

DRAFT MINUTES

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Wednesday 06 July 2022 | 09:00 – 12:00

1. Welcome and introductions

The Chair Emiel Brouckaert welcomed all participants to the meeting and especially thanked DG MARE Director Fabrizio Donatella for attending the meeting in person. Apologies were received from Bruno Dachicourt (ETF) in advance of the meeting. Item 3 on the agenda was changed to “Dialogue with DG MARE”, since members had the opportunity to hear about the work of the North Western Waters Member States Group the day before at the Horizontal Working Group meeting.

Action points from last meetings (16 March 2022, virtual) included:

1	Secretariat to draft letter on fuel crisis for ExCom approval (emergency procedure). The letter should be sent to the Commission by the end of the day.
	Letter sent on 16 March and response received on 18 March.
2	The Advice Drafting Group on the CFP will draft the response to Mr. Mato’s questionnaire which will be delivered by the end of the month. Secretariat to follow up on the topic to ensure the ExCom is kept informed on any further action needed.
	Response to Mato’s questionnaire sent on 04 April.
3	Inter-AC 29 April: Secretariat to submit agenda items to the Commission including: MSFD, follow up on SUP Directive and FFL, follow up on Multi-AC blue economy advice. Members are invited to send further suggestions to the Secretariat by the end of March.
	List of topics for Inter-AC sent to COM on 11 April.
4	ADG on CFP reporting to be set up
	Expressions of interest requested in June 2022. Work of this ADG will start in September.
5	Go ahead with membership drive
	Update under agenda item 6
6	TAF on advice to be put on MIAC agenda
	Discussed at MIACO June.

Brouckaert then invited the Chairs of the Working Groups to take the floor and present on the action points to be proposed for approval by the Executive Committee:



Action points Working Group 1 – Irish Sea

1	Secretariat to share written responses from ACOM Vice-Chair to pending questions from the meeting
2	Members to send comments on ICES advice and recommendations to be included in fishing opportunities advice to the Secretariat
3	Secretariat to share 2022 Choke ID tool following an update on exemptions on technical measures for members to provide comments to feed advice preparation by the FG LO
4	The WG will review the bycatch measures in place for whiting in the <i>Nephrops</i> fishery and get in touch with the MSG to progress on the matter.

Action points Working Group 2 – Celtic Sea & West of Scotland

1	Members to send comments on ICES advice and recommendations for issues to be included in fishing opportunities advice to the Secretariat
2	The Secretariat will distribute the recommendations formulated by the PelAC on Greater Silver Smelt for comments (if needed, a joint task force will be meeting to discuss). Once agreed by the WG, they will be included in the Fishing Opps advice.
3	The Working Group will review the draft advice on Technical Measures in the Celtic Sea by Monday 11 July.
4	Secretariat to share 2022 Choke ID tool following an update on exemptions on technical measures for members to provide comments to feed advice preparation by the FG LO
5	Secretariat to contact PelAC and SWWAC Secretariat to ask about progress of work on VMEs and deep-sea access.

Action points Working Group 3 - Channel

1	Members to send comments on ICES advice and recommendations for issue to be included in fishing opportunities advice to the Secretariat
2	Work of FG Seabass to resume. Secretariat to circulate email to previous and prospective members
3	Members to review advice on whelk and scallop to establish if updates are needed prior to submission to COM at beginning of September.
4	Secretariat to share 2022 Choke ID tool following an update on exemptions on technical measures for members to provide comments to feed advice preparation by the FG LO

Action points Horizontal Working Group

1	Proposal from the HWG to the ExCom to subcontract Michael Keatinge to work on Choke ID Tool with continuous update
2	Secretariat to request MAC Chair/ PelAC Secretariat to set up next date of Inter-AC Brexit forum
3	Issue regarding Scottish interpretation of technical regulation to be kept on the NWWAC agenda
4	Secretariat to write to the ORE advisory group with request to be considered for participation and explaining the NWWAC's role and interest
5	Secretariat to schedule meeting of the Focus Group Landing Obligation to work on advice for the COM consultation on Fishing Opportunities 2023 and ICES advice (25 July 2023)



