022).

Conservation aspects will be rolled over in 2023 only on a few stocks to be determined by the experts. Likely candidates are salmon, Eastern Baltic cod and some elasmobranchs. The

decision tree should be used to select stocks. There must be clear impact either by pollution, climate change or habitat change.

Other cases were raised as roundnose grenadier and other species on the i.e. IUCN vulnerable list. It was pointed out that ICES is setting priorities also according to resources; in any case the IUCN list does not eliminate the need for the advice to managers and ICES may mention the list but does not necessarily endorse it.

Climate change may also have a widespread impact on many stocks and stocks must show that they are highly sensitive to climate change to be included. In the NE Atlantic the changes are gradual and are monitored and incorporated into the stock assessments.

The case of the eastern Baltic cod was discussed as direct fishing may not be the main mortality driver and should be noticed that even zero fishing on cod will not improve the stock status.

In addition, in the context of climate change there will be some stocks that are not going to be recoverable and how to reflect these external factors in the advice is not clear. Cod in Celtic Sea and southern North Sea were provided by MIACO as example are the most challenging because this range distribution and ICES still need to think how to address these cases. Spatial considerations can also be part of the advice if there is enough evidence to include it.

## 5.2 Stakeholder perspectives and engagement strategy

The ICES Stakeholder Engagement Strategy (<https://doi.org/10.17895/ices.pub.21815106>) was presented to MIACO. There was general appreciation of the strategy. It was asked when and how the next step – the implementation – will happen. And when ICES expects MIACO to be involved.

ICES said that a workshop is being planned and participation will be broader than the previous workshop (WKSHOES). ICES will announce the dates and venue of the workshop as soon as these are in place and workshop chairs have been identified. Volunteers for Chairs are welcome.

It was emphasized that “Stakeholders” is a very large and diverse group of people from different areas of expertise. More than one implementation workshop may be needed to make sure we encompass all elements.

ICES went on to present the report of the subgroup of MIACO that met in November 2022 for an online session about the information from stakeholders and perceptions of stock and fisheries dynamics. The subgroup proved to be a useful process and resulted in a proposal for a workshop on the next steps on perceptions of stocks and fisheries. Steven Mackinson has agreed to chair this workshop. The draft Terms of Reference were shared with MIACO and the floor was opened up for questions.

One MIACO member raised the question whether, assuming the issues that the draft ToRs cover can be sorted out, whether there would be a place in the ICES advice where stakeholder information could go in the future?

It was underlined that the ACOM leadership is not in a position to promise to incorporate in the previous style the “information from stakeholders” section. There was no common understanding about that section, which had been removed from the advice sheets. However, it was hoped that this further initiative would remedy the challenge.

There was a wish for a Term of Reference specifically dealing with where in the ICES Advice system that something like this could be incorporated.

The agenda item was concluded by agreement for the preamble for the new workshop to include specific mention of information from stakeholders and adjust the terms of reference.

#### Action 5.1

Further development of terms of reference on workshop on perspectives of advice.

### 5.3 Update on reference points and rebuilding plans

ICES presented plans for workshops on rebuilding plans and reference points.

ICES was asked if WKREBUILD 2 goes ahead in March as planned will the framework be available to be implemented to the stocks being released at the end of June? ICES replied the framework was not yet operational. It was also pointed that in principle the rebuilding plans are independent of the reference points and could be implemented in both frameworks the old one and the new one.

MIACO asked about recruitment regime shifts identified in the North Sea cod benchmark which have changed perception of the stock and with it the reference points. Normally when a relationship is detected the time-series is truncated. The most difficult is to detect the regime shift. The uncertainty is included in all the processes that are affected by the regime shift ex. stock recruitment, weight at age, etc. The model is conditioned including all these uncertainties. The more uncertainty there is the greater is the probability of being below Blim.

Clarification was sought on biomass reference points and target biomass. In WKREF 2 there was issues with the BMSY and associated complexities and there seemed scope to operationalize the use of BMSY as reference points in advice and recommendations. Could ICES expand on that issue? In reply, there was a discussion in the workshop how calculate BMSY or B0 and how realistic it could be calculated in general terms. This framework needs to be tested with some selected stocks to ensure it is working properly and is precautionary before it can be used generalized use. The issue for ICES is a scientific one and not about management objectives.

