



DRAFT Minutes

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Zoom | Wednesday 20 March 2024

1 Welcome and introductions

The Chair welcomed all participants stating that it felt strange to have to return to a virtual meeting after the intensive meetings and the successful anniversary event the week before. He explained that EFCA presenting the Ocean Protector in Dublin Port led to the requirement to have the March ExCom meeting on line. Apologies were received from Matilde Vallerani prior to the meeting. The revised agenda as published on 19 March was adopted.

Action points from the last meeting

1	Follow up VMEs process and liaise with SWWAC Submitted 16/11, SWWAC declined collaboration
2	DG MARE to follow up on two pending questions: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Brexit Adjustment Reserve extension request- Linkage between CFP and Nature Restoration Law Comments received and included in minutes
3	Secretariat to submit NWWAC advice on UK FMP consultations to the Commission Done
4	Pricing issues both on cost and revenue sides to be addressed in joint FG Social Aspects and Secretariat to highlight these issues to the MAC. Put forward to the Chair of the join FG Social Aspects who felt that this issue was slowly resolving itself

2 Approval of action points from the Working Groups

Working Group 1 – Irish Sea

1	The Chair will propose a candidate vice-chair to be elected at the next WG meeting in July.
2	The Chair will look for further information on a previously discussed proposal on a de minimis for haddock.
3	It is proposed that a recommendation is made to the Commission for the EU to develop techniques for socio-economic assessments of ORE developments.
4	The Secretariat will share the written stakeholder input submitted to STECF following EWG 15-23 on Technical Measures and will share the EWG report once available.



Regarding the haddock de minimis Dominic Rihan commented that he would look through his own files for further details. He added that the EWG report will be due the following week.

Action points from WG1 were approved.

Working Group 2 – Celtic Sea and West of Scotland

1	In response to DG Vitcheva's request at the last Inter-AC meeting in February 2024 and following up on the STECF EWG 23-15 meeting, the NWWAC should prepare advice on technical measures in the Celtic Sea. This advice should also include a request to receive results from the data collection campaign recently carried by the UK.
2	A webinar should be organized by the NWWAC in June 2024 on scientific assessment of the Celtic Sea cod stock and the impact of climate change, inviting involved scientists, NWW Member States representatives and DG MARE.
3	The WG will continue following the work by BIM on spurdog and consider the final report of the ongoing campaign for advice to the NWW Member States.
4	Issues and concerns regarding VMEs to be raised with DG MARE at ExCom meeting on 20 March.
5	The WG will continue following ongoing work on the Nephrops fishery in the Porcupine Bank. Aodh O'Donnell will share the report from the first assessment from 2023 and additional information when available.

Action points from WG2 were approved.

Working Group 3 – Channel

1	The WG will continue following the Irish work on scallop trials. Results of upcoming trials should be ready for the WG meeting in July. In the meantime, the Secretariat will keep members updated on work by the NWW Member States Group.
2	The Secretariat will collect inputs from WG members on the draft joint recommendation on lemon sole and draft advice to the NWW Member States Group.
3	The Secretariat will enquire DG MARE via email about work of their legal services analysing any discrimination, disproportionality and whether the actions are in line with scientific advice regarding the 13 MPAs established by the UK and about how this would be addressed. The WG recommends that the joint NWWAC/PelAC Focus Group Spatial Squeeze follows EU-UK discussions on MPAs and pursues the topic with advice.
4	The Secretariat will draft advice to the NWW Member States Group for a joint recommendation on red mullet based on the paper produced by the CNPMEM.
5	Secretariat to follow up with Commission on organisation of events related to developed of multi-annual strategy for King Scallop

Point 3: Draft needs ExCom approval.

Mo Mathies provided an update following bilateral discussions with Norman Graham, DG MARE, regarding the AC's follow-up work on King Scallop. She reported that the Commission is looking for AC



assistance by holding a webinar in June to refresh all relevant parties on the UK FMP for king scallop and to advance internal EU discussions to help prepare for future discussions with the UK on multi-year strategies in preparation for an in-person workshop in October to develop concrete management details.