6	Proposal for the Secretariat to initiate the organisation of a workshop on skates & rays management similar to the COM initiative in 2017
7	Secretariat to contact the members of the Focus Group Control regarding expressions of interest for taking over Chair position
8	Secretariat to organise next meeting of the Focus Group Social Aspects for September with specific focus on finalising the ToR and the intended questionnaire
9	Secretariat to contact the NSAC with a view of establishing a joint Focus Group Brown Crab to review existing work and advice on potential management measures
10	Secretariat to circulate link and survey from Mindfully Wired Communications on the online fisheries tool
11	Secretariat to initiate the setting up of a Focus Group Online Chart Tool to assist with the fine tuning of the prototype

2. Keynote address – Fabrizio Donatella (Director, MARE C)

Following his appointment last year, Director Donatella had joined the members of the NWWAC Executive Committee virtually in September 2021 for a first dialogue. Brouckaert expressed his gratitude to Donatella on behalf of all participants for his live participation in Ghent to continue discussions with the AC.

Before giving the floor to Donatella, Brouckaert introduced a number of topics of importance for interaction between the NWWAC and DG MARE. He referred to the EU-UK negotiations, as well as the Commission's recent Communication "Towards more sustainable fishing in EU and orientations for 2023". The Commission's work on reporting on the functioning of the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) is also of great interest to the AC, which replied to both DG MARE's consultation and to MEP Mato's questionnaire. The recently published study on regionalisation is also linked to this exercise. Finally, he mentioned the Implementing Act regarding the deep-sea access and establishment of Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems areas.

Donatella thanked the AC for the invite and highlighted the importance of DG MARE live participation. Referring to the action points presented at the beginning of the meeting, he was impressed by the results of the Working Groups on key sensitive topics. *"It is vital to maintain this level of interaction before AC recommendations are issued. We have a contractual relationship, but I believe it actually goes well beyond that and it is important for us to be aware of issues and concerns. The Commission needs to ensure we keep and improve this coordination with the ACs"*, he said.

Donatella pointed out that the NWWAC has been one of the most active ACs while at the same time being in the middle of the storm, referring to Brexit as a real game changer in the NWW. He acknowledged the many exercises the AC engaged in, such as the consultation on the functioning of the CFP. In this regard, he stressed that the stakeholder event on 10 June 2022 was not the final exercise. The report will be issued by the end of the year which will help move forward the issues highlighted in the consultation. However, it is not intended to trigger a legislative reform and it is not an evaluation of the policy. With this report, DG MARE aims at highlighting what works and what does not, in order to address CFP objectives, concerns and challenges.

He also added that there will be opportunity for anybody to elaborate on the issue of CFP implementation. The Commission hopes to promote further debate and is considering options for a way forward, as an incredible amount of elements and substantial reflections have been received following the consultation. *"This is not a stand-alone exercise, it is rather part of an approach in*

which we are all involved to ensure that our CFP continues to be fit for purpose in the future”, added Donatella.

Regarding EU-UK relationships, Donatella acknowledged that stakeholders, and especially those in the NWW, are heavily impacted by the implementation of the Trade and Cooperation Agreement (TCA). *“At the same time, you are the ones driving us in our work on that”*, he assured. He believed fisheries should not be considered in isolation, but as part of the overall relationship with the UK under the TCA. In this regard, one of the key elements has been the development of the Specialised Committee on Fisheries which has become increasingly important for tackling issues that cannot be addressed in Fishing Opportunities consultations, which only happen once per year. The SCF can be organised at different times of the year, and this gives the opportunity to put issues on the agenda that are not always easy to address, such as technical measures and non-quota species (NQS). He believes it is important to focus on how this forum can be used best in an increasingly dynamic relationship.