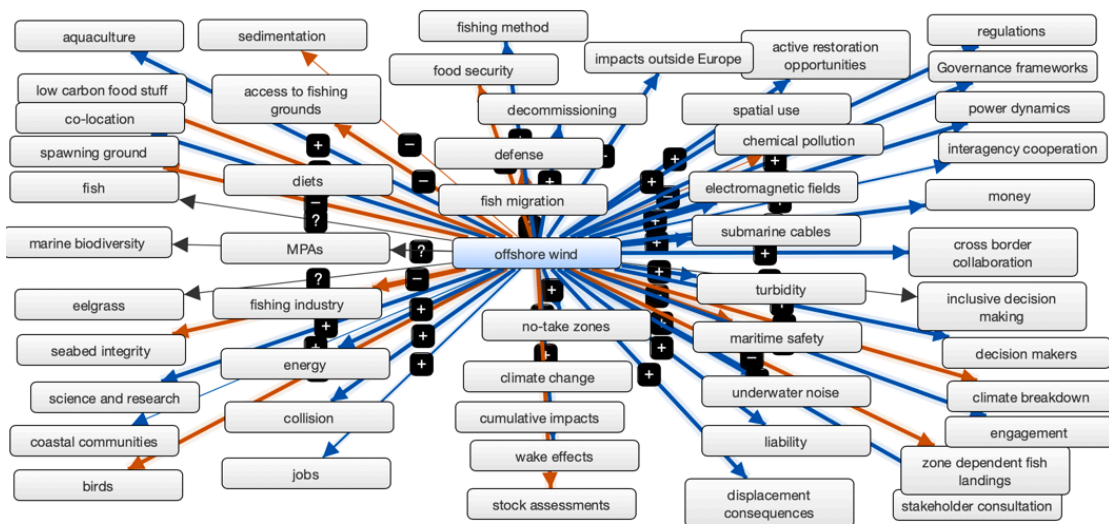
MIACO enquired if there will be opportunity to discuss once again the new reference points framework before its implementation. ICES replied yes and already was agreed with MIRIA that a meeting will be arranged to discuss this issue with the advice requesters.

Finally, a question regarding Feco ongoing in the Baltic and its motivations work was this a political request or is the Feco work science led. In reply the work on Feco is science led and there are multiple people working on this in different areas and in a few years more Feco should be presented as an extra scenario.

## 6 Renewable energy opportunities and challenges

MIACO took part in a 'mental modeller' exercise to build a conceptual model of the challenges faced by managers with the expansion of marine renewable energy facilities. The exercise will feed into 3 ICES expert working groups on renewable wind-energy (WGMBRED, WGOWF, WGOORE).

MIACO was introduced to the exercise, outlining that the intention was to prepare a roadmap to coordinate future ICES work on offshore renewables. The output from these MIRIA and MIACO exercises will input to a 'internal' exploratory workshop in March WKOMRE. The workshop will start draft a roadmap for how to further explore the offshore and marine renewables effects on the marine environment.



### Screen capture of the mental modeller exercise of MIACO.

MIACO added a large number of features which will be impacted by/have impact upon establishment of offshore renewable energy facilities. Many consequences were discussed and linking them up made it evident that the interlinkage and complexity is high. The linking between these were discussed and a few of the features were difficult to directly link into the overview.

These are mentioned in the below list.

- Food security may go down due to spatial restriction on fishing but the energy produced could also be used to produce other foodstuffs.
- Fishing methods may develop further in response to the presence of renewables e.g. fishing up close to installations.
- Renewables could impact on long-term stock assessment programmes using the same space.
- As renewables increase compensation to fishers will also increase.
- Defence: With an increase in wind energy, the defence (need) goes down as the energy production will be independent of International Politics.
- Seafood security will go up as there will be less wild captured fish but a higher food production (aquaculture) given the higher energy supply.
- Offshore wind – coastal communities; linkage depends on time, heritage, etc.
- Fishing method: Increase in windfarms will increase in the methods for fishing out of need (innovative gears needed).
- Climate change: Effects will on balance be low, if the energy is replacing the carbon-based energy. If the energy needs though keep increasing, then the effect on climate change will not be evident and not pause/slow it down. Climate-breakdown: Increased offshore wind should decrease Climate change/breakdown
- Stock Assessment: with restricted access to surveying, the increase in wind energy will decrease the ability to do stock assessments.
- Chemical pollution: The direct by building and as well whilst running the enterprise, indirect from the production of the elements.
- Interagency coordination/collaboration: Unclear but hopefully up.
- Money: Positive – it links to power-dynamics (as the wind sector brings in a lot of power which can overrule other actors), however, it as well brings in a lot of money.
- Decision makers: There will be a need for more decisions and decision-makers...