At the request of the Chair this was added as action point 5 to the list. Action points from WG3 were approved with above change.

Horizontal Working Group

1	Reported FG proposed work and planning approved. FG Chairs to plan actions.
2	Comments made based on the Inter-AC presentation to be taken forward to DG MARE at AC Secretariats' meeting once scheduled
3	Address topic of 'CFP Reform after COM reform' (Food Commissioner?) in FG CFP and prepare advice, including ACs direct contact with EP and Council

Action points from the HWG were approved.

Joint NWWAC/PelAC Horizontal Working Group

Part 1 – Spatial Dimension

1	Both ACs to formally write a letter to Department in Ireland to object to decision ORE subgroup
2	Put UK MPAs on agenda of next Inter-AC Brexit Forum as a priority issue to address
3	Write a letter to understand which groups to engage with fisheries in the Special Member States Groups under marine action plan, to break the silo approach now happening. ACs to write letter to the COM to encourage to not work in silo but to bring environmental and fisheries topics in these groups. See if fisheries has a place in special MS groups, now all focused on environmental topics.
4	Deltares reports are available in EN by googling 'WOZEP ecosystem effects'. Collect reports and circulate to members.
5	Circulate Richard Cronin's notes to HWG participants

Part 2 – Control & Compliance

1	Add concerns on point system and sanctions to list of common PelAC/NWWAC issues. We can see there are different procedures being developed, questions level playing field. Action to ask clarification on layers of sanctioning systems.
2	Add article 38 on requirement for continuous monitoring of engine power applicable to 'high risk' vessels to list of common issues. Important to add this to the list of how high risk will be defined in the context of engine power, when implementing acts will be developed.
3	Important to look at the objective harmonised control and enforcement. In the new control reg, there is no provision to take into account pre-existing arrangements, retrospective for



	individual MS. Without this, it's impossible to achieve a level playing field. New layer will not help harmonisation.
4	Ask Commission for another meeting on CR as matter urgency. Meetings so far too overarching. We need a technical in-depth meeting with the key people involved in the unit. Submit request through a joint letter co-signed by other ACs. Should be in-person meeting. 1 draft for all ACs with this general request.
5	Draft another specific NWWAC/PelAC letter on the CR raising key points presented and discussed during the meeting (check slide with basis for joint advice). Request to members: draft letter will be circulated, please be alert on the points you have brought forward to see if it has been captured correctly.

Action point 1 is not supported by the NWWAC as the NWWAC Executive Secretary is attending an in-person meeting on 16 April to present on the work of the ACs. Any letter can be sent afterwards should membership be refused again.

ACTION: If membership is refused following the April meeting, then letter is sanctioned.

Action points from the joint HWG were approved with above change.

3 Dialogue with NWW MSG – Jonathan Tholo, Direction Générale Des Affaires Maritimes, De La Pêche Et De L'Aquaculture

The Chair welcomed Jonathan Tholo to this meeting and thanked him for his availability.

Tholo reiterated that the AC is invited to all MSG meetings and thanked the Secretariat and AC for the event held in Dublin Castle the previous week. He presented the work programme for the NWW MSG under the French presidency.

Joint Recommendations

- Lemon Sole: creation of an exemption proposed by Belgium, joint recommendation between NWW MSG and Scheveningen Group, confirmation of final draft possible at next meeting
- Squid: work ongoing, discussions expected at next meeting as request received from Ireland to add derogations
- Scallop: last update on dossier available to AC, updates from Ireland regarding gear trials
- Red seabream: joint request with SWW to discuss measures for fisheries and specifically request by COM in relation to UK TAC discussion, Spain to provide scientific details to COM
- Technical Measures in the Celtic Sea: related to work in SCF, objective is that at next 01 January measures are rolled over if SCF is not positive in discussions
- Spurdog: JR submitted by Ireland, discussions held with COM regarding process in relation to UK, draft JR submitted to COM to be used as base for discussion with UK, consistency is needed. MS expressed their concerns to the Commission about transforming the MS group into a working group of the SCF. *"Is the process still possible to continue while the Commission is negotiating with the UK?"*



He concluded his presentation by adding that work is also ongoing regarding definition of directed fisheries and technical measures.

