



CONSEIL CONSULTATIF POUR
LES EAUX OCCIDENTALES
SEPTENTRIONALES

NORTH WESTERN
WATERS
ADVISORY COUNCIL

CONSEJO CONSULTIVO PARA
LAS AGUAS
NOROCCIDENTALES

MINUTES

WORKING GROUP 1 (WEST OF SCOTLAND)

The Main Conference Centre – Dublin Castle

Thursday 13th September 2018

13:30 – 15:00

1. Welcome and Introduction

The Chair Mike Park opened the meeting and welcomed the participants.

Apologies were received from Javier Lopez (Oceana) and Alex Kinninmonth (RSPB). The agenda was adopted as drafted.

The Secretariat updated the meeting on the action points from the last meeting in July (3rd July 2018):

1. The working Group will draft advice for the COM on setting the fishing opportunities for 2019 based on the ICES advice

The WG had discussed the ICES advice for the relevant stocks at the meetings in Ghent. The Secretariat drafted the advice based on these discussions. Before sending the draft advice to the General Assembly, the chairs of the WG provided their comments. ExCom received the latest version for final approval in advance of the meeting tomorrow (13th September).

2. Focus Group on Cod Management Plan will be organized, chaired by Ms Irene Kingma

This will be further discussed under agenda item 3.

3. The AC to contact ICES in relation to the questionable population structure used in assessments on cod

This was raised at the MIACO meeting on 19th January 2018 and the project proposal on the genetic identification of cod populations in area 6.a was sent to the ICES Stock Identification Methods Working Group (SIMWG) for evaluation, after approval of the authors. The finding of the ICES WG will be available [online](#). The main findings were that:

The proposal is well developed, with a strong problem statement, a concise but relatively comprehensive literature review, clearly stated objectives, a technically sound approach, a well-qualified team of scientists, and a promising partnership with the fishing industry.



4. The Secretariat to distribute the project proposal on the genetic population identification of cod forwarded by Mr O'Donoghue

The proposal was distributed and will be discussed under agenda item 3.

2. Input on the draft advice 'Addressing Choke Risk in NWW after exemptions' for relevant WG1 stocks

Mr Rihan (BIM) presented an overview of the draft advice for the relevant stocks of WG1.

Members were informed that the web meeting to finalise the draft will most likely take place on 24th September.

Specific issues that were raised that need solutions were:

- The zero quota stocks for specific MS
- The zero TAC for two deep sea stocks
- The pelagic bycatches in demersal fisheries. In the updated Joint Recommendation the combined *de minimis* exemptions for pelagic species was replaced by two single species de minimis exemptions. As a result there are no solutions for boarfish, herring and argentine

ACTION: Members are invited to send their input on the draft advice on the LO to the Secretariat in advance of the web meeting (24th September)

3. Presentations on Atlantic Cod (*Gadus morhua*)

Dr Farrell presented the project proposal on the genetic stock identification of cod in ICES division 6.a. Dr Macdonald presented on alternative assessment method developed by Dr Cook for cod in ICES division 6.a. Both presentations are available on the [website](#). These presentations will form the basis of the Terms of Reference for the Focus Group.

Dr Farrell further stressed that the sampling strategy should be developed as soon as possible to prepare for the upcoming spawning season. This could be discussed in more detail at the Focus Group with different scientific experts and stakeholders.

On funding options, the COM suggested to write a letter to apply for EASME project funding¹. These funding schemes are open for tender, but are aimed for small-scale projects.

Members were invited to confirm their participation in the FG. The chair will develop the Terms of References and an invitation will be send to the COM and NWW MSG.

ACTION: Members to confirm with the Secretariat if they want to participate in the Focus Group on cod.

¹ More information on Calls for tenders and EASME funding opportunities are available on the COM website [link](#)



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4. Summary of actions agreed and decisions adopted by the Chair

1	Members are invited to send their input on the draft advice on the LO to the Secretariat in advance of the web meeting (24 th September)
2	Members to confirm with the Secretariat if they want to participate in the Focus Group on cod.



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Annex 1 – List of Participants

NWWAC members	
Mike Park	The Scottish White Fish Producers Association Ltd. (1)
Gérald Hussenot Desenonges	Blue Fish
Jean Christophe Vandelveide	The PEW Charitable Trusts
Thierry Kerzerho	Comité Local des Pêches Maritimes et des Élevages Marins (CLDPMEM) de Bayonne
Caroline Gamblin	Comité National des Pêches Maritimes et des Élevages Marins (CNPMEM)
Delphine Roncin	Comité Régional des Pêches Maritimes et des Élevages Marins (CRPMEM) Hauts de France
Jérôme Jourdain	Union des armateurs de la pêche en France (UAPF)
Olivier LeNezet	Comité Départemental des Pêche Maritimes et des Elevages Marins du Morbihan (CDPMEM 56)
Patrick Murphy	Irish South and West Fish Producers' Organisation
Norah Parke	Killybegs Fishermen's Organisation
Irene Kingma	Dutch Elasmobranch Society
Barrie Deas	National Federation of Fishermen's Organisation (UK)
Paul MacDonald	Scottish Fishermen's Organisation
Kenny Coull	The Scottish White Fish Producers Association Ltd. (2)
Francis O'Donnell	Irish Fish Producers' Organisation (IFPO)
Kevin McDonnell	West of Scotland Fish Producers' Organisation
Observers	
Jonathan Shrives	European Commission
Edward Farrell	UCD
Secretariat	
Michael Keatinge	Executive Secretary NWWAC
Dominic Rihan	BIM
Sara Vandamme	Deputy Executive Secretary NWWAC
Monica Negoita	Executive Assistant (Finance and Administration) NWWAC