### 6.1 Action points:

The ACs to send information from earlier submissions on offshore renewables energy to ICES SCICOM Chair.

## 7 Benchmarks and reviews (Doc 07)

ICES presented the recent developments on benchmarks and gave an overview of the proposed new guidelines. The ongoing benchmarks are progressing fine despite a delay for capelin and an extension for the sandeel.

The new guidelines for benchmarks will enter into force in 2024. The aim is to achieve more clarity, a wider applicability to all forms of recurrent advice and give experts groups more responsibility. The three types of processes proposed (expert group, review and full benchmark) were presented to MIRIA. There is a need for regular communication including external communication with advice requesters and stakeholders prior to the benchmark, during and after the benchmark finishes. ACOM leadership asked for suggestions (general and specific) on how to improve external communication.

MIACO asked about the stocks under long term MSE and whether a benchmark is needed before reviewing the MSE and how is the communication flowing in these cases. A member of MIACO stressed that there are international examples of management plans that are independent of the assessment methods. Thus, there are ways to establish management plans that are not reliant on fixed values from assessments. ICES said that this requires further exploration, but commented that yes, management plans can be developed independent of values and reference points in stock assessments.

In response to another question, ICES reported expert groups submit potential stocks to be benchmarked, the benchmark oversight group (BOG) prepares a prioritised proposal and ACOM approves the final list of stocks to be benchmarked the following year.

ICES does not respond to external requests for benchmarks.

MIACO participants appreciated the plan for external communication and asked for its relationship with the recently published stakeholder strategy. ICES responded that the stakeholder strategy is not explicitly listed in the guidelines as they are more overarching by principle but the roles of stakeholder are listed.

MIACO asked about dates for completion for the sandeel benchmark. ICES responded that the aim is to finish by 2023.

The issue with data quality and approach when there is a lot of fluctuation with the data was discussed. ICES informed about the data evaluation workshop during the benchmark to detect issues with the data and other ongoing initiatives. It was raised that for the EU, all issues with data reported to DGMARE by ICES are addressed with Member States. ICES added that for ICES countries that are not EU-members, the reporting mechanism goes through the ACOM member.