The Chair thanked Tholo for his presentation and enquired regarding the work on squid. He explained that the last AC submission on directed fishery for squid was made a few years ago. He asked if this advice was regarded as complete on the topics that are being discussed, or if the AC would need to update its views in contribution to the preparation of the current Joint Recommendation.

Tholo commented that a new request was received from Ireland which may need to be looked at by the AC. The Member States did not put forward a formal request to the AC, however, this can be addressed at the next MSG meeting to which the AC will be invited. He offered to share the new request made by Ireland with the AC.

The Chair expressed his appreciation for the involvement of the NWW MSG in the AC meetings and the invitations to join the MSG meetings. He added the suggestions from the AC for more involvement of AC representatives in the MSG meetings specifically on priority items.

Tholo added that there would be a discussion regarding the NWWAC advice on Brown Crab at the MSG but this is still being discussed.

4 NWWAC Work Programme and Budget review Year 19 (Secretariat)

Mathies provided an overview of the achievements under the work programme to date. As part of the overview of upcoming meetings with NWWAC involvement, participants discussed the Fishers of the Future event from 19 March.

Rihan took the floor as he was included in the panel for the discussion. He commented that there were concerns regarding the profiles developed which in his opinion described very small groups of fishermen and were skewed in favour of SSF. Comments were made that these might not be fit for purpose. He described that the afternoon workshop was trying to classify uncertainties but felt that the bigger picture was missed. He commented that there seemed a lot of disappointment among participants and identified that the consulting groups involved may not be reporting in the best interest of the wider industry.

Alexandra Philippe added that the break out group had been very intense and agreed with the previous speaker. Two additional workshops are planned, and she explained that the fisheries issues were looked at in a macro-perspective. She felt that participants made their points clear to the organiser who she felt were not well informed on fisheries issues.

John Lynch agreed with the previous speakers and expressed his confusion regarding the entire project. His biggest issue relates to the profiles presented and that the known fisheries operations in Ireland are not well covered and will not fit into these categories.

Murphy felt that there was a pre-ordained direction for this research which does not match reality. He added that it seems to be driven towards SSF and that four countries had not even been consulted in the research. He mentioned that he had raised this topic in the MAC wondering why the ACs were



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not involved in the research as the main stakeholder organisations. He felt that it would be important for the ACs to put their opinion forward. He added that the example of quota allocation for Ireland was not understood by the researchers.

The Chair agreed that follow-up is needed on this topic and that the NWWAC representative in this process, Alexandra Philippe, could take this forward.

Rihan stated that he had spoken with Europêche and EAPO representatives at the meeting and that these two organisations are also looking at sending their comments to the Commission on this. He suggested for the AC to liaise with both organisations in order to align its comments. He felt that the organisation of the workshop had been shrouded in secrecy and that organisers were trying to arrive a pre-formulated outcome.

Philippe added that several hours were spent on replying to a survey in-person that had already been replied to online previously. She felt that for her it was difficult to have an NWWAC stance on this as none has been developed by the AC. The next workshop is being held next week and the final one the following week.

The Chair added that the Secretariat should follow this up as an action point and decide which way to take this forward.

ACTION: Secretariat to follow up regarding submission to Commission regarding Fishers of the Future project.

José Beltran added that he also attended this meeting and agreed with previous speakers. He felt that the Commission seems to have an answer already in mind and that the survey seemed bias. He added that a lot of participants were not aware of what professional fisheries look like and mostly referred to SSF. He remarked that fisheries are losing a lot of space and that a lot of seafood is being imported. *“While climate change is important, scaling down the fleet is not the answer.”* He felt that the view of what professional fisheries represents is being lost.