Donatella mentioned two outstanding aspects the Commission is currently working on. The first is the Discard Plan for the NWW. The NWW Member States Group (MSG) submitted their Joint Recommendation, which was reviewed by STECF. DG MARE legal services are now examining the STECF report before providing feedback to the MSG. He then referred to the Implementing Act being prepared on VMEs and deep-sea access. The Deep-Sea Access Regulation contains an obligation to establish and review deep-sea closures as an annual exercise. This is an extremely difficult and complex task and DG MARE is committed to continued and active interaction with all stakeholders in the current and future process. He informed participants that a meeting is being organised on 26 July with ICES which will offer the opportunity to have an exchange on the recurring ICES advice on VMEs in EU waters, including data collection. Donatella emphasised the importance of data quality in this discussion, as it is vital that stakeholders have all the same understanding and endorsement of the basis used by ICES to provide its advice, which is expected by the end of October. Another meeting with stakeholders will be organised after that. The Commission intends to speed up the Implementing Act adoption process.

Donatella concluded his speech by stressing DG MARE’s commitment to attend AC meetings: *“We will ensure to do our best to be part of your discussions. I assure you that maintaining and improving relationship with you is our top priority”*.

The Chair thanked Donatella and opened the floor to questions.

Jean-Marie Robert appreciated the news on the meeting on deep-sea access happening on 26 July including a discussion on data quality. He felt that there are two other aspects to consider: proportionality and lack of accuracy. In his opinion, the method put forward establishes that the identification of a specific area, regardless of its size, can trigger the closure of a wider area. More accuracy is needed to better target areas that need to be protected through a precise analysis before establishing a closure. He then asked about the draft Implementing Act to be validated by the Commission, as the timeframe and deadline for adoption are not clear. He stressed that this is vital to allow enough time for fishers to prepare. Robert also asked whether the Commission could distribute operational and geographical documents that can be integrated in logbooks to ensure fishers can respect closed areas. To date, the draft Implementing Act contains lengthy annexes which are very difficult to transpose on logbooks. Finally, he posed a legal question referring to the draft Implementing Act, as some of the sea squares are proposed for closure above 400m, while the regulation mentions VME closures only to be implemented deeper than 400m.

Donatella replied that DG MARE received confirmation that the Commission's proposal is in line with the provisions of the Deep-Sea Access Regulation. These limits could be finetuned, but the Commission has integrated scenario 2.1 from the ICES advice in its proposal, which meant having the best compromise between establishing VMEs and ensuring fishing activities. Buffer zones are provided for by the Regulation and will be included in the protected areas. The meeting with ICES in July will give further opportunity to discuss the items of the proposal. Regarding the timeline, the Commission notified the proposal to the UK with a deadline to react until the beginning of September. Following UK feedback, the Commission will adopt the proposal per the usual process. Donatella then explained that the operational transposition of data will be implemented by MS authorities in charge of the control aspects. DG MARE has also published maps that can be used and is constantly in contact with the MS authorities to ensure operators will be able to accurately identify the areas.

Sean O'Donoghue thanked Donatella for his availability to stakeholders and supported Robert's points on VMEs. In particular, he felt that data quality is a substantial issue and unintended consequences of some of the scenarios were maybe not understood by the Commission. In his opinion, a technical discussion is needed at the ICES meeting. He then referred to the sector's unprecedented emergency brought by the combination of Brexit, the pandemic and now the Ukraine crisis. He appreciates that the Commission is fully aware of this, but at the same time it is vital to keep pressure on the MS for providing compensation to the sector to ensure viability of fishing activities and the provision of seafood from EU fisheries. Regarding Brexit and the implementation of the TCA, O'Donoghue pointed out that it had not been possible carry out a socio-economic impact assessment in advance of the signing of the TCA. Therefore, a post-impact assessment on Brexit should be done urgently. O'Donoghue also mentioned the CFP reporting exercise. In his view, while the exercise has a limited scope as Donatella explained, inevitable legislative changes are needed. Stakeholders see this report as setting the framework for those changes. He also commented on the work of the Inter-AC Brexit Forum in the context of EU-UK relationships. *"We do not want to be consulted after the event, we want to be part of the event"*, explaining the motivation behind the establishment of this Forum. Finally, O'Donoghue mentioned his surprise that Brexit was not mentioned in the Communication on Fishing Opportunities 2023, despite its severe impact on the sector. He highlighted the urgent need for alignment of the STECF report on the state of the EU fleet with the scientific advice on Fishing Opportunities, as the former provides information two years behind in comparison to the year for which scientific advice is given. More reliable information and forecasting from STECF is needed.