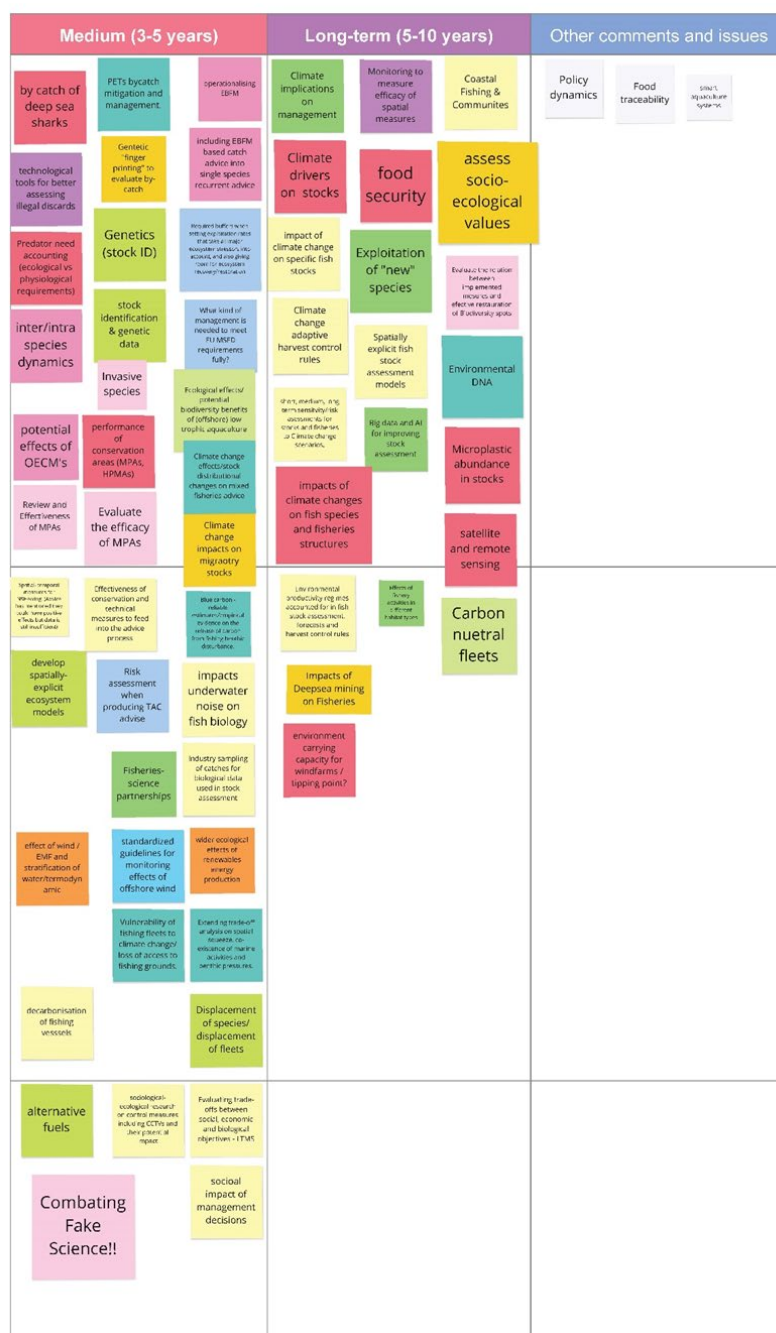
## 8 Emerging science needs

This session scoped for emerging science topics to address possible future advisory needs. The aim was to identify science areas and best ways of supporting their development. There are short-term, medium-term and long-term science development needs. Short-term operational

needs are addressed through the advisory request, propagating through the system. Therefore, this session focused on the medium and long-term needs.

MIACO was asked to think about priorities beforehand and in the meeting, the topics were listed. The aim was to have a list of common and agreed emerging science topics.

Subgroups used an interactive (Miro-board) session was used to draw input from MIACO in relation to wind farms. The resultant board are presented here and circulated on pdf format to participants and will be feed to the ICES Science SG chairs. This is the resulting combined board:



The board can be summarized as described below. There was some overlap between medium and long-term themes identified. If there was overlap, the theme was added to the medium-term needs.

### **Medium-term (3-5 years) themes**

Medium-term themes clustered around the following topics:

- Wider ecosystem considerations including ecosystem services, MSFD indicators and accounting for predator needs
- Operationalizing EBM
- Social-ecological trade-offs
- Spatial considerations including MPAs and OECMs, displacement of fishing fleets, distributional changes, spatially explicit models
- The effect of increase in marine and offshore structures, including renewable energy developments
- Aquaculture including environmental effects
- Climate change effects and how to consider that in advice
- Future survey and monitoring needs including science-industry partnerships, new technologies
- The use of Omics including stock id, observation and monitoring and surveillance (e.g. bycatch identification)
- Bycatch including mitigation and management
- Decarbonisation of fishing fleet
- Using stakeholder knowledge and data

### **Long-term (5-10 years) themes**

Long-term themes clustered around the following topics:

- Food security
- Food safety including emerging contaminants like nano- and microplastic
- Deep-sea mining impacts on fisheries
- New species
- Effect of carbon capture and storage
- Effect of habitat restoration
- The use of big data and artificial intelligence in assessments

## **9 Overviews - are they advice?**

Rather than creating a comprehensive catalogue of everything that is known (about fisheries, ecosystems, aquaculture), the aim of the overviews is to create focused overview products using evidence so they can be of practical use for advice requesters, stakeholders, and managers. The overarching objective of the overviews is to help readers better understand the context of fishing activities, aquaculture and other human pressures, and increase awareness of the potential consequences/ecosystem-wide implications of decisions made at a sectoral level. The ecosystem overviews do not provide information on ecosystem services as yet.

