



Executive Committee meeting

4 February 2014, The Hague, The Netherlands

Agenda

- 1) Opening of the meeting
- 2) Approval of the agenda
- 3) Follow-up on action items
- 4) Current utilization of budget 2013-2014
 - Participation in PRAC meetings
- 5) Articles of association
- 6) General Assembly membership
- 7) Horizon 2020 fisheries call 2014-2015
- 8) Report from MIRAC meeting
- 9) AOB
- 10) End of meeting



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Follow-up on action items

- Submit recommendation on data collection under the EMFF (chairman, secretariat) ✓
- Arrange MYFISH meeting (Niels Hintzen, secretariat) ✓



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Current utilization of budget

	2013/14 Budgeted	2013/14 Realised (4 February 2014)	Percentage realized
A: Staff	135.569	71.640	53 %
B: Participation in meetings	78.547	45.512	58 %
C: Preparation of meetings	13.060	13.886	106 %
D: Operation costs	14.224	5.732	40 %
E: Interpretation	34.400	23.312	68 %
F: Other contracts	19.800	6.010	30 %
G: Reserve	14.650	0	0
H: Deficit	-	-	-
TOTAL	310.250	180.742	58 %



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Current utilization of budget

Participation in PRAC meetings:

Additional discard meetings and increased participation by (non-) members has led to a rapid increase of meeting costs and the Pelagic RAC is therefore likely to exceed its budget in 2013-2014.

How to solve this problem?

- Restrict number of participants to 1 per organisation (including non-PRAC members) and introduce a general limit
- Charge a fee to contribute to meeting costs
- No lunch offering
- For members: refrain from claiming reimbursement if your organisation can afford it



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Articles of association

Straightforward changes:

- Removal of references to ACFA
- Change of name from Pelagic Regional Advisory Council to Pelagic Advisory Council
- Change of reference to new EU Regulation
- Update on composition rules (60/40)
- Inclusion of boarfish under Article 2 and 3
- Inclusion of the landing obligation under Article 5



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Articles of association

French suggestion:

It might be difficult to meet the 60/40 composition requirement. In order to allow all interested and eligible parties to remain or become a member of the Pelagic AC seats should be kept vacant if they cannot be filled.

Some decisions by the Executive Committee require a 2/3 majority vote. If seats are vacant (most likely in the 40% group) votes of that group could be "upgraded", e.g.:

- Executive Committee consists of 12 members of the 60% group and 8 members of the 40% group.
- All 12 seats of the 60% group are filled, but only 4 seats of the 40% group
- Therefore votes from the 40% group count double



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General Assembly membership

- The new General Assembly has to be in place before the 17th of August 2014, the day that the new Pelagic AC year starts
- In order to meet the 90% co-financing rule the General Assembly membership fee has to be received before June to allow sufficient time for submitting the new grant application and signing the contract with the Commission
- The General Assembly has to be approved of by the Member States

Therefore the following procedure will be applied:

- Application forms will be sent shortly to all current members and potential new members
- These forms have to be filled in and sent back to the secretariat as soon as possible (deadline tba)
- Once all forms have been received they will be submitted to the Member States for approval



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Letter from the Scheveningen Group

- Landing obligation for pelagic fisheries enters into force on 1 January 2015
- Discard plans have to be submitted to the Commission at the end of June 2014
- First drafts have to be ready for discussion in the Scheveningen Group in March 2014
- Pelagic RAC has to submit input to the discard plan at the end of February 2014 at the latest



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EMFF: funding opportunities



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Horizon 2020 fisheries call

Key aspects:

- How to avoid unwanted catches through improving selectivity and adapting fishing strategies
- How to address practical issues of handling unwanted catches while fully documenting them
- How to best make use of unwanted catches without creating economic incentives
- How to estimate the possible consequences of the biomass removal until now discarded at sea
- How to control and monitor compliance with the new rules
- How to estimate and monitor socioeconomic consequences of the new regulatory framework on the fishing fleets and local communities



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MIRAC meeting



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AOB



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Thank you