



DRAFT MINUTES

FG Climate & Environment

29 November 2021

Participants

Salomé Khatib	CNPMEM
John Lynch	Irish South & East FPO
Norah Parke	Killybegs Fishermen's Organisation
Alexandra Philippe	EBCD
Jasmine Vlietinck	Rederscentrale
Johnny Woodlock	Irish Seal Sanctuary
Mo Mathies	NWWAC Secretariat
Matilde Vallerani	NWWAC Secretariat

Welcome

The Secretariat welcomed all participants. Apologies were received in advance of the meeting from the Chair Jacopo Pasquero (EBCD) and from Guillaume Carruel (CNPMEM).

Draft NWWAC response on the Action Plan

A discussion followed on the draft response developed by the Focus Group.

Salomé Khatib informed the members that the CNPMEM is not responding to this consultation along the lines of the questionnaire but that a separate document is being prepared for submission to the Commission. The Secretariat agreed that the current format is very difficult for the AC to respond to and that members may wish to decide to develop a response in the more traditional AC advice format. Alexandra Philippe agreed that this may more within the scope of the AC.

The Secretariat recalled that both Bord Iascaigh Mhara and the Marine Institute have been approached for supporting information. However, this may also feed better into a traditional response format from the NWWAC.

The Secretariat informed members of the ICES technical advice regarding the impact of bottom trawling: <https://www.ices.dk/sites/pub/Publication%20Reports/Forms/DispForm.aspx?ID=37785>

Members agreed that while this advice is interesting from a theoretical point of view, but that it did not include fishing patterns from the small scale fleet and thus any recommendations made must be reviewed carefully. Any decision made must be based solidly on scientific evidence, i.e. decisions to exclude trawling from an area must be based on full scientific assessments taking economic evaluations into account.



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Khatib identified that other anthropogenic activities are not generally considered within this consultation as fisheries seems to have been singled out as the only impact on the ecosystem and provided the following reference <https://halieutique.agrocampus-ouest.fr/files/fichiers/pdf/696.pdf>. Members agreed that this could be included as an overall comment regarding the whole consultation.

Norah Parke enquired what the meaning was of “spatial-temporal closures” referred to in the previous NWWAC advice on cetaceans bycatch. The Secretariat agreed to expand the proposed text to ensure clarity, insert a quote and provide the link to the advice.

Next steps

The Secretariat will review the information provided in today’s meeting and update the draft response accordingly and circulate to members for comment. Contributions from Bord Iascaigh Mhara are expected this week. The Secretariat will follow up with the Marine Institute regarding potential contributions to the NWWAC advice. Further development of the response will take place in written consultation.

Comments are invited until 06 December.

Deadline for submission to the Commission on 20 December.

The draft response will be submitted to the Horizontal working Group on 10 December. ExCom members will be invited to participate in the HWG review in order to shorten the approvals process and enabling a fast track procedure in the ExCom.