Currently, there are fisheries overviews published for all ICES ecoregions where commercial fishery exists (i.e. not for the Central Arctic Ocean). Revision of fisheries overviews has started in 2022, based on the revised structure. The first revised fisheries overview was published for the Icelandic Waters ecoregion.

Ecosystem overviews have been published for all ecoregions except Faroes (to be published in 2023). Two aquaculture overviews have been published so far, and a third (for the Faroes ecoregion) will be published in 2023. The data profiling tool is being used to document all the data in those revised advice products.

### **Ecosystem overview developments and updates**

The most substantial recent development has been a major advancement in the methodology behind the wire diagram in ecosystem overviews. The three steps are:

1. evaluating what the pressures are, based on the human activities causing those pressures and the state of ecosystems affected by those pressures (i.e. establishing the linkage framework);
2. next is performing a risk assessment for all those linkages from step 1 on both a semi-quantitative and quantitative basis. Categorical scores are assigned during the risk assessment (for the spatial extent, frequency of occurrence, and degree of impact);
3. the last step is the analysis which is creating the wire diagram, by converting categorical scores to numerical scores to evaluate the impact risk score per each linkage chain.

The top risks illustrated in the wire diagrams represent the linkage chains that contribute the most ( $\geq 1\%$ ) to the overall risk score. The five high priority pressures are those with the highest summed impact risk scores per pressure.

This methodology is described in greater detail in the technical guidelines, which were developed in 2020 by WKTRANSPARENT and approved by ACOM. Celtic Seas and Greater North Sea ecosystem overviews have been fully revised based on the new technical guidelines.

Other updates to Ecosystem Overviews include:

- displaying chronology of detections of new non-indigenous species and the introduction pathways responsible,
- adding socio-economic information, by including information on landing value of commercial fish and employment in the fisheries sector,
- providing information on net primary productivity based on the exactly same data source and methodology.

#### **Updates to Fishery Overviews:**

Two major new developments in fisheries overviews relate to bycatch of protected, endangered and threatened species (PETS) and mixed fisheries which have taken much preparatory work over the last year:

1. PETS bycatch: developing standard format to provide quantitative information on annual bycatch records, multiannual bycatch rates and dynamics in fishing effort (included in five fisheries overviews),
2. Mixed fisheries advice considerations: developing new figures and improving text (included in three fisheries overviews).

MIACO asked the questions, will there be an aquaculture overview for the Greater North Sea. ICES said discussion are ongoing and planning is underway, but nothing is agreed as yet.

MIACO asked if there was work on taking the estimation and assessment of bycatch further. ICES answered that discussions were ongoing with the advice requesters. It was also stated that network is overstretched currently, partly due to multiple special requests ICES is currently working on with one single central expert group (WGBYC).

MIACO built on the previous question and asked how individual advice sheets for stocks and ecosystems overviews can be linked. The overviews are the basis of the ecoregion where each of these stocks exist but it is difficult to match management measures caused by fleets with stocks in advice sheets.

## 10 What messaging from ICES helps deliver your objectives?

ICES is an independent international science organization and it has a communications strategy to deliver its objectives. It is though important to work with partners. MIACO was asked when considering own objectives, what elements of ICES work would benefit from further communication and promotion? This agenda item was for feedback from MIACO, and would not commit ICES to adjust its communication strategy.

It was highlighted by several participants that the most important information they get is from the personal presentations of advice made by ICES and ICES was thanked for the attendance in several meetings of MIACO members. A bit more background information on the fishing opportunities advice would be appreciated and there was also a wish to have a clearer picture on the work that lead to a request.

## 11 Mixed Fisheries (Doc 11)

ICES reported on the 2022 changes in the mixed fisheries advice. The mixed fish considerations were released earlier in 2022 (the 10<sup>th</sup> of November).

In 2022, plots were updated in the fisheries considerations to improve readability. Each stock is represented by a plot with two zones now, separated by the TAC line. The x-axis shows different scenarios. There are at least three scenarios per plot: Maximum, Minimum and Status quo effort. Additional scenarios are selected for each case study when relevant. Bars in the green area means that the catch of the stock has not been reached while bars ending in the red area means that an overshoot of the catch advice happened.