Murphy added that when issues were raised in the workshop, discussions were shut down by the organisers. He felt that if the ACs did not address this then the work is likely to continue down the same path which is going to exclude professional fisheries.

The Chair commented that based on these discussions a letter could be drafted taking into account the work by other organisations.

Jean-Marie Robert stated that this was a very complex debate and that it seems some NGOs and other institutions are trying to strengthen the access to quotas for SSF which is not a new debate. In his opinion there is a contradiction especially in relation to the UK with new TACs in area 7 and 8 based on ICES advice but without taking into account socio-economic impacts which in certain areas are big for vessels <12m. The link between the ICES advice, management plans, legal constraints means that no fishery is protected, and he felt that the ICES advice could be detrimental in future. Biomass will continue evolving year after year, so a medium to long-term vision is needed to strike a balance between the fleets. He felt there is no regulation to decrease the socio-economic impact and that there is a need to support all vessels, for example when looking at pollack. Though there seems



to be a desire to increase the number of small vessels, these are then not fully supported and protected when it comes to quota.

The Chair thanked Robert for pointing out some contradictions and the lack of consideration in relation to socio-economic aspects.

Looking at the budget, Mathies explained that the current expenditure does not include the expenditure for the NWWAC March meetings and the NWWAC/PelAC anniversary event. She stated that a detailed breakdown of the anniversary event would be provided at the next ExCom meeting in July. Regarding the additional cost envisaged for the upcoming NWWAC events in July she explained that a transfer between budget lines from reimbursements to meetings will be possible as far less members travelled to the anniversary event than expected. She wondered how this could best be followed up within the AC.

Regarding attendance at the NWWAC anniversary event the Chair felt that an analysis should be part of the event evaluation / report.

Robert commented that there was only a small attendance from the French industry and that those in attendance really appreciated the organisation and event itself. He added that the time of year was possibly a contributor to the lack of attendance as there are fewer flights available. He added that in addition the listening capacity of the Commission seems diminished and that there is a feeling within the AC that its work is pointless. This obviously affects attendance and shows unease and disappointment as it is a general feeling shared by many.

The Chair thanked Robert for these explanations and felt it would be useful to also hear from members who did not attend.

Murphy added his thanks to the Secretariat and the Chair for the organisation of the event.

ACTION: Secretariat to carry out an evaluation of the anniversary event.

NWWAC Work Programme Year 20

Mathies stated that drafting of the work programme for Year 20 needs to begin now and requested input from ExCom members by 12 April.

ACTION: Secretariat to circulate work programme and request for input to all NWWAC members by 12 April.

5 Update NWWAC ExCom elections & NWWAC Chair nominations

Mathies stated that only a few ExCom nominations had been received and urged members to put forward their organisations.

The Chair explained that some member organisations may need their own Board approval prior to putting forward their ExCom nomination. He added that the NWWAC Management Team will look at any emergency measures should no Chair nominations be received.



6 Dialogue with DG MARE – Eva Carballeira Fernandez, Head of Unit MARE C.5

The Chair welcomed Eva Carballeira Fernandez in place of Fabrizio Donatella who unfortunately could not join today. He briefly summarised the points put forward by the AC for discussion before giving the floor to Ms Carballeira.

Carballeira thanked the Chair for the invitation and stated that she had information on all the topics put forward by the AC, but that expertise is shared across units. She added that several exchanges had been held with the Director-General over the past few weeks, for example at the Inter-AC meeting and at the NWWAC/PelAC anniversary event in Dublin the previous week. She stated that she had reviewed the NWWAC's response on the questionnaire on the technical measures, but that her expertise lies within the EU-UK negotiations and that she was interested in hearing how the AC sees the work going forward. UK MPAs and Sandeel are on the agenda of the WG scheduled for 20 March afternoon. She felt that the Commission provided sufficient updates over the past weeks and that today might be a better opportunity for a dialogue and for questions raised by the members.

The Chair thanked Carballeira for her introduction and handed the floor to Robert as Chair of WG2 which had raised specific action points during their last meeting.

