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Report

Horizontal Working Group NWWAC PelAC

14 March Dublin

The presentation can be found [here](#).

1 Opening of the meeting by the Chair

Gonçalo Carvalho, PelAC OIG Vice-Chair and Chair of the joint NWWAC/PelAC Focus Group Spatial Dimension, opened the meeting and welcomed all participants. He explained that he was co-chairing this meeting with Alexandra Phillippe, NWWAC OIG Vice-Chair who would chair the second part on control after the break.

2 Adoption of the agenda

Apologies were received from Richard Cronin, DHLGH, for personal reasons, so there would be no presentation as indicated on the agenda. The Secretariats will invite him to one of the future joint FG Spatial Dimension meetings to present an update on the Marine Protected Areas Bill Ireland, which is very relevant.

A tour de table followed before the agenda was adopted with the above amendment.

Part I: Spatial Dimension

3 Report on the work of the Joint FG Spatial Dimension by FG Chair

The Chair explained that this FG was jointly set up between the PelAC and the NWWAC to address this relevant horizontal theme. A first meeting was held on 31 January which included a series of presentations, including by the EU Commission on the Blue Forum and EU Wind power package, by ICES on the work carried out by WGOWDF, as well as on the North Sea Basin Initiative.¹

Priorities defined by the FG during the January meeting:

- Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) and broader activity mapping

¹ All information relating to this meeting is available on the PelAC website ([link](#)) and the NWWAC website ([link](#)).



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- Offshore Renewable Energy: clear priority as new significant development; also related to Marine Protected Areas and MSP angle, linking it to sensitive habitats for species for the fishing fleet.
- Deep-sea mining: very relevant with developments in Norway; may not have same urgency as the others topics but monitoring of development essential.
- Discussion on possible joint recommendations to the Commission, e.g. regarding state of play on Member States' pledges of MPAs under the Marine Action Plan; also underline the need for a broader overview of mapping of activities on a regional basis, not only national.
- Other actions agreed: invite ICES at regular intervals for updates on the WGOWDF; update the FG TOR based on discussion of topics at the FG.

Further defining 2024 FG priorities:

Proposals:

- MSP and broader activity mapping. Idea to discuss the new paper of the European Blue Forum from Commission and use as a basis for advice.
- ORE developments, invite ICES to present the ORE roadmap. (PelAC suggestion); NWWAC suggestion to follow-up on seafood ORE subgroup Ireland.
- Deep-sea mining: LDAC, NWWAC and PelAC developed joint advice in 2021. Following recent developments in Norway, where Norway sets plans to start these activities with possible impacts on species of commercial importance as well as ecosystem health, it was suggested to revisit the advice and consider updating it.
- MPAs
- Take stock of the pledges MS, but we may need to wait a few months. Invite different MS to update us on each individual MPA designation process.

The Chair opened the floor to comments on these proposals.

Sean O'Donoghue explained that last December, the Chair of the Seafood/ORE group in Ireland decided that neither AC would be invited to join this group. While the fishing industry representatives strenuously objected to this, the decision was taken nonetheless. He suggested that both ACs formally write to the relevant Department to raise this, as in his opinion this was unacceptable.

ACTION: Both ACs to formally write a letter to Department in Ireland to object to decision ORE subgroup.

The Chair commented that the NWWAC Executive Secretary Mo Mathies had suggested to give a presentation of the ORE subgroup to explain what the ACs are and why it makes sense to become members.



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Emiel Brouckaert stated that this proposal had been put forward to the Seafood/ORE group Chair and that the presentation would take place at the upcoming meeting of the group on 16 April.

Alex Rodriguez commented that from an LDAC perspective conservation management measures in high seas fall under their remit, including deep-sea mining. This week would see an informal meeting with several key members active in the international seabed authority, followed by a formal meeting next week. The LDAC has decided to start a follow up advice based on the previous one. He felt that the development in Norway is very important, and not only affecting Norwegian fisheries. He stated that the LDAC has an excellent collaboration with PelAC and NWWAC, who will be invited to contribute.