Brouckaert asked for clarification on how Donatella sees the link between the Fisheries chapter and the TCA as a whole.

Patrick Murphy thanked the Commission for acknowledging the difficulties brought by the fuel crisis and stressed that action from national governments in providing the aid by implementing article 26 2.2 is vital to avoid jeopardising the sector. *"It is impossible to ask fishers to go to sea, considering what they are risking already and what investments they have made, when they know that the remuneration from their catch will not cover the running costs of the operation"*. He then expressed his concerns following the presentation of the ICES advice for 2023 regarding the changes that are being implemented on the amount of discards that are being assumed, what that will mean for next year's quota and how it feeds into the modelling. *"Will the amount of cuts in quotas and their effect on discards be taken into account when setting quotas next year?"*, he queried.

Donatella replied that the Commission was able to act quickly on both the pandemic and Ukraine

crisis because of the legislation in place, the CFP, demonstrating that it is fit for purpose. *“For those involved in negotiations with third parties, the only piece of legislation on fisheries which contains clear targets is the CFP”*. He explained that this provides a range of options when deciding Fishing Opportunities for stocks that lack MSY advice which is important as it helps avoid opening discussions that would cause instability.

Donatella agreed that the Inter-AC Brexit Forum represents an extremely positive development to anticipate issues that need to be addressed. He also took note of the comment on the need for impact assessment. Regarding fisheries in the TCA, from an operational point of view, the Commission looks at fisheries for addressing matters of common interest. *“There are not many types of policies in the TCA where there is so much shared interest to develop cooperation to improve relations and to ensure economic activities continue to function”*, he explained. The fact that the EU is obliged to work permanently with the UK on fisheries also allows to maintain a live connection. Fisheries is also a key indicator of how the TCA is working according to Donatella, who stated that in his personal experience *“when dealing with a difficult partner, fisheries is an excellent opportunity to keep that interaction and communication alive, as I have seen in many areas in the world”*.

Regarding the energy crisis, he assured participants that the Commission has been following this issue extremely closely and is considering all the information provided by the MS.

He also replied on the comment related to data quality on VMEs implementation, highlighting that the meeting aims at considering data quality and reliability. It will also be an opportunity for stakeholders and MS to raise issues regarding VME’s establishment.

John Lynch pointed out that Brexit has brought fundamental changes in the dynamics of fishing arrangements in Europe, which should be considered in the CFP report. The Commission should have a flexible approach on the report and how legislative changes could possibly be considered.

Donatella explained that the Commission cannot commit to any changes, and that the Brexit element is still being digested. The whole supply chain has been affected, especially in Ireland where Brexit created issues from logistical and fishing grounds points of view. The point regarding impact assessment is clear but should be considered in a separate debate. The report on the CFP is a legal obligation and the Commission cannot isolate Brexit. *“At the same time, this is something that would deserve a debate of a different nature, as the TCA implementation is not about legislation, but how we engage with a new environment in the NWW and in the North Sea”*, he concluded.

ACTION: Following dialogue with Director Donatella, members are invited to send further questions to the Secretariat which will then forward them to Donatella.

ACTION: Brexit implications on the functioning of the CFP will be debated separately from the CFP reporting exercise by DG MARE. The topic could be considered in the ToR of the soon to be established ADG on CFP. The listing of topics from the CFP report consultation provided by Director Donatella in his address will be the basis for the ADG ToR.