Strong interactions between species are noticeable in these plots; for example, the impact of most limiting stock is clear in the catch of other stocks in some areas. However, in other cases, there are apparent interactions that are an artefact of the data and modelling approach, for example, between stocks like for instance cod and Nephrops in the Celtic Sea (presentation 11 Mixed Fisheries).

New plots were introduced in the Fisheries Overviews with variation in effort per fleet derived from the catch advice of each stock. The most restrictive stocks are those with the highest decrease in effort while the non-restricted stocks show the biggest increase in effort.

Next developments on the mixed fisheries consideration will be initiated by a scoping workshop on next generation of mixed fisheries advice (WKMIXFISH2). The objective of this workshop is to increase the added value of the mixed fisheries considerations, identify knowledge gaps and discuss the validity of the assumptions made.

MIACO was asked to take note of the upcoming WKMIXFISH2, which will be targeted at the needs for managers and decision makers. The changes operated in 2022 were welcomed by MIACO as well as the scoping workshop on next generation of mixed fisheries advice.

MIACO welcome the improvement and recognized that mixed fisheries is a difficult subject because of the constant evolution of fishing patterns. A generalised approach is not representative enough to take local specificities into account, which has an impact on the conclusion drawn in the advice products. ICES recognized the limitation of the approach, partially due to data availability. WKMIXFISH2 as well as a contribution of a European project about the robustness of the assumptions will help improving the current approach.

The mixed fisheries advice will be welcomed in the Baltic Sea Ecoregion as it is more dynamic and better suited to adaptive management. A challenge remains with regards to availability of experts and data. MIACO appeals to ICES and the EU Commission to resolve this issue.

## 12 Providing advice in 2023

### 12.1 ICES Advisory Work-plan 2023

The meeting was updated with information on the work-plan for ICES advice and relevant science initiatives in 2023. MIRIA was invited to comment on the plan including the timing for release of recurrent advice.

ICES explained how the advisory workplan is scheduled based on Expert Group meeting dates and Advice Requester deadlines with the Advice Drafting Group and ACOM Meeting to finalize the advice to be fitted in between. Information on how the workplan can be accessed through different links on the ICES website and SharePoint sites was presented.

There were no comments made on the 2023 timing proposed for recurrent advice.

### 12.2 Benchmark procedure (Doc 12b)

ICES gave an overview of the benchmark prioritization procedure and noted that they are subject to change as they are still pending ACOM approval.

In discussion, MIRIA asked whether management considerations are considered for the benchmark prioritization. ICES informed that benchmark selection is not driven by management considerations. However, this relates to MSE as an agreed management plan shows the importance of a given stock. The more attributes the higher it scores.

## 13 Wrap up and close

The ACOM chair provided a short summary of the main points discussed during MIRIA and thanked all participants, representatives of ACOM and as well the ICES Secretariat for a very successful meeting.

## 14 List of action points

4.1 ICES to add agenda item to the ACOM meeting, to scope the inclusion of a tag to all ICES advice that uses TAF.

5.1: Further development of terms of reference on workshop on perspectives of advice.

