



CONSEIL CONSULTATIF POUR  
LES EAUX OCCIDENTALES  
SEPTENTRIONALES

NORTH WESTERN  
WATERS  
ADVISORY COUNCIL

CONSEJO CONSULTIVO PARA  
LAS AGUAS  
NOROCCIDENTALES

## DRAFT MINUTES

### Focus Group Control & Compliance

#### Virtual meeting

Thursday 20 July 2023, 10:00 - 11:00 CET

#### 1. Welcome and introductions

Matilde Vallerani, NWWAC Secretariat, welcomed all participants to the meeting. Apologies were received from Arthur Yon and Seamus Bonner in advance of the meeting. The agenda was adopted as drafted.

Action points from the last meeting included:

1	Secretariat to draft letter to EFCA on full disclosure of the report on evaluation of compliance with the LO in the NWW. <a href="#">Sent on 19 June, pending response</a>
2	Secretariat to invite EFCA to attend the July meeting of the Horizontal Working Group and do a presentation on the joint deployment plans and on the role of EFCA to ensure control regulations are applied consistently across MS. <a href="#">EFCA was not available to join in July. Action point from the HWG to send a letter to arrange this bilateral workshop at the beginning of October and address all issues of relevance</a>
3	Secretariat to reach out to OIG representatives, especially EBCD, regarding joining this Focus Group. <a href="#">Alexandra Philippe joined the group. Franck Le Barzic is also another new member.</a>
4	Subject to the approval of the ToR, the Secretariat will invite EFCA and the NWW Control Expert Group to become party of the Focus Group. <a href="#">In progress – to be done once we get a meeting</a>
5	The Secretariat will review all letters and advice sent to the NWW MS Group and to the Commission, identify pending requests and send reminders to advice recipients. <a href="#">Main topics are:</a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <a href="#">Definition of directed fisheries – mentioned in list for new presidency of MSG</a></li><li>- <a href="#">Article 27 of TMR – to be addressed in meeting with EFCA</a></li></ul>
6	Secretariat to get in touch with Dominic Rihan asking for reports/case studies done on technical measures and the landing obligation. <a href="#">Dominic pointed at the Discardless project, the Chair suggested to ask more specific information to Ronan Cosgrove</a>

Referring to action point 4, Sean O'Donoghue pointed out that it would be important to have DG MARE Control Unit attending the FG's next meetings to discuss and clarify the interpretation of the



CONSEIL CONSULTATIF POUR  
LES EAUX OCCIDENTALES  
SEPTENTRIONALES

NORTH WESTERN  
WATERS  
ADVISORY COUNCIL

CONSEJO CONSULTIVO PARA  
LAS AGUAS  
NOROCCIDENTALES

new regulation. Commission control unit – contact them as soon as the document is finalised, should be asking to attend this WG particularly on interpretation on different criteria in the new regulation.

**ACTION:** The Secretariat will invite DG MARE Unit D4 to next meetings once the text of the regulation is finalised.

Members agreed that it is also important to continue pursuing a meeting with EFCA. The Secretariat will keep the Group update on how the letter to EFCA's Director Susan Steel will progress. In this regard, O'Donoghue felt it was important to note that on the first day of NWWAC July meetings, the Market Advisory Council was having an ExCom meeting with Steele attending and giving a presentation on EFCA's work.

## 2. Organisation of FG work to address the new regulation

The Chair asked the Group for input on how to address the new regulation and prepare advice.

O'Donoghue mentioned that 70% of the control rules have changed with the revised legislation. In his opinion, it would be important to do a correlation exercise, comparing the different articles from the old and the new regulation. DG MARE and the MS administration have probably already done it. He felt that implementing and delegated acts stemming from this piece of legislation will also have big impacts and the FG should focus on this.

**ACTION:** The Secretariat will ask the Commission and the MS for document on correlation between new and old control regulation.

Matilde Vallerani asked whether members felt it would be useful to look back at NWWAC 2018 advice and see what has been taken into account in the revised control regulation, though it would require quite an effort.