3. Dialogue with DG MARE: TCA & SCF State of Play

The Chair introduced the topic, explaining that the STECF Expert Working Group (EWG) 22-04 on non-quota species met virtually in May and that the NWWAC had put forward members to observe following a Commission request made at the March meeting of Working Group 3. As accommodating observers was too complicated in this instance, Ralf Doering (Thuenen Institute, Germany) as Chair of this EWG offered to present the preliminary results from this meeting to NWWAC members in order to identify if and where the AC can assist with future work on this topic.

Brouckaert also welcomed Ana Leocadio, DG MARE, working on NQS in the context of the SCF and invited her to take the floor.

Leocadio thanked the NWWAC for the invitation to the meeting and gave a brief introduction on the topic, explaining that NQS were traditionally mainly managed through national, regional and sometimes very localised approaches. However, the EU has now a commitment with the UK as stated in the TCA to jointly manage shared stocks, including NQS. These are specifically to be addressed through the development of multi-year management strategies to ensure better and more sustainable management of the resources. Both parties agreed to a deadline on 31 July 2022, and progress will be discussed at the SCF meeting on 20 July. According to Leocadio, a lot of background work still needs to be done and she especially stressed the need to develop a strong evidence base. In this regard, the request to STECF for a Working Group on NQS is just the first of many, as other WGs will be planned for 2023 and onwards. Leocadio added that both parties agreed on the need to have an agreed overall approach framework, including clear objectives and principles, that will set the basis for the development of management strategies. This framework will be applied to a pilot strategy.

She concluded by expressing the Commission's appreciation for the Inter-AC Brexit Forum, which has already proven to be a very efficient space for communication and coordination.

Doering took the floor and presented on the conclusions from the STECF EWG 22-04 on non-quota species (slides are available [here](#)). The report from the meeting has not been published yet, but STECF has delivered the report to DG MARE.

Doering mentioned the STECF rules of procedure, as EWG are organised in cases where the request cannot be answered by the plenary itself (e.g. a lot of data to analyse). Observers are generally allowed in the EWG but DG MARE and the Chair(s) can decide in which form observer participation is possible. In many meetings observers just observe without any active role, in some meetings the role can be more active.

He added that the NQS topic was especially interesting because of the input in ongoing discussions. The information basis is weak for many stocks as NQS are usually not in the focus of fisheries management decisions within the EU. However, these species are important for many EU fleets and especially for small-scale fisheries. *"Long terms strategies can be an interesting approach to give NQS more priority and in times of climate change some species may become more important in the future"*, he added. The STECF will work on the knowledge base via data compilation and on proposals for long term strategies if DG MARE requests it. It is expected that the effort will focus on specific areas and species in the next EWG.

Doering stressed that the STECF sees the input of the AC regarding specific management approaches in specific areas as most valuable. There is also the possibility for ACs to propose multi-year strategies for NQS. Expert coverage needs to be strengthened as many management measures are solely national regulations in coastal waters. He pointed out that a co-management approach, as mentioned in the report, seems to be one of the best approaches to use to manage NQS.

Finally, he mentioned that the next EWG should be as early as possible in 2023 (first three months). It is, however, not clear if that will be possible. The NWWAC will be kept informed regarding observer interaction, which is likely to be limited to maximum two sessions. He concluded that the AC could discuss with DG MARE whether the AC can put forward proposals for long-term strategies or specific management measures for some NQS in certain areas. This could form an input to the next STECF EWG meeting.

ACTION: Once the STECF report on NQS is available, it should be reviewed by the NWWAC and the Inter-AC Brexit Forum to decide on advice on single AC or multi-AC issues.

ACTION: The ExCom approved the joint-ACs letter on stakeholder engagement in SCF prepared by the Inter-AC Brexit Forum.

O'Donoghue asked whether the EU and the UK have a common understanding regarding the commitment on NQS, as there seems to be a different interpretation in terms of effort employed.

Leocadio replied that the TCA includes two main elements on NQS. The first relates to the access to waters, which should be based on the average fishing activity in each other's waters, taking into account the reference period 2012 – 2016 reference period. It was agreed to have an overall access tonnage but currently it is not implemented. *"Parties agreed to make further commitment on developing these multi-year strategies. There is indeed a distinction between the exercise done in previous consultations regarding these tonnage limits for the fishing activity in each other's waters and the development of the strategies, where we put forward a more medium/long-term approach for the management of the NQS"*, explained Leocadio.

