



CONSEIL CONSULTATIF POUR
LES EAUX OCCIDENTALES
SEPTENTRIONALES

**NORTH WESTERN
WATERS**
ADVISORY COUNCIL

CONSEJO CONSULTIVO PARA
LAS AGUAS
NOROCCIDENTALES

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

—
22 October 2024



www.nwwac.org

Agenda

| | | | |
|---------------|-------|---|--|
| 09:30 – 09:40 | _____ | 1 | Welcome & Introductions <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Welcome from the Chair (Emiel Brouckaert)• Apologies• Adoption of the agenda• Action points from the last meeting (20 March 2024, online) |
| 09:20 – 10:00 | _____ | 2 | Approval of action points from the Working Groups |
| 10:00 – 10:45 | _____ | 3 | Dialogue with DG MARE– Eva Carballeira, DG MARE Head of Unit C5 |
| 10:45 – 11:00 | _____ | 4 | Dialogue with NWW MSG – Dirk van Guyze, Flemish Government |
| | | | Coffee |
| 11:15 – 11:30 | _____ | 5 | Election of NWWAC ExCom Vice-Chairs |
| 11:30 – 11:45 | _____ | 6 | Presentation of nominated candidates for NWWAC Chair position |
| 11:45 – 12:15 | _____ | 7 | NWWAC Work Programme and Budget Year 20 – state of play |
| 12:15 – 12:20 | _____ | 8 | AOB |
| 12:20 – 12:30 | _____ | 9 | Summary of actions agreed and decisions adopted by the Chair |

Action points from the last meeting

1. Members to send questions related to Director Donatella's intervention to the Secretariat for follow up with DG MARE
2. Secretariat to restart the procedure for Chair designation and ask NWWAC members for Chair nominations.
3. Members to send topics to be put forward to the NWW MSG at the upcoming meeting on 10 July to the Secretariat.

Action points Working Group 1 – Irish Sea

- 1 The Secretariat will share the updated choke spreadsheet and invite members to send their comments. The input received will feed the preparation of advice by the Focus Group Landing Obligation.
- 2 BIM will be invited to present on their recent trials on new gears in the Irish Sea at the next meeting of Working Group 1.
- 3 The following topics should be looked at to feed the agenda of the next WG meeting: implications of EU-UK management in the Irish sea and fisheries displacement due to marine protected areas and ORE.

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

- 1 The NWWAC will continue the liaison with STECF on VMEs and members will remain available to contribute to STECF analysis with data and interviews.
- 2 The NWWAC should follow up on the Commission's response to the AC letter on technical measures in the Celtic Sea, taking into account the new ICES advice, discussion at STECF EWG 24-16 and the impact of vessels decommissioning.
- 3 The Secretariat will share the updated choke spreadsheet and invite members to send their comments. The input received will feed the preparation of advice by the Focus Group Landing Obligation.
- 4 The NWWAC should draft advice to the Commission on stocks that urgently need their assessments improved through benchmark exercises. A priority stock for this WG is sole 7h,j,k.
- 5 The management of the hake northern stock should be kept on the agenda of this Working Group.

Action points Working Group 3 – Channel

1. The FG Seabass will meet again to find a compromise solution on the advice while the AC Chair will also review the current draft to develop a more balanced version.
2. The Secretariat will get in touch with UK authorities regarding observing the Bass Management Group.
3. The Focus Group Scallop should meet again once results from the Irish trials are available.
4. The NWWAC should draft advice to the Commission requesting that the joint recommendation on squid is brought forward.
5. The Secretariat will share the updated choke traffic light spreadsheet for members to provide inputs and contribute to the preparation of advice.

Action points Horizontal Working Group

1. The NWWAC will continue following the developments of the CFP evaluation project, waiting for DG MARE to provide more information on future consultations and on the contractor.
2. The Secretariat will share the list of points to be raised with ICES at MIAC and update explanatory paragraphs following comments from members.
3. The Focus Group Spatial Dimension will follow up on the presentation by Damien Haberlin and consider the drafting of advice on the Celtic Sea Ecological Sensitivity Analysis.
4. The Focus Group Control, Enforcement and Compliance will review the control regulation correlation table in view of the organisation of a multi-ACs workshop on the topic.



- 3 Dialogue with DG MARE – Eva Carballeira, DG MARE Head of Unit C5
 - 4 Dialogue with the NWW MSG – Dirk van Guyze, Flemish Government, Agency for Agriculture and Fisheries
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COFFEE BREAK

11:00 – 11:15 CET





5. Election of NWWAC ExCom Vice-Chairs

The Vice Chairperson(s) of the Executive Committee

42. Three members, two nominated from within the industry college and one nominated from within the OIG college, shall be appointed by the members of the Executive Committee for a (renewable) term of three years. The Vice-Chairperson(s) shall be a member(s) of the Executive Committee and shall have a vote.
43. Nominations must be made by Executive Committee members during the first meeting of the newly elected Executive Committee and seconded by another Executive Committee member.
44. Members of the Executive Committee will vote for Vice-chairpersons in an open ballot.
45. If the same amount of votes is received by two or more candidates, the Secretariat shall initiate a secret second ballot via electronic procedure within one week of the first ballot held.