The Chair asked if there was an update on the timeline for this advice.

Rodriguez stated that a call for setting up a Focus Group would be issued in the next months, which will develop a draft document. PelAC and NWWAC Secretariats will be contacted in due course to contribute to the advice drafting.

Jerome Jourdain commented that the UK process, especially MPAs in the UK, must not be forgotten. While this was discussed briefly at the Inter-AC meeting with DG MARE, repercussions are significant for the EU fleet. Focus is placed on habitat treatment and species and includes in its last phase the management of fisheries with regard to harvest and predator-prey conflicts. Secondly, he felt that one of the weaknesses in the current situation is that the MS work in silo and not together with the Nature Restoration Regulation likely to complicate things if all MS take different approaches. He felt it was important to monitor this. In terms of 2024 priorities, he suggested addressing the closing of MPAs for fishing. *“It would be useful to study scientific evidence in this context to clarify this for both ACs and avoid generic management measures that may not always be appropriate.”* In this context, displacement also needs to be addressed.

José Beltran expressed his support for the previous speakers and for the inclusion of the ACs in the Seafood/ORE group.

The Chair asked Jourdain if the topic of MPAs in UK waters should be dealt with in the joint FG or would it be better suited to the Inter-AC Brexit Forum.

O’Donoghue felt that the Inter-AC Brexit Forum is working well and should be used for all Brexit related issues. In his opinion it would be a waste of time to cover this at the Inter-AC level with the Commission as there is never enough time.

The Chair agreed that Defra did not want to cover this at the last meeting and that this could be tabled at the next meeting of the Inter-AC Brexit planned in April and chaired by NSAC.

ACTION: Put UK MPAs on agenda of next Inter-AC Brexit Forum as a priority to address.

Regarding the Compilation of science on positive effects MPAs on fisheries, the Chair asked if an online symposium might be organised with presentations from scientists. As there were no



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comments from participants, the Chair will consider how to take this forward at a future meeting.

His final question to Jourdain related to compensation for fishermen for MPAs.

Jourdain explained that he had no opinion on how to take this forward, but that he felt some elements need to be taken into consideration by developers and in the MPA designation process. He volunteered to draft a paper together with Alexandra Philippe and the Chair, and to establish if this needs to take shape of an advice on fishermen's compensation for example.

The Chair thanked Jourdain for this suggestion and felt it was a good way forward.

Regarding the silo set up, Philippe commented that it would be worthwhile to develop a common position referencing the MSP expert group, MSFD expert groups, and other authorities on environment.

The Chair added that a MS expert group on MSP exists and that it could be interesting to ask if ACs can be members of this expert group.

Beltran added that compensation can also be very species dependent.

The Chair explained that scientific and socio-economic information is needed to understand potential positive effects in order to calculate financial compensation for fishers that are not allowed to fish in no-take zones. The spillover effect is still mostly theory, and real-life proof of this can only be expected in a few years.

ACTION: ACs to write a letter to understand which group to engage with on MSP /MPAs at MS level and to try and break the silo approach now happening.

4 [Presentation on potential ecosystem effects of large-scale ORE, Luca van Duren \(Deltares\)](#)

Luca van Duren thanked the ACs for the invitation to the meeting and explained that offshore wind energy development can be split into three distinct phases: construction (noise pollution, well investigated), operational phase, and decommissioning phase when things need to be dismantled. The focus of today's presentation is the operational phase.

She introduced the Dutch WOZEP Programme which focusses on cause and effect relationship of offshore wind energy developments, identifies knowledge gaps and how to fill them. The project also includes development of models, data monitoring, and studying the effects on protected species. Habitat change and ecosystem effects are now the main focus.

Van Duren provided a brief recap on the marine food web and explained that the effect chain includes more than simple living organisms, but also climate, wind currents etc. She stated that ORE has a direct impact on wind and thus has a consequence for components of the ecosystem.



