

DRAFT MINUTES

Joint NWWAC/NSAC Focus Group Social Aspects

Virtual meeting via Zoom

05 September 2022

1. Welcome and introductions

Mo Mathies (NWWAC Secretariat) welcomed participants to the meeting. Apologies were received from the Chair, Bruno Dachicourt (ETF), as well as from Kenn Skau Fischer (DKFisk) and Tamara Talevska (NSAC Secretariat), in advance of the meeting. In the Chair's absence, Mathies took over the chairing of the meeting following prior agreement with the Vice-Chair.

The agenda was adopted as drafted. Minutes from the last meeting were approved.

2. Draft advice document – review and discussion

Mathies shared the document on screen and asked members if they had any further comments.

David Curtis felt it was quite difficult to comment on the advice until the Terms of Reference were agreed, and in particular the role of recreational fisheries in this Focus Group's work.

Peter Breckling commented that the social dimension of the CFP should be considered as one of the pillars of sustainability and could also cover the role of fisheries for society as a source of food and role in food security in the EU. He felt that this new dimension of sustainability was becoming more and more important, and that food security was important for social stability in the EU. He stated that there was a need to care for the competitiveness and economic sustainability of the sector. He was uncertain if this should be included in the draft advice that was under discussion but felt that it should definitely be discussed in this group. He added that in the recommendations emphasis was needed regarding the often repeated point on improving statistics of evaluations and accidents and increase efforts to get clear data on best practice examples in EU.

Norah Parke voiced her support for Breckling's intervention.

Mathies encouraged Breckling to suggest text and wording, links and information. Breckling asked if members would accept work in this direction.

Mathies stated that social aspects cover a broad range of topics, and that the ToR need to be more specific. The group is likely to have to make more submissions on various topics. The objective for this specific advice was to narrow it down and focus on information provided during previous meetings as well as the documents identified in the draft paper, including the opinion of the European Economic and Social Committee on 'Social dimension of fisheries', the STECF-20-14 report, as well as the European Parliament's "Fishers for the future" resolution.

Patrick Murphy mentioned to include a reference to the Directive that states that fishermen are entitled to a decent standard of living at the beginning of the draft advice.

Curtis stated that he needed more time to review the advice.

Mathies suggested a deadline of seven days for Focus Group members to send in their written suggestions for inclusion in the advice

Breckling stated that the recreational fisheries section of the Deutscher Fischerei Verband was very happy with the inclusion of a paragraph on recreation fishing comparable to the BSAC position.

ACTION: Members to submit comments and suggestions on both the draft advice and the Terms of Reference by Monday 12 September at 12:00 CET.

3. Terms of Reference – finalisation

Curtis wanted to have discussion about the process but stated he needed to read the content again.

Mathies suggested to change the ToR including the issue Breckling brought up to make it clearer what exactly the group is producing advice on as it is likely that more than one submission will be required. She invited members to review the Terms of Reference and send in proposals on what to include in the ToR and how to possibly restructure them to make these clearer.

4. Next steps

Mathies stated that in advance of this meeting she received an email from the NSAC Secretariat regarding an ExCom action point that this FG should continue addressing the fuel crisis and implications for the fishing sector. She asked Breckling if he had any more details on this issue. Breckling advised that it would be best to go back to the Secretariat and the record from the ExCom meeting to understand what exactly is needed. He felt that it was still a relevant topic and if members agreed it should be addressed.

Mathies asked members for their opinion on what should be prioritised and if there was room in the current draft advice for this topic.

Curtis felt it was best to see the suggestions on the ToR first and that members could submit their suggestions on both ToR and the draft advice paper within the next week to progress this work.

Mathies stated that she will contact the NSAC Secretariat for additional details on what the NSAC is looking for with this topic. The topic will also be kept on the agenda for the next meeting.

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

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| 1 | 1. Members to submit comments and suggestions on both the draft advice and the Terms of Reference by Monday 12 September at 12:00 CET. |
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Participants

Name	Organisation
Merel Barbosa	NSAC Secretariat
Peter Breckling	Deutscher Fischerei Verband
David Curtis	EAA
Mo Mathies	NWWAC Secretariat
Patrick Murphy	ISWPO
Norah Parke	KFO
Alexandra Philippe	EBCD
Matilde Vallerani	NWWAC Secretariat
Jasmine Vlietinck	Rederscentrale

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