- Proposal from member to postpone election to March meeting until new Chair has been appointed



6. Presentation of nominated candidates for NWWAC Chair position

- July 2024: Call for Chair nominations
- X nominations received
- Application forms will be sent to all ratified candidates
- Call for expressions of interest for participation in Evaluation Committee will be issued in November to all ExCom members
- Evaluation Committee will analyse applications and provide scoring to identify most suitable candidate for position
- Results of individual evaluation communicated to Secretariat
- Collated anonymously into comparison overview
- Evaluation Committee will revert to ExCom for endorsement at March 2025 meeting





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Work Programme Year 20



Planned recommendations YR20



| No | Issue/subject | Link with the CFP | WG/FG at the origin of the recommendation | Planned date of adoption (if available) |
|----|--|---------------------------|--|---|
| 1 | Advice on Addressing Choke Risk in the NWW after exemptions | Article 2, 14, 15 | WG1, WG2, WG3 | December 2024 |
| 2 | Advice on topics related to the Landing Obligation | Article 2, 14, 15 | Horizontal WG (Focus Group Landing Obligation) | March 2025 |
| 3 | Advice on the implementation of the EU Technical Measures Regulation, including directed fisheries definition | Article 2, 10 | Horizontal Working Group | March 2025 |
| 4 | Advice on Technical Measures as a topic in the execution of the TCA if relevant proposals are put forward by the Commission | Article 2 | WG1, WG2, WG3, HWG | July 2025 |
| 5 | Advice on Fishing Opportunities 2026 & COM Policy Paper | Article 2, 14, 15, 16 | WG1, WG2, WG3, HWG | July 2025 |
| 6 | Advice on the management of skates & rays | Article 2, 10, 14, 15, 16 | HWG (Focus Group Skates & Rays) | March 2025 |
| 7 | Advice relating to SCF issues: technical measures, non-quota species etc. | Article 2, 14, 15 | Horizontal WG | December 2024 |
| 8 | Advice related to climate & environment topics, e.g., EU Biodiversity Strategy, EU Green Deal, Farm to Fork Strategy, Nature Restoration Law | Article 2 | HWG (Focus Group Climate & Environment) | November 2024 |
| 9 | Advice on social aspects related to fisheries in the NWW | Article 2 | HWG (Focus Group Social Aspects) | January 2025 |
| 10 | Advice on aspects raised in the CFP Communication or as part of the CFP evaluation | Article 2 | HWG (Focus Group CFP and other relevant FGs once identified) | June 2025 |
| 11 | Advice on aspects raised in the Action Plan | Article 2 | HWG (Focus Group CFP and other relevant FGs once identified) | May 2025 |
| 12 | Advice on aspects raised in the Energy Transition Communication | Article 2 | HWG (Relevant FG once identified) | December 2024 |





Planned meetings Year 20

| | Date (for the first 6 months, please provide precise dates) | Topics /subjects of meeting | Type of meeting (physical/ planned/ hybrid) | European Commission participation requested (yes/no) | If Commission participation requested, specific issues to be dealt with | Priority for a Commission participation (from 1 to 4) (1= highest priority) |
|----|---|---|---|--|---|---|
| 1 | 04 October 2024 | CHARM | Virtual | No | | |
| 2 | 09 October 2024 | Working Group 1 | virtual | yes | | 1 |
| 3 | 09 October 2024 | Working Group 2 | virtual | yes | | 1 |
| 4 | 09 October 2024 | Working Group 3 | virtual | yes | | 1 |
| 5 | 10 October 2024 | Horizontal Working Group | virtual | yes | | 1 |
| 6 | 13 October 2024 | Focus Group CFP | physical | no | | |
| 7 | tbc October 2024 | Workshop on Scallop Management in the Channel | physical | yes | | 1 |
| 8 | 22 October 2024 | Executive Committee | virtual | yes | | 1 |
| 9 | 27 October 2023 | Focus Group Climate | virtual | no | | |
| 10 | 01 November 2024 | Focus Group Landing Obligation | virtual | no | | |

Planned meetings Year 20 ctnd.

