



SUMMARY NOTE

Meeting between the Community Fisheries Control Agency (CFCA) and the North Western Waters RAC

Preparation of a Joint Seminar on Control and Compliance in North Western Waters

DG MARE offices, Brussels, 1st of March 2011

Participants:

- NWWRAC Delegates:
 - Hugo González (First representative)
 - Jacques Pichon (Second representative)
- NWWRAC Secretariat:
 - Dr. Conor Nolan (Executive Secretary)
 - Alexandre Rodríguez (Executive Assistant – Policy Issues)
- CFCA Officials:
 - Harm Koster (Executive Director)
 - Pedro Galache (Head of Unit, Operational Coordination)
 - Béatrice Comby (Head of Unit, Capacity Building)
 - Clara Fernández (Liaison officer with stakeholders)

Background:

- A letter was submitted by the NWWRAC on the 27th of September, proposing to organise a joint seminar between the CFCA and the NWWRAC in order to facilitate stakeholders' participation in the adoption and implementation of Joint Deployment Plans in western waters;
- A reply letter from the CFCA Executive Director, Mr. Koster, was received on 25th of November, supporting the NWWRAC proposal above.

Objectives:

- Analyze the situation of the different fisheries from a control point of view
- Work through a regional approach regarding control
- Achieve a better understanding of the Control Regulation and its implementation rules;
- Encourage a culture of compliance between fishermen in western waters;
- Build trust and confidence among all parties involved.

Terms of Reference:

- Proposed date of meeting: Spring 2012;
- Venue: Dublin;



- Follow example of Baltic Sea RAC regarding structure and organisation of Control Conference held in Stockholm (i.e. BS RAC Conference, Baltic Sea Fisheries: Lesson Learned and Future Perspectives, 1-2 October 2009);
- Possibility of involving two other RACs (South Western and Pelagic) in this event: proposal to be made at the CFCA Advisory Board meeting the next day and, if accepted, a follow-up meeting will be convened by the CFCA before summer;
- 2 day meeting:
 - o First day - plenary session. Setting the scene: a political declaration or statement could be made by Member States involved;
 - o Second day - 3 working groups (pelagic stocks; north western waters; south western waters). The aim of these meetings will be to agree on specific actions and objectives on target areas and/or fisheries in western waters.

Composition:

- Invitations will be issued to:
 - o European Commission officials (responsible: RACs)
 - o Relevant Member States representatives (responsible: RACs/CFCA)
 - o Scientists (responsible: RACs)
 - o RAC members (Fishing industry and other groups of interest) - RACs
 - o Stakeholders (responsible: RACs)

Draft programme

- Day 1 – Plenary session: setting the scene
Fisheries Ministers / Commissioner/CFCA Executive Director / RAC Chairs speeches;
European Commission: explanation of legal framework and control rules;
Scientific presentations on state of key stocks and identification of data needs
Stakeholders' views: perspective from fishing industry and other groups of interest
Dublin Declaration on the management of Western waters
- Day 2 – 3 Regional Working Groups
Pelagic species
North Western Waters
South Western Waters
Closing plenary Session - Presentation of outcomes from rapporteurs of regional WGs

Next steps:

- NWWRAC Secretariat to secure meeting room and facilities in Dublin Castle;
- RACs to make an estimation of overall costs;
- RACs to ask the DG MARE to include this event in its budget
- RACs and CFCA to ask the DG MARE to include this event in its work programme
- RACs and CFCA to agree outline of content and presentations;
- RACs and CFCA to propose and contact high-profile speakers and invitees;
- RACs and CFCA to carry out promotional activities (press releases, advertising, etc.).