6.1 The ACs to send information from earlier submissions on offshore renewables energy to ICES SCICOM Chair.

## Annex 1: List of participants

Full Name	E-mail address	Country
Alan Haynie	alan.haynie@ices.dk	Denmark
Alexandra Philippe	alexandra.philippe@ebcd.org	Belgium
Alexandre Rodríguez	alexandre.rodriguez@ldac.eu	Spain
Anne-Marie Kats	a.kats@pelagic-ac.org	Netherlands
Ashley Wilson	awilson@pewtrusts.org	UK
Beatrice Rindevall	beatrice.rindevall@balticwaters2030.org	Sweden
Celine Byrne	celine.byrne@ices.dk	Denmark
Chloé Pocheau	cpocheau@cc-sud.eu	France
Christian Tsangarides	bans@lifeplatform.eu	Sweden
Cristina Morgado	cristina.morgado@efca.europa.eu	Spain
Dale Rodmell	Dale Rodmell	UK
Daniela Costa	dcosta@ccrup.eu	Portugal
Dorleta Garcia	dorleta.garcia@ices.dk	Denmark
Elena Balestri	e.balestri@sff.co.uk	Scotland
Elspeth Macdonald	e.macdonald@sff.co.uk	UK
Emiel Brouckaert	emiel.brouckaert@rederscentrale.be	Belgium
Eugene Nixon	eugene.nixon@ices.dk	Denmark
Ewa Milewska	em@bsac.dk	Poland
Fabiana M. Nogueira	fnogueira@ccrup.eu	Portugal
Gonçalo Carvalho	gcarvalho@sciaena.org	Portugal
Gualberto Rita	gcrita@federacaopesacascores.pt	Portugal
Guillaume Carruel	gc@bsac.dk	Denmark
Helle Christensen	helle.christensen@msc.org	Denmark
Henn Ojaveer	Henn.ojaveer@ices.dk	Denmark
Ian Gatt	ian.gatt@scottishpelagic.co.uk	UK
Jacopo Pasquero	jacopo.pasquero@ebcd.org	Belgium
James Hinchcliffe	jh@maring.org	Denmark
Jane Sandell	Jane@ukfisheries.net	UK
Jarek Zielinski	fpaski@me.com	Poland
Jean-Christophe Vandeveld	jvandevelde@pewtrusts.org	France
Joshua N. Boampong	joshua.n.boampong@uit.no	Norway
Katarzyna Stepanowska	greyseal@o2.pl	Poland
Kenn Skau Fischer	kfsf@dkfisk.dk	EU
Kenneth Patterson	kenneth.patterson@ec.europa.eu	EU
Krzysztof Stanuch	baltic@balticnet.pl	Poland
Leony Malthaner	Leony.MALTHANER@ec.europa.eu	Belgium
Linda Planthof	l.planthof@noordzee.nl	Netherlands
Lise Laustsen	ll@pelagisk.dk	Denmark
Lotte W. Clausen	lotte.worsoe.clausen@ices.dk	Denmark
Mark Dickey-Collas (Chair)	mark.dickey-collas@ices.dk	International
Matilde Vallerani	matilde.vallerani@gmail.com	Ireland
Michala Ovens	michala@ices.dk	Denmark

Full Name	E-mail address	Country
Mo Mathies	mo.mathies@nwwac.ie	Ireland
Neil Holdsworth	neilh@ices.dk	Denmark
Nicolas L. Blanc	nblanc@sciaena.org	Portugal
Noa Steiner	nsteiner@ae.uni-kiel.de	Germany
Oana Surdu	oana.surdu@ec.europa.eu	Belgium
Paul THOMAS	paul.thomas@eapo.com	Belgium
Paulina Ramirez-Monsalve	pauli.ramirez.monsalve@gmail.com	Denmark
Pedro E. dos Reis Santos	secretary@marketac.eu	Belgium
Rachel Kouassi Zessia	rachel.kouassi.zessia@ices.dk	Denmark
Rui Catarino	rui.catarino@ices.dk	Denmark
Ruth Fernandez	Ruth.Fernandez@ices.dk	Denmark
Sean O'Donoghue	sean@kfo.ie	Ireland
Stella Nemecky	stella.nemecky@wwf.de	Germany
Steven Mackinson	steve.mackinson@scottishpelagic.co.uk	UK
Terhi Minkkinen	terhi@ices.dk	Denmark
Viesturs Ulis	zv.flote@et.lv	Latvia

## Annex 2: Draft Agenda

**1) Welcome and opening of the meeting.**

*Introductions, followed by code of ethics and professional conduct.*

<https://doi.org/10.17895/ices.pub.21647825>.

*Covid guidelines (doc 01b)*

**2) Adoption of agenda (Doc 02a).**

*Suggested dates for MIACO 2024 – 11-12 January 2024.*

*Minutes of MIACO 2022 in Doc 2b*

**3) Review of 2022 (Doc 03)**

*An overview of the advice process and the advice provided in 2022 is given in document 03.*

*MIACO is invited to review the advisory process in 2022 and to discuss any issues and concerns arose since the 2022 MIACO meeting. This will be done through round table contributions from each organization represented, and observers.*

**4) ICES and Quality Control**

**a) General quality control of data (Doc 03)**

*Progress and activities and development will be explained to MIACO. This will include accreditation, TAF, RDBES, and quality control.*

*MIACO is invited to comment.*

**b) The data profiling tool (Doc 4b)**

*The rationale and use of the data profiling tool will be explained to MIACO. The data profiling tool checks and charts the ownership, veracity and accessibility of data use in ICES advice from outside sources.*

