

EC Consultation

Western Waters Multi-Annual Plan

NWWAC response drafting points

Item 2, Drafting Group WWMAP
Dublin, 17 September 2015



CONSEIL CONSULTATIF POUR
LES EAUX OCCIDENTALES
SEPTENTRIONALES

**NORTH WESTERN
WATERS**
ADVISORY COUNCIL

CONSEJO CONSULTIVO PARA
LAS AGUAS
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EC Consultation

- General Consultation
 - 8 Questions
 - Discussion papers drafted
 - Deadline NWWAC response 12 October
- More specific Consultation to follow

Problem description

- Fisheries management has not resulted in (economic) sustainable fisheries – current management plans do not allow the use of new CFP tools
 - regional decision-making,
 - management measures adapted to regional circumstances,
 - flexibility to change management measures to new circumstances.
- Agree with the perception?

1) Perception of problems

Agree with the perception?

- Single stock management has not reached CFP goals
- New measures are needed
 - Mixed fisheries approach
 - Ecosystem Based Management
 - Simple and flexible measures
 - Safeguards for the fishing business

2) How important is the problem?

Very severe – Insignificant

- Observations

3) Agree on the need for EU action?

- Conservation of marine biological resources is the EU competence
- Regionalisation and AC input is important

4) Multi-annual or annual approach?

A multi-annual, proactive approach or an annual, reactive one?

- Multi-annual
- Annual decision making has not delivered the desired results and produces insufficient economic, environmental or social sustainability

5) Aim of Multi-annual approach

Transparent and stable framework to achieve MSY, avoiding stock decline and taking into account the interactions between fish stocks and the diverse fishing modalities and the economic and social consequences of management measures.

Legal framework for the long-term implementation of the landing obligation and the regional approach to fisheries management.

- Agree with that aim?

6) Framework for main species?

Do you agree it is appropriate to establish a framework for managing the main species coherently within a multi-annual management plan?

- Start simple, few stocks
 - e.g. economically important demersal species
- Imperative to build the plan incrementally to incorporate more species and broader ecological considerations

7) Which species should be included?

Start with:

- Economically important demersal species

Then expand with:

- Deep-water TAC species
- Pelagic TAC species
- Elasmobranchs including porbeagle, skates & rays, and dogfish
- Non-TAC species, including sardine, seabass, lemon sole

8) General comments (I)

- Regional approach is important
- MSY targets must be pursued for all target stocks
- Plans must achieve the right balance between biological, economic and social criteria
- Where targets are incompatible, alternative management measures should be considered
- Closure of fisheries due to the poor status of minor or by-catch species is undesirable
- Plans must ensure appropriate social, economic and environmental safeguards are put in place

8) General comments (II)

- Strong knowledge base built on sufficient scientific data is key to the success of the plans
- Socio-economic STECF advice is needed
- Frequent review and revision are necessary
- The AC needs to be involved to ensure stakeholder buy-in

NWWAC Consultation response

- Text based on discussion today
- Any written comments to Secretariat before 18 September
- Translated versions ready beginning of October
- Deadline for agreed paper 12 October