Robert thanked the Chair and Carballeira for following up on the discussion on the VMEs as this a recurring subject often addressed by Director Donatella as well. It is understood that STECF is going to carry out some work on socio-economic impacts to inform further discussions between the Member States and the Commission. The AC submitted a letter to the Commission last year with specific questions on follow up to the ICES advice and added that Irish colleagues had put forward specific detailed scientific queries regarding same. He commented that stakeholders are not allowed at the upcoming ICES Working Group meeting. In addition, regarding implementation the AC had stated that there was a contradiction in relation to closures between the southern and northern parts of Europe. He commented that the implementing act should be reviewed. In relation to the buffer zones, he referred to the suggestion of expansion of these which the Commission has looked at, i.e. banning buffer zones to longliners and gillnets. In his opinion stakeholders cannot approve these types of bans and that certain adjustments must be foreseen. He requested a timeline for upcoming meetings.

Carballeira stated that she will convey these comments made. The Commission is reviewing the implementing act following receipt of the 2023 ICES advice. The preliminary review from the STECF on current and future closures has been received, but results of a more thorough review are expected by the end of the year. A scoping exercise has started with affected Member States and stakeholders. It is expected that at the end of this month the Commission will circulate a timeline around the requested data. STECF will hold interviews with stakeholders which should start at the beginning of September and help data collection to better understand what is happening in the field. As soon as the ICES and STECF information is received, the Commission will review the implementing act.

Robert thanked Carballeira for this update and commented that the discussions are quite technical. He is looking forward to receiving additional information. He added cod and whiting technical measures in the Celtic Sea as a topic for discussion. He stated that this was an important topic in the TCA and stated that the AC will try to send some formalised items as part of its recommendations. He commented on the need to update the perception based on new scientific elements. A lot of the work on the technical measures relates back to 2020/2021 carried out by France and Ireland, and it



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would be useful to have UK data as well. When taking into account landings and discards, the industry was quite in line with the ICES advice. In 2023 it seems that figures are in line with both UK and EU figures and that selectivity and discards do not lead to the level of mortality decided by policy makers. Looking at the last report from the STECF when it comes to selectivity with cod the situation seems to have improved. In 2023, speaking on behalf of the French and Irish fleets, significant numbers of trawlers have been destroyed in compliance with the decommissioning plan. Looking at the total mortality of cod these effects should be measured. Cod seems to be a symbol for the EU fish stocks but it must not be forgotten that it is a cold-water fish, and waters are warming up due to climate change. It can be expected that in 50-60 years cold will disappear from most southern and even northern EU waters. He announced that the AC is looking at holding a scientific webinar in June on this at it is unknown if cod can actually continue reproducing in these warmer waters and invited the Commission representatives to attend this webinar.

Carballeira thanked Robert for this invitation. She commented that the work on technical measures has to be done in conjunction with the UK as it is part of the written record. She specified that there are two systems, the international dimension on one hand, and on the other hand the work with the regional groups and the ACs. She explained that the Commission has started an internal reflection on how to best coordinate between the Commission and the regional groups as not all people attend the same meetings. She stated it was important to work in the same direction and that the input of the Advisory Councils is vital. She felt that there are opportunities regarding technical measures in the Celtic Sea. The work of the AC is highly appreciated as it provides a global overview of stakeholders' views. She added that the Commission would be happy to attend the webinar and have follow-up discussions with the AC.

