



CONSEIL CONSULTATIF POUR
LES EAUX OCCIDENTALES
SEPTENTRIONALES

NORTH WESTERN
WATERS
ADVISORY COUNCIL

CONSEJO CONSULTIVO PARA
LAS AGUAS
NOROCCIDENTALES

DRAFT MINUTES

FOCUS GROUP CLIMATE & ENVIRONMENT

Virtual meeting via Teams

Thursday 28 January 2021

10:00 – 11:00 CET

1. Welcome and introductions

The Chair, Jacopo Pasquero, welcomed the participants to the meeting. The agenda was approved as drafted. No apologies received.

Action point from last meeting (20 October 2020):

1	Jerome to come back to the group with a summary on this study. The Secretariat will ask the NSAC as well for more information.
2	Jerome to contact Sombee project to invite for participation, Mo to forward introductory email to Jerome.
3	Mo to contact Michel Kaiser again and cc Jacopo and Despina.
4	Secretariat to set another meeting next week on Ocean Energy.
5	Secretariat to contact other ACs to see if they are responding and if a joint advice on the Roadmap Initiative “Maritime sector – a green post-COVID future” would be suitable.

Action points 1 to 4 were related to the preparation of the workshop in November and are now closed.

Action point 5 was fulfilled as well, since a multi-AC advice drafting group was established and it produced an advice on the Roadmap, which is available on the NWWAC website.

2. Planning the work ahead

- Follow up of Climate Workshop (26 November 2020)

The Secretariat has prepared a report on the workshop, which has been distributed to the experts for their inputs/comments on the text. Once ready, the report will be published on the NWWAC website and the Secretariat will inform the media with a press release.

The information acquainted at the workshop should be used to feed an advice from the NWWAC on climate change and fisheries.

The Commission has launched a public consultation on the evaluation EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020 with deadline on 5 April. Lessons learnt from the policy period 2011-2020 will be considered in the implementation of the EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030. Since the Commission is still looking for input



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on how to improve the design and delivery of key actions in the Strategy, the NWWAC could prepare an advice separately from this consultation but within the same timeframe. This advice would have to be addressed to DG MARE, but the cover letter accompanying it could suggest that it is also passed on to the attention of other relevant colleagues in DG CLIMA and DG ENVI.

ACTION: Secretariat to draft the Terms of Reference of the advice and distribute those to members for comments, together with the report from the workshop.

A next meeting will be organised in the week 8-12 February during which the Terms of Reference will be approved. Members will also be able to discuss the main outcomes of the workshop and start the drafting of the advice.

April 5 should not be considered a hard deadline for the delivery of the advice, but rather an indication. Before that, other meetings might be organised but agreement and work via written procedure will also be possible in order to maximise the efficiency of the process.

ACTION: Secretariat to send a doodle for establishing the date of the next meeting in the second week of February.

- Liaison with PelAC Ecosystem Focus Group

As reported by Jacopo, the impact of climate change on fisheries is an important topic for the PelAC Ecosystem Focus Group, which in its last meeting highlighted that the relevance of including climate change considerations in pelagic fisheries management should be investigated. The Group is not aiming at preparing an advice, but is looking into having a workshop with presentations of related projects to foster discussion among members and then see how to proceed.

Members agreed that once the Terms of Reference for the advice are ready, the Secretariat will get in touch with the PelAC and see if they would be interested in actively participating in the drafting of the advice. Terms of Reference should be very tight and specific to ensure that PelAC participants actively engage in the task.

- Evaluation of the EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020 ([link](#))

The public consultation is looking at three main points: the evaluation of the EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020, invasive alien species and the nature restoration targets under EU biodiversity strategy. Since the questionnaire is very specific and does not have a lot of space for elaborating answers, it would be necessary to first have a closer look and consider how much relevance a response from the NWWAC could have.

ACTION: Jacopo and Matilde to examine the questionnaire of the consultation on the EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020 and report back to the group at the next meeting.

Since the CNPMEM will also reply to the questionnaire, Lucile will also have a clearer point of view on this at the next Focus Group meeting.



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

1	Secretariat to draft the Terms of Reference of the advice and distribute those to members for comments, together with the report from the workshop.
2	Secretariat to send a doodle for establishing the date of the next meeting in the second week of February.
3	Jacopo and Matilde to examine the questionnaire of the consultation on the EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020 and report back to the group at the next meeting.

4. Participants list

Name	Organisation
Jacopo Pasquero	EBCD
Lucile Toulhoat	CNPMEM
Jasmine Vlietinck	Rederscentrale
Matilde Vallerani	Secretariat
Mo Mathies	Secretariat