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In relation to the seafloor, any effects on the wind field drive waves, which are an important driver for resuspension of sediments. The effect of resuspension of fine sediments, positive or negative, depends where you are in the marine system. Stratification, i.e. the natural separation of an ocean's water into horizontal layers by density, also needs to be taken into account as this process determines the availability of nutrients in the top layers of the water column, where there is sufficient light for photosynthesis.

The project tries to develop numerical models to predict what will happen in the North Sea in the scenarios of large ORE upscaling specifically in the Dutch marine area.

Stratification effects can be seen in the central part of the the North Sea with summer months showing heavy stratification while in late autumn areas are fully mixed again and fine sediment makes its way to top layers. Other areas are year-round fully mixed or show intermittent stratification patterns. For wind farms in the central part of the Southern North Sea, stratification sets in during the month of April with the effect of more nutrients accumulating in the top layer which at that time is still stratified. In the summer period when algae growing there is no additional effect on fine sediment. As most wind farms are in coastal zones, with less or no stratification, negative effects on primary production can be seen. These can be quite substantial, for example a delay in spring bloom, though in some areas an increase in primary production can be observed. Spatial differences can have visible effects on primary production, however, there significant knowledge gaps currently remain.

Van Duren continued explaining that growth of normally bottom-dwelling animals (such as mussels, small crustaceans and sea anemones) can be observed on the turbines and the seabed surrounding the turbines as it is different compared to the sandy situation in most of Dutch sea bottom. The presence of large amounts of essentially benthic animals in the top layer of the water (on the turbine supports), can in theory cause competition for food with pelagic grazers, i.e. zooplankton. If and to what extent this is going to have an impact on fish communities (pelagic and benthic) is currently not known and subject to future research

Exclusion of bottom trawling was expected to have an impact on the sea bed in and immediately around the wind farms. In the southern part of the North Sea, the sandy areas are mobile, with big dunes under the influence of strong tidal forces moving sand waves through the system. This means that the seabed is inherently not very stable making it a dynamic area where the impact of fishing on seabed and seabed community is relatively low. However, in recent years, wind farms have also been built in areas with a more stable sea bed. In those areas indeed changes on the composition of bottom-dwelling animals (increase in biodiversity and biomass) have been observed.

She concluded that the scale of the infrastructure is likely to impact primary production and that one wind farm has much less influence than many in close proximity. At the moment, only ecological evaluations have been carried out, focussing only on species with conservation targets (birds, porpoises, certain rays and shark species). No limits have been set for primary production, which could be a sensible start to work on provided it is carried out at the proper scale. With each country working within its own legal system, this is not easy to put in place. It is



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essential to evaluate and harmonise Governance and legal issues. The Netherlands currently has a target of 21 GW ORE, and other countries have similar targets. Time is ticking to get this done, and adaptive management is needed.

The Chair thanked van Duren for her presentation and opened the floor for questions.

Patrick Murphy thanked the speaker for what he felt was an eye opening presentation. In relation to carbon sequestration he commented that there is a lot of concern in NGO circles regarding the effects of bottom contact fisheries, however, he felt that the information presented showed that currents have just as much of an effect as fisheries.

Van Duren agreed that this is likely the case in the dynamic parts of the southern North Sea. She commented that carbon sequestration is likely limited in the southern North Sea, but likely more extensive in the central part and will depend strongly on the presence of certain biota (e.g. oyster beds). Fishing impact there is likely more significant. She added that a lot of fine sediments can increase carbon sequestration but that research on this is very much in its infancy and that as yet there is no extensive modelling on these effects.

In relation to fine sediments in the superficial layer, Jourdain wondered what order of magnitude this would be also regarding to what is elevated by these turbines, and what depth is this related to. He thanked van Duren for the presentation, and felt it was very valuable to present the effects on primary production like this as it raises so many questions. *“Is your work published and available?”*

Van Duren commented that the research is not yet published in scientific journals but available in English on the project website.² She added that fine sand sinks quickly, leading to layers in the North Sea depending on specific location. In the model presented, the water column is parametrised in 50 layers of a few meters. The amount fine sediment is translated from how turbid the water is.