Norman Graham reiterated that the Commission has a commitment to move forward with this work as agreed with the UK. There has been 0-catch advice for cod in the Celtic Sea for several years and that bycatch TACs have been set quite substantially above 0. There is a need to align TAC and landings. The Commission recognises that the Celtic Sea mixed fishery is quite complex and that there is a need to maintain existing fisheries, but that under internal legalisation it is important that parallel measures are introduced that are designed to help the recovery of the cod stock. Fishing mortality for cod has been well above FMSY for last number of years, however, climate change impacts should be reflected in ICES advice as well. He felt that there is an opportunity as the current legislation recognises a wide Celtic Sea protection zone covering various fisheries. A report including EU and UK data shows that the distribution of cod is much more refined than the large area established. There is an opportunity to understand if certain fisheries are impacted unnecessarily and a more targeted approach regarding cod could be taken. He added that there was a clear signal from the discussions at the NWWAC/PelAC 20-year anniversary event to address this in more detail and refine the approach. In addition, reflection is needed regarding whiting. He felt that the stock of this important commercial fishery can be recovered, and collaboration is needed to identify a common approach. He concluded that he would also be interested in attending the announced webinar.

The Chair reminded the Commission of the 0-catch advice for sole in ICES 7a and was wondering if an update was available on this work as well as the benchmark.

Carballeira stated that this was part of the EU-UK Working Group meeting scheduled for the afternoon and that the Commission and the UK are looking at a special request to ICES to reopen the advice on Sole 7a. Graham stated that the benchmark was only finished a week ago which is now followed by the peer- review process within ICES. Once this has been finalised it then becomes the



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assessment model used by the working group in May. If the benchmark is accepted and shows a substantial change for the stock the Commission and the UK will ask for a review of the advice for this year.

Regarding the Celtic Sea Technical Measures John Lynch commented that a targeted approach exists in the eastern Celtic Sea with the Trevoise Box closure until 01 April. *“Will the different technical measures regarding gears be discussed?”* He felt that before making any changes, results needed to be evaluated and that big differences in gear between the areas should be avoided.

Murphy added that the UK is trialling various gears around its coast and that information on this work is vital for fishers who transit into UK waters so that if measures are being developed these are harmonised.

Carballeira stated that at today’s Working Group meeting measures at play will be reviewed. She felt that technical measures need to be developed together with the UK and have been on the agenda of the SCF for the past three years. The Commission feels that it is important to show that the measures work in order to move forward meaningfully in a unilateral approach with the UK. Carballeira stated that the AC’s and Member States’ support in their work is needed to show one voice.

Graham stated that from an operational point of view the Commission understands that harmonised measures are the preferred outcome. He added that the UK seems to have the same feeling on their side. He felt it was important for the AC to be involved in the process if there is an opportunity to reduce the operational footprint from what it currently is. *“Is the Trevoise box that was put in place in 2011 still a valid measure?”* He concluded that there is no fixed idea in terms of how to proceed as well as no interest in having substantial regulatory diversions. The Commission has carried out an analysis including data from the UK in terms of gear and specific species to identify what kind of management approach would be most appropriate.

The Chair thanked both representatives for their clear and detailed responses and added that the AC will remain involved in the work on these topics. He asked if a suggestion was available on what DG MARE is doing in terms of development of work for the next Commission and how the AC could be involved. He asked for additional information on the planned evaluation of the LO and other action items coming out of the CFP report.

Carballeira stated that as elections are coming in the summer the Commission is in transition mode and that reflections are being carried out also in relation to the CFP report. At the same time the implementation of the action plan is ongoing as well as the work on energy transition. The next mandate will depend on the overall mandate of the Commission. She added that the evaluation of the Landing Obligation would be put in place this year and a project was launched in January on this. This will examine how the Landing Obligation has performed. As part of this study the ACs will be consulted by an external partner, possibly in Q3 of 2024. The outcome will lead to the development of a staff working document. In this context it needs to be considered that the UK is also looking at their own discard reform. The outcome of their own evaluation is expected this year. The Commission is analysing what has been achieved, and other evaluations may also be put in place to prepare the ground for the new Commission. The implementation of the new control regulation is also going to be initiated this year. Interoperability with the UK is being discussed as well regarding measures such as REM. In addition, the technical measures regulation is being evaluated, and the NWWAC’s



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contribution to this will be taken into account. Information from ICES, STECF and Member States will also be included when drafting the report.

