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# Chairman's Annual Report

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General Assembly  
Dublin Castle  
18<sup>th</sup> September 2013



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**Year 8** (October 2012 - September 2013)

# Work Programme Review

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# Year 8

## 18 Meetings of the RAC

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# Year 8 – RAC Meetings (I)

- ❑ **1 General Assembly** (Dublin, 18 September 2013)
  
- ❑ **4 Executive Committee**
  - Paris, 31 January 2013
  - Bilbao, 18 April 2013
  - Dublin, 24 July 2013
  - Dublin, 18 September 2013
  
- ❑ **3 sets of 4 Sub-regional Working Groups**
  - Paris, 30 January 2013
  - Bilbao, 17 April 2013
  - Dublin, 23-24 July 2013



# Year 8 – RAC Meetings (II)

## ■ 8 Focus Groups (+ 1 Steering Group):

### ■ 2 (Joint RAC) Deep-sea Fisheries

Paris, 21 November 2012; Edinburgh, 15-16 May 2013

### ■ 1 Review of Cod Recovery Plan – VIa; VIIa; VIId

Paris, 31 January 2013

### ■ 1 Hake, Monkfish and Megrin

Bilbao, 18 April 2013

### ■ 2 Celtic Sea Mixed Demersal Fisheries (+ 1 Steering Group)

Bilbao, 18 April; Paris, 30 May; Dublin, 19 Sept 2013;

### ■ 2 Irish Sea Mixed Fisheries

Dublin, 7 June; and 19 September 2013



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# Year 8 – RAC Meetings (III)

## □ 2 other RAC meetings

- Annual Presentation of ICES Advice for 2013  
Dublin Castle, 23 July 2013
- Horizontal Working Group on Discards (Landing Obligation)  
Dublin Castle, 18 September 2013



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Year 8

# External Meetings with NWWRAC participation



## External Meetings Y8 (I) – Some examples

- VIII Annual Meeting between ICES and the RACs (MIRAC)  
Copenhagen, 17-18 January 2013
- ICES-DG MARE Training Courses on Stock Assessment  
Brussels, September / October / December 2012 / March 2013
- *ICES Benchmark Workshops (WKROUND – WKNEP -WKLIFE)*  
*Aberdeen, February - Lysekil, 25-29 February 2013*
- *STECF (EWG) Meetings on MAMPs, TCMs and Discards*  
*Dublin, May; Varese, 9-13 September 2013;*



## External Meetings Y8 (II) – Some examples

- Coordination Meetings DG MARE-RACs  
Brussels, 1 December 2012 and 1 March 2013
- GEPETO Project Coordination Meetings – Bilbao / Paris
- EC Seminar on the State of European Fish Stocks in 2013  
Brussels, 17 September 2013
- EFCA Advisory Board Meetings + Control Seminars  
Vigo, 21 February and 26-27 June 2013

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# Year 8 - Letters, Opinions and Advice

15 submissions (+3 pending)

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All public and available in the publications section of the NWWRAC website: [www.nwwrac.org](http://www.nwwrac.org)



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# Letters, Opinions and Advice

## Type of Advice produced - Main areas of Work:

- CFP Reform
- EC Fishing Opportunities for 2013/2014
- Data Quality for Stock Assessments
- Mixed Fisheries MAMPs
- Review of Cod Management Plan
- TCM/Selectivity/Discards for the Celtic Sea (VII fg)
- Skates, Rays and Sharks

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# Letters, Opinions and Advice

## List of NWWRAC documents produced (I)

1. Discussion paper: Elements of a Fully Documented Fisheries for West of Scotland demersal fisheries (18/10/2012)
2. Letter to ICES/STECF requesting an audit of Irish Sea Cod fisheries: stock assessment, data issues and regulatory measures (18/10/2012)
3. Response to EC consultation on the future role, composition and functioning of the Advisory Councils (09/11/2012)
4. Advice on Nephrops Management for FU16 for 2013 (14/12/2012)
5. Proposal for a seasonal closure for Skates and Rays stocks in the Irish Sea (14/12/2012)