*MIACO is invited to comment.*

**5) Evolving Advice**

**a) Advice on conservation aspects**

*The additional advice on conservation aspects will be explained to MIACO, with the associated guidelines <https://doi.org/10.17895/ices.advice.21435987>. Advice on conservation aspects has already been used for the 2022 advice on European eel <https://doi.org/10.17895/ices.advice.19772374>. MIACO is invited to comment.*

**b) Stakeholder perspectives and engagement strategy (Doc 05b)**

*MIACO is thanked for its input into the stakeholder engagement strategy. The strategy is launched this week (<https://doi.org/10.17895/ices.pub.21815106>). The implementation plan is being developed.*

*There will also be a report back and proposed actions from the subgroup that met in November 2022 on stakeholder perspectives of the advice and stakeholder information.*

*MIACO is invited to comment.*

**c) Update on reference points and rebuilding plans (Doc 05c)**

*MIACO will be briefed on the ongoing process on reference points.*

*MIACO is invited to comment.*

**6) Renewable energy opportunities and challenges (Doc 06)**

*MIACO will take part in a 'mental modeller' exercise to build a conceptual model of the challenges faced by managers with the expansion of marine renewable energy facilities.*

**7) Benchmarks and reviews (Doc 07)**

*Recent developments on benchmarks will be presented to MIACO, including the recent guidelines on benchmarks.*

*MIACO is invited to comment and reflect on the strengths and weaknesses of the current approach.*

**8) Emerging science needs**

*Presentation of emerging science areas within ICES by the SCICOM Chair.*

*This session will scope for emerging science topics to address possible future advisory needs from you. The aim is to identify science areas and best ways of supporting their development. There are short-term, medium-term and long-term science development needs. Short-term operational needs are addressed through the advisory request, propagating through the system. Therefore, this session will focus on the medium and long-term needs.*

*MIACO is asked to think about priorities beforehand and in the meeting, we will list the topics and themes from participants and then break into subgroups to prioritize the topics identified. The aim is to have a list of common and agreed emerging science topics.*

**9) Overviews- are they advice? (Doc 09)**

*The ecosystem, fisheries and aquaculture overviews are increasingly incorporating more quantitative analysis to strengthen the advice, such as bycatch of protected, endangered and threatened species in fisheries overviews and aquaculture production information in aquaculture overviews. A presentation will highlight these changes to MIACO.*

*MIACO is invited to comment.*

**10) What messaging from ICES helps deliver your objectives?**

*ICES is independent and it has a communications strategy to deliver our objectives. It is though important to work with partners. So when considering your objectives, what elements of ICES work do you think would benefit from further communication and promotion? This agenda item is for feedback from MIACO, and doesn't commit ICES to adjust its communication strategy.*

*MIACO is invited to comment.*

**11) Mixed Fisheries (Doc 11)**

*The style and communication of mixed fisheries advice changed in 2022. The changes will be highlighted to MIACO.*

*Also MIACO will be asked to note a planned workshop in 2023 on mixed fisheries, which will be targeted at the needs for managers and decision makers.*

*MIACO is invited to comment.*

**12) Providing advice in 2023****a) ICES Advisory Work-plan 2023**

*The meeting will be updated with information on the Work-plan for ICES advice and relevant science initiatives in 2023.*

*MIACO is invited to comment on the presented plan including the timing for release of recurrent advice.*

**b) Benchmark procedure (Doc 12b)**

*The meeting will be reminded of the current procedure for prioritizing benchmarks and the ACOM review of benchmarks.*

*MIACO is invited to comment.*

**13) Wrap up and close**

## Annex 3: List of documents

Doc 01a	MIACO 2023 Draft agenda
Doc 01b	COVID Working guidelines
Doc 02b	MIACO minutes 2022
Doc 03	Advice activities 2022
Doc 04b	Data Profiling tool
Doc 05b	Report of MIACO subgroup on the Information from Stakeholders
Doc 05c	References points and rebuilding plans
Doc 06	MIACO 2023 Renewable energy
Doc 07	Benchmarks and Reviews
Doc 09	Overviews
Doc 12	Mixed fisheries
Doc 12.b	Benchmark procedure
Doc	EU letter to all ACs on meeting org 3-6-22