Emiel Brouckaert asked if van Duren was aware of similar projects in other areas such as the North Western Waters, or projects that look into similarities.

Van Duren explained that the methodology can be applied anywhere, and is currently also done in the US, though other projects use their own models as well. Effects in the North Sea are pronounced as it is a closed basin with everything inside depending on primary production. In the open ocean or along the West coast Ireland, primary production is much more under the influence of the open ocean currents and ORE has less influence on primary production.

Anton Paulrud wondered if anything could be said regarding impacts on spawning grounds.

Van Duren stated that she would need maps of the spawning groups to answer and that the project has not yet analysed this.

² <https://www.noordzeeloket.nl/en/functions-and-use/offshore-wind-energy/ecology/offshore-wind-ecological-programme-wozep/>



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Olivier Lepretre thanked van Duren for the interesting presentation. He added that as a fisher himself he had to disagree with some of the information presented as he has noticed that there are no more fish over the past 10 years on the Thornton Bank along the Belgian Coast.

Van Duren recalled that she had only addressed the seabed and the difference between benthic animals (worms and clams) within the wind farms which does not mean that there is no difference for fish as they are the next step up the chain. The impact may be quite different but may not be linked to the seabed.

In some offshore wind energy development turbines are situated very close together which will have very different effects. The very dynamic parts of the Southern North Sea are likely to recover relatively quickly, as the ecosystem is adapted to mobile sand waves. Gravel beds in Belgium are much more stable area, so impacts will be different there. Further north, the sediment is much finer meaning recovery time is likely to be much longer than in the southern North Sea. The type of impact fisheries will have on the environment and what recovery time can be expected always depends on location.

The Chair concluded that the NGOs are very concerned about wind energy development, but that joint advice from the ACs has proven they share a lot of concerns with the industry. *“We have to continue to unite these concerns in our advice.”*

He recalled that the next speaker was unfortunately unable to attend in-person. He had, however, sent a written update which would be circulated to all participants. He added that he would be invited to one of the next FG meetings in future for full update and discussion.

ACTION: Secretariat to circulate Richard Cronin’s notes to participants (also included below)

[New Irish Marine Protected Areas Bill](#)

- The Bill was approved and developed in December 2022 by government and is due to be published imminently
- It aims to ensure that Ireland meets its target of 30% MPA coverage by 2030; it will focus on marine features not covered by the Birds and Habitats Directives
- The Bill will include provision for a national Ocean Environment Policy Statement that will set out Ireland's priorities for the protection and restoration of features while taking into account of the national priorities for sustainable use of the sea
- It aims to make provision for addressing the effects of climate change on the marine environment and also to take account of traditional and cultural values relating to the sea
- The Bill will have a strong emphasis on national stakeholder and public participation and consultation at all stages of the process including consultation on the ocean



environment policy statement, the call for features to be protected, proposed sites for MPAs and for their subsequent amendment or adjustment.

- Stakeholder and public participation will take place through participatory stakeholder working groups that will support the work of the expert advisory body (a body established under the Act to advise the Minister). The stakeholders include the public, sectoral and community interests, experts and government bodies. This participation will be able to work on (amongst other things)
 - o Initial MPA proposals
 - o Site conservation objectives
 - o Management recommendations and actions
- The Bill will allow for the appointment of management authorities and the making of management plans for MPA sites
- A provision procedure for exemptions to MPA objectives (in whole or part) will be allowed for issues of national priority (i.e. energy, transport, etc)
- The Bill will allow for regulations for restricting activities in MPAs if no other management action is appropriate.
- The Bill will not interfere with the procedures for management of fisheries established under the EU Common Fisheries Policy or for other activities that are managed at a supra-national level such as shipping.
- There will be a general exemption for activities relating to defence, national security and the emergency services.

EU LIFE funding has been secured (€25m) to implement the work envisaged to meet the 30% target.

Part II: Control Regulation

Alexandra Philippe took over as Chair for this second part of the joint Horizontal Working Group and explained that the aim of the discussions was to try and a basis for joint advice as well as identify issues by both ACs.