Dimitri Rogoff felt that the overall approach should not be based on tonnage. The social importance of these fishing activities cannot be forgotten. *"We must have a management plan for both scallop and whelk within EU waters, outside the 12 miles as well, with more reactive mechanisms in place"*. Rogoff pointed out that the Joint Recommendation procedure is very slow and does not allow a proper management of the resource. At the same time, the UK does not cooperate and imposes technical measures and management patterns without consulting with the EU. According to Rogoff, it is no longer efficient to use this approach. In his opinion, the UK is pursuing different objectives and the EU should focus on a management plan in its own waters and on a framework for its fishers. The EU needs to be more proactive than reactive according to Rogoff.

Leocadio stressed that these multi-year strategies aim at finding a common approach to ensure both parties are aligned. None of these objectives will be discriminatory. NQS have not been discussed as widely as quota species, but this topic now has political importance for both parties. The objective is to have an overarching strategy and then applying it to a pilot strategy (in full collaboration with stakeholders). Leocadio added that she is willing to keep close contact with the AC on these topics and to attend meetings of the relevant Focus Groups.

Johnny Woodlock raised an issue related to razor clams, as Scottish fishers can use electric pulse dredgers, while the use of this gear is not permitted in Irish inshore fisheries. This creates a disadvantage that should be addressed.

Olivier Lepretre added that another slowly progressing issue relates to the management of Danish seines. The AC has not been able to move forward on this, and more action is needed within the national and European structures.

Leocadio confirmed all comments had been taken into account and that DG MARE is looking forward to closer collaboration with the AC on these topics to develop concrete proposals for constructive discussions with the UK.

Following a short break, the Chair gave the floor to Director Donatella again to discuss the outcomes of the consultation on the functioning of the CFP. Donatella specifically focused on the challenges brought forward by respondents, including:

- Implementing the Landing Obligation;

- Integrating the social and economic dimensions of the CFP when setting fishing opportunities;
- Managing stocks shared with the UK;
- Improving data collection and quality of scientific advice.

In relation to the latter, Donatella mentioned that the Commission is planning to issue an action plan on biodiversity protection. Among other objectives, this plan aims to ensure a strong knowledge base for addressing issues such as impacts on sensitive species and habitats, also in the context of fisheries. *"In this regard, it was interesting seeing stakeholders promoting fully documented fisheries."*

He then mentioned financing elements, and in particular comments on the EMFAF programming which should be dynamic enough to address challenges related to decarbonisation and resilience to energy price fluctuations.

Regionalisation was also raised as a key element of the CFP. However, improvements are still needed, especially in relation to the transparency of decision-making processes and to stakeholder engagement.

Concluding his intervention, Donatella explained that the Commission is planning to issue the report at the end of November. Further assessments and interaction with stakeholders should be expected after that. He reiterated that the Commission does not intend to develop proposals to change the CFP.

The Chair closed this point and informed participants that any questions on the matter discussed could be sent to the Secretariat, who would collect them and inform Director Donatella, as per previous action point.

5. NWWAC Work Programme and Budget update Year 17 (Secretariat)

Mo Mathies presented the list of topics the NWWAC will be focusing on for the remaining months in the current financial year, including Fishing Opportunities 2023, Brexit and the development of the NWWAC Choke tool.

She then mentioned the meetings that the AC engaged in during the year and also provided dates for next meetings until the end of the year, including the NWWAC plenary meetings in September.

Mathies pointed out that members are informed of all meetings via the monthly update available online in the Members Area on www.nwwac.org. Moreover, details of meetings can also be found in both the Members Area and under the Meetings tab.