Murphy thanked Carballeira and Graham for joining the meeting. He referred to the complexities of the landing obligation and quoted from the coastal states agreement: *“The delegation agreed that vessels should have adequate quota or fishing possibilities to cover expected catch compositions when fishing in the other parties in the North Sea.”* He concluded that organisations cannot look for swaps as these are not being catered for in jurisdictions other than the UK which will lead to choke situations. He felt that the methodology for solving the problem of chokes was missing and that catch compositions needing to be secured based on the previous year adds an extra difficulty. The Irish industry has specifically experienced this with Norway just now, but there is concern that this may impact arrangements with other countries as well, i.e. that balancing the books after catching the fish should be possible and not have to be arranged before going fishing. He wondered if this could be looked at.

Carballeira stated that everyone would welcome adequate quota but that also not every fishery has been choked. She added that the quota swap system in place with the UK is unique, at least until access may need to be negotiated in the future for which a Union approach is needed. Quota pools that had been tried in the past would need to be approved by the Council.

Murphy felt that the coastal states added this layer of complexity, and that Ireland seems to be the first country affected by this need to secure swaps first. He felt that establishing a quota pool could be a potential solution.

Carballeira clarified that a pool could be a potential option but that they are not always successful. She added that the text quoted by Murphy stems from the written record of the EU-Norway negotiations from 2023. Vessels fishing without quota is always an issue, but she felt that this was always included as a standard interpretation. Graham added that the Commission has a standard statement in the written record with Norway specifically in relation to the North Sea.

The Chair thanked Carballeira and Graham for their participation in this meeting and providing such detailed answers. He noted the finding that whiting in the Celtic Sea could be recovered and proposed that an action point could be added to WG2 as to how the AC could contribute regarding what actions might be needed to contribute to this recovery.

Robert agreed that this was an excellent suggestion and that a connection could be made to the technical measures. He referred to the TAC alignment under the TCA in which the Celtic Sea whiting has been separated from the Eastern Channel whiting so there is a need to work out how address this also in the scientific advice.

ACTION: WG 2 to follow up on Celtic Sea whiting recovery.

7 Future meeting schedule (Secretariat)

John Lynch asked what the expected schedule for the July meetings is in order to arrange travel. Mathies stated that the Secretariat will try and arrange the best possible schedule and inform members as soon as possible.



8 AOB

None raised

9 Summary of actions agreed and decisions adopted by the Chair

The Chair summarised the day's proceedings and expressed thanks to speakers, members and observers for the contributions to this meeting. He added a special thanks to Mo and Matilde for the tremendous work around the March 2024 round of meetings and the anniversary event.

Actions

1	Review new position on JR on squid and evaluate if updated AC advice is needed
2	Fishers of the Future -Secretariat to follow up regarding AC reaction potentially with other ACs in collaboration with Alexandra Philippe as NWWAC representative at this initiative
3	Secretariat to carry out an evaluation of the anniversary event.
4	Secretariat to send reminder all members to contribute to drafting of the Year 20 Work Programme by 12 April
5	Secretariat to send reminder for NWWAC Chair nominations
6	Management Team to discuss emergency measures should no nominations be received.
7	WG 2 to follow up on Celtic Sea whiting recovery



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Participants

NWWAC ExCom members	
Emiel Brouckaert	Rederscentrale
Bruno Dachicourt	ETF
Gérald Hussenot Desenonges	Blue Fish
John Lynch	ISEFPO
Patrick Murphy	ISWFPO
Alexandra Philippe	EBCD
Corentine Piton	France Pêche Durable et Responsable
Dominic Rihan	KFO
Jean-Marie Robert	Pêcheurs de Bretagne
NWWAC observers	
José Beltran	OPP Burela
Llibori Martinez	IFSUA
Arthur Yon	FROM Nord
Experts & Observers	
Eva Carballeira Fernandez	DG MARE C.5
Norman Graham	DG MARE C.5
Jonathan Tholo	Direction Générale Des Affaires Maritimes, De La Pêche Et De L'Aquaculture
NWWAC Secretariat	
Mo Mathies	Executive Secretary