6 Reporting on Inter-AC meeting regarding Control Regulation on 6 February

She reported on the Inter-AC meeting with DG Mare where a presentation with general overview on the new control regulation was made. One of the main issues is that as yet there is no consolidated text available, making the regulation difficult to read.



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7 Exchange issues identified by both ACs

She presented the categorisation of major changes stating that the presentation focussed in large parts on the complicated issue of the margin of tolerance. She felt it would be useful to have a seminar on this to properly understand the new requirements. The timelines for the implementation of the various elements were also provided by the Commission, and Philippe invited participants to review the slides circulated by Secretariats. She felt the ACs could not do much now about the regulation itself but that they could influence the implementing acts. She followed by presenting issues of concern identified by the Pelagic AC members and then the NWWAC members.

O'Donoghue explained that discussions had been held in the PelAC, and while some of the issues had been addressed at the Inter-AC with DG MARE, other key points such as timelines for the implementing acts had not. He noted a number of key issues for the PelAC including the issue that no consolidated version is available yet.

a) Pelagic weighing and the margin of tolerance: Due to the nature of pelagic fisheries, level of bycatch is only identified once catch is sorted at the factory. Under the old regulation, the margin of tolerance was per species. If for example, you have 1000 tonnes of mackerel onboard, and you have 10 tonnes herring, under the old regime your 10 tonnes of herring had to be within 10% tolerance. Now it is counted part of the total. This is meant to be implemented by 01 July 2024. He suggested that the question for the Commission is how it will decide which ports will be listed and what criteria applied. "We need to know how this will be defined."

b) CCTV: The regulation currently states that this will apply to high-risk vessels for which a definition is needed. This was raised at the Inter-AC meeting but only a vague answer was supplied regarding the query if ACs could be involved in the development of the delegated acts.

c) Weighing requirements: these have changed in the new regulation, and a point was raised at the Inter-AC meeting about the existing monitoring and sampling problems MS have with the weighing. The ACs were told this will stay in place until there are new implementing Acts.

O'Donoghue concluded that the key issue are the delegated Acts, which must be a priority for this year.

Philippe referred to the correlation table put together with input from the NWWAC and PelAC and felt this was very useful.

Aodh O'Donnell re-emphasised what O'Donoghue had stated, specifically the issue of margin tolerance for small pelagics and the need for clear criteria for ports.

John Lynch added that an issue of deep concern in demersal fisheries is the obligation to report all catches. He explained that this was an onerous task making the recording and reporting less accurate, which could lead to more mistakes.



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O'Donoghue clarified that because the haul-by-haul reporting is a new situation, the existing software for the electronic logbook used by vessels is no longer relevant. Any updates need to be compatible with all the systems, and clarity is needed as well regarding the phasing in of this requirement.

Annelie Rosell stressed the importance of the delegated Acts and importance of implementing the requirements in a coordinated manner to safeguard a level playing field.

Participants then addressed the issues identified by the NWWAC and the Chair pointed out that some similarities with the PelAC could be seen. She invited Patrick Murphy, Chair of the NWWAC FG Control to comment.

Murphy first touched on the meeting held in Denmark with EFCA which he felt had been quite frustrating. He added that the Landing Obligation evaluation report was based on opinion and not independent data. He stated that there was a substantive amount of work ahead but felt confident with the excellent Secretariats to lead this work.

The Chair agreed that the three meetings between EFCA, the NWWAC, NSAC and PelAC in Copenhagen had been tense.

Carvalho commented that it was important to note that these meetings also included the MS Control Expert Groups, which need to be targeted specifically in the ACs' advice as well. As the national authorities will implement the control regulation, they need to be aware of the ACs' work.

The Chair agreed and added that it is the job of the ACs to emphasise that the implementation is harmonised and aligned as much as possible taking into account specificities of individual MS. She presented the summary of points identified by the NWWAC ([slide 40 presentation](#)).