# Letters, Opinions and Advice

## List of NWWRAC documents produced (II)

6. Declaration on Cod management in West of Scotland mixed demersal fisheries (14/12/2012)
7. Joint RAC discussion paper on Deep-sea fisheries: collaboration with scientists, management measures and access regime (28/2/2013)
8. Letter to MS/EP on CFP reform – Regionalisation and role of the ACs Trilogue during Irish Presidency of the EU (15/3/2013)
9. Recommendation on Improving the Implementation of the Cod Management Plan - EC Reg. 1342/2008 (10/4/2013)
10. Letter on by-catch provision for scallop dredges Art 10(b) of Reg. 850/1998 (15/4/2013)



# Letters, Opinions and Advice

## List of NWWRAC documents produced (III)

11. InterRAC Letter on Review of the Functioning of the RACs  
within the present CFP - Administrative and financial issues (15/4/2013)
12. Advice on the costs for the use and connection of electronic devices on  
fishing vessels for surveillance, monitoring and control (6/6/2013)
13. Letter to ICES/STECF Evaluation of Irish Sea seasonal closure for Rays  
Review/Assessment of Effectiveness of closures (4/9/2013)
14. Letter requesting advice to ICES on Spurdog and Porbeagle –  
Study on alternative management measures to zero TAC (4/9/2013)
15. Letter on Northern Hake Management (4/9/2013)  
Request for in-year adjustment in TAC 2013

# Letters, Opinions and Advice

## List of NWWRAC documents produced (IV)

**Other advice in preparation and planned to be submitted before the end of the financial year, i.e. 30th of September 2013**

1. Response on EC Communication on Fishing Opportunities for 2014
2. Work Progress Report to ICES on Data Deficiencies in ICES VI-VII
3. Request for maintenance or increase of EMFF funding for the Data Collection Regulation (DCMAP)

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**Year 9** (October 2013 – September 2014)

# Work Programme

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# Proposed work programme (I)

## **PRIORITY WORK AREAS FOR NWWRAC FOR YEAR 9 (2013-2014)**

Extracted from the NWWRAC Work Programme for Year 9 to be submitted to the Commission by 30 September 2013

- CFP Reform
- Mixed Fisheries Multiannual Management Plans VI-VII
- Quality of Scientific and Economic Data

# Proposed work programme (II)

## PRIORITY WORK AREAS FOR NWWRAC FOR YEAR 9 (2013-2014)

- Technical Conservation Measures
- Implementation of Landing Obligation
- Marine Spatial Planning (main focus on MPA)
- Effort regime / access to western waters
- Deep-water habitats and species*

# Year 9 - Proposed Calendar of Meetings (I)

## CONFIRMED

- ☐ Coordination meeting between DG MARE and the RACs / EC Workshop on CFP Reform (Regionalisation, role of the ACs and Discards)

24-25 October 2013, Brussels

## CONFIRMED

- ☐ Working Groups, Executive Committee and Focus Group on Nephrops

7-8 November 2013, Paris

## POSSIBLE

- ☐ *Focus Group on Cod Recovery - West of Scotland and Irish Sea*  
*October/November 2013, Dublin*

## POSSIBLE

- ☐ *Focus Group on non quota species / skates, rays and sharks*  
*November/December 2013*



# Year 9 - Proposed Calendar of Meetings (II)

TO BE CONFIRMED

- ☐ ICES WGMARS – Meeting between scientists and stakeholders  
November 2013, Stockholm

TO BE CONFIRMED

- ☐ IX Annual Meeting between ICES and RACs (MIRAC)  
January 2014, Copenhagen

TO BE CONFIRMED

- ☐ Working Groups, Executive Committee and Focus Group/s  
March / April 2014, Spain

CONFIRMED

- ☐ Working Groups, Executive Committee and Focus Group/s  
2-4 July 2014, Edinburgh

CONFIRMED

- ☐ General Assembly and Executive Committee  
17-18 September 2014, Dublin



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# Year 9 - Focus Groups (I)

**Estimated funding for 5-6 Focus Groups (1/2 day duration each)**

- ❑ 3 ONGOING: Cod Recovery, Irish Sea and Celtic Sea MAMPs
- ❑ 3 MORE AVAILABLE

*Number of Focus Groups might increase if linked to other RAC meetings (depending on budget availability)*



# Year 9 - Focus Groups (II)

## REMINDER - Procedure to apply:

### □ Call of interest – 3 step process

1. Suggestions of Topics by relevant GA members.
2. Application forms addressed to their Geographical Working Group Chairs.
3. Final Selection by the Executive Committee.

### □ Interpretation services only if requested

- Depending on funding availability.
- Secretariat will seek sponsorship from Member States/private donors.



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