Alexandra Philippe felt that the approach proposed by O'Donoghue, i.e. focus on implementation of the new regulation, should be the priority.

Sander Meyns replied that it would be a worthwhile exercise to see how the advice was taken into account, but recognised it is time-consuming.

O'Donoghue proposed that, once the final regulation is out and the FG identifies the key articles and topics to focus on, it could be useful to look back at previous advice as a starting point if still relevant.

## 3. Preliminary members' comments on revised control regulation

Vallerani shared on the screen a list of the main points included in the new regulation.

Aodh O'Donnel referred to the margin of tolerance applied to the total volume, asking whether it is to be applied per catch or per species.



CONSEIL CONSULTATIF POUR  
LES EAUX OCCIDENTALES  
SEPTENTRIONALES

NORTH WESTERN  
WATERS  
ADVISORY COUNCIL

CONSEJO CONSULTIVO PARA  
LAS AGUAS  
NOROCCIDENTALES

According to O'Donoghue's understanding, only ports outside of the designated ports will still be done on a species by species basis. The designated ports will have to be listed and published by the Commission, but from an Irish point of view it is likely that all current designated will be there.

The Chair proposed to request the Commission to clarify this.

O'Donoghue proposed to delay this until the final text is available and the Commission is invited to a FG meeting.

Philippe clarified that the draft text was agreed in the PECH Committee on 27 July. Legal services are now working on it. The draft agreement will have to be approved by the full House in one of the plenary sessions in Strasbourg after the summer recess.

Franck Le Barzic referred to the control engine item on Danish seine and he felt that it was more a North Sea issue, not an element for the NWWAC.

Meyns reported that for Rederscentrale the topic of cameras on board and CCTV introduction is very important, especially in relation those fisheries that the Commission sees with a high risk of non-compliance with the landing obligation. Another important aspect is the weighing on board or in the port, as it is not clear whether workable exceptions to the weighing obligations on landing will remain possible.

The Chair agreed that it is important to understand which vessels will have to get cameras on board and what the criteria for evaluating high risk will be. This is also a matter to discuss with EFCA.

Philippe added that cameras seem to be obligatory in case of high risk of non-compliance with the landing obligation, but the Commission also opens the possibility for Member State to use cameras to control non-compliance with CFP rules. This seems vague and needs to be clarified.

**ACTION:** The Secretariat will take note of the items requiring clarification from COM and/or EFCA for discussion at upcoming meetings.

#### 4. Next steps and action points

The Focus Group agreed to have the next meeting in September. The Secretariat will be in touch after the summer holidays to set up a date, also depending on developments with the final text of the regulation.

Action points from the meeting included:

1	The Secretariat will invite DG MARE Unit D4 to next meetings once the text of the regulation is finalised.
---	--



CONSEIL CONSULTATIF POUR  
LES EAUX OCCIDENTALES  
SEPTENTRIONALES

NORTH WESTERN  
WATERS  
ADVISORY COUNCIL

CONSEJO CONSULTIVO PARA  
LAS AGUAS  
NOROCCIDENTALES

2	The Secretariat will ask the Commission and the MS for document on correlation between new and old control regulation.
3	The Secretariat will take note of the items requiring clarification from COM and/or EFCA for discussion at upcoming meetings.

The Chair thanked all participants for engaging and closed the meeting.

## 5. Participants

Name	Organisation
Brendan Byrne	AIPCE CEP
Enda Conneely	Irish Islands Marine Resource Organisation
Franck Le Barzic	Cobrenord
John Lynch	IS&EFPO
Sander Meyns	Rederscentrale
Anais Mourtada	CNPMEM
Patrick Murphy	IS&WFPO
Aodh O'Donnell	IFPO
Sean O'Donoghue	KFO
Alexandra Philippe	EBCD
Irene Prieto	ARVI
Matilde Vallerani	NWWAC Secretariat