Mathies gave an overview of Year 17 (Y17) account, specifying that they were missing the Commission's balance payment calculated on actual expenditure from this year. She then presented the expenditure overview, explaining that while the NWWAC is expected to be overspending in interpretation and translation, the overall expected actual expenditure is lower than the planned expenditure. She proposed that the underspent – ca 20.000 EUR – is used to hire a web developer and update the AC website. Mathies explained that there is no intention to change the website design, but that improving background management functionalities is necessary in the Secretariat's point of view.

ACTION: The ExCom approved the Secretariat proposal to allocate Y17 budget to website update.

Finally, Mathies gave an overview of the financial timeline for Y17.

More details on these topics can be found on slides 10 to 19 from [this presentation](#).

6. NWWAC membership drive update (Secretariat)

Mathies introduced the membership drive exercise, providing an update on its progress with details on the NGOs contacted directly in June 2022 and the responses received (check slide 20 from [this presentation](#) for more information). She asked members to inform the Secretariat of any NGO or any other organisation that could bring a beneficial contribution to the work of the NWWAC.

7. AOB

O'Donoghue felt that members need to choose between having fully virtual or live participation at meetings. In his opinion, hybrid meetings are not very efficient. In case of live meetings, experts and Commission representatives should have the opportunity to attend remotely if needed. However, it is critical that ICES representatives attend physically for the presentation of the ICES advice once per year. The AC should pursue this and look at how to organise these meetings in the best way to accommodate ICES.

ACTION: Secretariat to ask for members' opinions on future organisation of meetings – fully virtual/hybrid/fully live. The NWWAC will continue liaising with ICES on their live participation at meetings.

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

1	Following dialogue with Director Donatella, members are invited to send further questions to the Secretariat which will then forward them to Donatella.
2	Brexit implications on the functioning of the CFP will be debated separately from the CFP reporting exercise by DG MARE. The topic could be considered in the ToR of the soon to be established ADG on CFP. The listing of topics from the CFP report consultation provided by Director Donatella in his address will be the basis for the ADG ToR.
3	Once the STECF report on NQS is available, it should be reviewed by the NWWAC and the Inter-AC Brexit Forum to decide on advice on single AC or multi-AC issues.
4	The ExCom approved the joint-ACs letter on stakeholder engagement in SCF prepared by the Inter-AC Brexit Forum.
5	The ExCom approved the Secretariat proposal to allocate Y17 budget to website update.
6	Secretariat to ask for members' opinions on future organisation of meetings – fully virtual/hybrid/fully live. The NWWAC will continue liaising with ICES on their live participation at meetings.



9. Participants list

NWWAC members	
Emiel Brouckaert (Chair)	Rederscentrale
John Lynch	ISEFPO
Patrick Murphy	ISWPO
Sean O'Donoghue	KFO
Jean-Marie Robert	Pecheurs de Bretagne
Jan Kappel	EAA
Alexandra Philippe	EBCD
Irene Prieto	ANASOL
Suso Lourido Garcia	Puerto de Celeiro S.A. OPP-77
Geert Meun	VisNed
Johnny Woodlock	Irish Seal Sanctuary
Experts and observers	
Ana Leocadio	DG MARE
Arthur Yon	FROM Nord
Caroline Alibert-Deprez	DG MARE
Deirdre Hoare	Independent consultant
Dimitri Rogoff	CRPMEM Normandie
Fabrizio Donatella	DG MARE
Franck Le Barzic	Cobrenord
Gerakd Hussenot Desenonges	Blue Fish
Manu Kelberine	CRPMEM Bretagne
Aodh (Hugh) O Domhnaill	IFPO
José Beltran	OPP-7 Burela
Ralf Doering	DG MARE
Dirk Van Guyze	Belgian Department of Agriculture and Fisheries
Juan Antonio Espejo	Spanish Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food
Marta del Avellanal	Spanish Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food
Killian Chute	EFCA
Olivier Lepretre	CRPMEM Hauts de France
Norah Parke	KFO
Tamara Talevska	NSAC Secretariat
NWWAC Secretariat	
Mo Mathies	Executive Secretary
Matilde Vallerani	Deputy Executive Secretary