| | | | | | | |
|----|------------------|---|-----------|-----|--|---|
| 11 | 04 November 2024 | CHARM | Virtual | no | | |
| 12 | 07 November 2024 | Focus Group Scallop | virtual | yes | Finalisation of advice | |
| 13 | 15 November 2024 | Focus Group Control & Compliance | Virtual | no | | |
| 14 | 25 November 2024 | Focus Group Skates & Rays | physical | yes | | 1 |
| 15 | 28 November 2024 | Focus Group CFP | virtual | no | | |
| 16 | 16 December 2024 | Focus Group Social Aspects | virtual | no | | |
| 17 | 06 January 2025 | CHARM | Virtual | no | | |
| 18 | 10 January 2025 | Focus Group MSP/ORE | virtual | no | | |
| 19 | 31 January 2025 | Focus Group Control & Compliance | virtual | no | | |
| 20 | 03 February 2025 | CHARM | Virtual | no | | |
| 21 | 04 February 2025 | Inter-AC Brexit Forum | In-person | Yes | | 1 |
| 22 | 07 February 2025 | Focus Group CFP | virtual | no | | |
| 23 | 23 February 2025 | Focus Group Social Aspects | virtual | no | | |
| 24 | 03 March 2025 | CHARM | Virtual | no | | |
| 25 | 10 March 2025 | Working Group 1 Irish Sea | hybrid | yes | Technical measures, Discard Plan beyond 2023 | 1 |
| 26 | 10 March 2025 | Working Group 3 English Channel | hybrid | yes | Technical measures, Discard Plan non-quota species | 1 |
| 27 | 11 March 2025 | Working Group 2 Celtic Sea & West of Scotland | hybrid | yes | Technical measures, Discard Plan | 1 |
| 28 | 11 March 2025 | Horizontal Working Group | hybrid | yes | TCA &SCF, UK Technical Measures, EU public consultation Protecting the seabed from bottom trawling by fishing vessels | 1 |
| 29 | 12 March 2025 | Executive Committee | hybrid | yes | Dialogue with DG MARE: Overview on ongoing dossiers and upcoming advice requests; EU-UK negotiations, fishing opportunities 2026 | 1 |
| 30 | 07 April 2025 | CHARM | virtual | no | | |
| 31 | 05 May 2025 | CHARM | virtual | no | | |
| 32 | 02 June 2025 | CHARM | Virtual | no | | |
| 33 | 02 July 2025 | CHARM | Virtual | no | | |
| 34 | 02 July 2025 | Working Group 1 Irish Sea | hybrid | yes | ICES advice, NWWAC choke tool update, Stock specific discussions with DG MARE experts | 1 |
| 35 | 02 July 2025 | Working Group 3 English Channel | hybrid | yes | ICES advice, NWWAC choke tool update, Stock specific discussions with DG MARE experts | 1 |



Planned meetings Year 20 ctnd.

| | | | | | | |
|----|-------------------|---|---------|-----|--|---|
| 36 | 03 July 2025 | Horizontal Working Group | hybrid | yes | depending on the topics discussed a DG MARE expert will be requested | 1 |
| 37 | 03 July 2025 | General Assembly | Hybrid | no | | |
| 38 | 03 July 2025 | Working Group 2 Celtic Sea & West of Scotland | hybrid | yes | ICES advice, NWWAC choke tool update, Stock specific discussions with DG MARE experts | 1 |
| 39 | 04 July 2025 | Executive Committee | hybrid | yes | Dialogue with the Commission and Member States; EU-UK negotiations, fishing opportunities 2026 | 1 |
| 40 | 25 July 2025 | Focus Group Landing Obligation | Virtual | no | | |
| 41 | 29 July 2025 | CHARM | Virtual | no | | |
| 42 | 01 September 2025 | CHARM | Virtual | no | | |
| 43 | 12 September 2025 | Focus Group Landing Obligation | Virtual | No | | |
| 44 | 23 September 2025 | Focus Group CFP | virtual | no | | |
| 45 | 25 September 2025 | General Assembly | virtual | no | Approval of Year 20 annual report and budget | |



Upcoming meetings

- 07 Nov NWWAC/PelAC FG Spatial Dimension, virtual
- 12 Nov European Parliament AC event, virtual
- 20 Nov NWW MS Technical Group, virtual
- 25–20 Nov ICES WKSEABASS, virtual
- 23–24 Jan MIAC/MIACO, Copenhagen
- 10–12 Mar NWWAC Working Groups / ExCom and SEAwise workshop, Paris
- 02–04 Jul NWWAC Working Groups and ExCom, Vigo





UPDATE ON YEAR 20 ACCOUNTS

Year 20 – Income – Current Position

| | Original Budget 01 October 2024 | Actual Income at 22 October 2024 | Outstanding |
|--|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------|
| Member States | € 25,000 | € 10,000 | € 15,000 |
| Commission | € 343,332 | € 274,666.60 | € 68,665.40 |
| Member's Fees + interest on fees + misc. income | € 28,700 | € 28,700 | € 0 |
| Total | € 397,032 | € 313,366.60 | € 83,665.40 |

8. AOB

- Control workshop
- Aims:
 - Implementation of the revised control regulation
 - Split up of responsibilities between Commission and Member States
 - AC involvement in simplification of implementing articles
 - Clarification of legal text
 - Simplification of administrative burden
 - Identification of challenges and shortcomings for stakeholders and possible solutions





9 Summary of actions agreed and decisions adopted by the Chair



Thank you.

North Western Waters Advisory Council 