8 Next steps

Common points with the PelAC include the time scale of the implementation and the involvement of the ACs, REM high risk definition, and monitoring of engine power.

Brouckaert felt that the weighing requirements were missing from the overview and that traceability requirements are linked to this. As these are very complex to apply, it should be added to the list.

O'Donoghue identified that the monitoring engine power is quite extensive as can be seen in the specific clauses on the engine, which include a definition of high risk where continuous monitoring will apply. ACs should be involved in how this is defined.

ACTION: Add article 38 on requirement for continuous monitoring of engine power applicable to 'high risk' vessels to list of common issues.

Manu Kelberine referred to Art. 44 and the extreme complexity for small mixed fisheries in relation to separate stowage of demersal catches subject to multiannual plans.



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Llibori Martinez Latorre commented on Art. 55 on recreational fishing and wondered why it was classified as a potentially problematic item.

Carvalho felt it was probably referring to the importance of ensuring recreational fisheries are covered by the implementation of the new regulation. Murphy added this might also have to deal with reporting. The Chair confirmed that it was in relation to which impact recreational catch reporting will have on quotas, even though catches can't be sold. In her opinion, it would be well worth reviewing this new article.

Carvalho felt that as recreational fisheries are not part of PelAC, any advice related to this should be developed solely by the NWWAC. He added that Sciaena is working on technology regarding installation of VMS on recreational and small-scale vessels in a Horizon project called Fish X. A presentation on this can be made to the NWWAC which might offer some idea how this could be implemented.

Martinez Latorre replied that a presentation on this project was organised at the MedAC and there was no intention to involve recreational vessels in the work. Carvalho explained that recreational fisheries are part of the project and will need to be covered with some trials.

Referring to Art. 55, Murphy commented that a scientific fishery bluefin tuna exists, which may be an example of where reporting requirement applies to pelagic and demersal.

Rodriguez commented that the LDAC is carrying out a similar reflection exercise. He felt it was an excellent example of going through the issues, and that the LDAC had similar concerns for the margin of tolerance for tropical tuna, making implementation complicated in practice. If implementation is already difficult in EU ports, he felt the additional complications for non-EU ports are difficult to imagine. Sanctions and enforcement have also been addressed by the LDAC but seem to be missing in today's discussion. He suggested that the list of infringements provided by the Commission and minimum level of sanctions and harmonised points system could be considered by both ACs and questions submitted to the Commission.

The Chair agreed that the point system and sanctions were very important. As different procedures are being developed it is vital that a level playing field is retained. She felt it was worth including this in the list of common issue.

ACTION: Add concerns on point system and sanctions to list of common PelAC/NWWAC issues.

Lepretre felt that this regulation will bring about the end of the fishing industry.

Murphy agreed.

Carvalho acknowledged the difficulties and the risks of the new regulation but also felt there were good opportunities if implemented well. He added that rightful request by fishers to separate European seafood from imports could have an added value, for example when addressing compensation. Without knowing what activities occur where, it is difficult to calculate compensation. He referred to a recent consultation on a fish farm development in Portugal in some fishing grounds. Some fishers in that area had ongoing research project with



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VMS data collected over 5-10 years which allowed them to respond to the consultation to protest the designation of the fish farm. While he acknowledged the industry's concern, he felt it was important to look at the potential benefits as well.

O'Donnell commented on the importance of harmonising control and enforcement. He explained that there is no provision in the new control regulation for the retrospective individual MS making it impossible to achieve a level playing field.

ACTION: The need for harmonisation between MS in their control and enforcement activities should be added as an important matter to the common issues.

O'Donoghue emphasised that all of the issues raised come back to fundamental point, specifically that a lot of the detail will be in the delegated Acts which is why it is so important that the ACs try to become involved in the process of development. While the ACs have consulted both the Commission and the MS, but the ACs should be systematically involved in this process. While the regulation cannot be changed, all the details are kicked down the road, into the delegated Acts, the ACs need to ensure they have a role in this.

The Chair agreed that communication was key. The ACs have an opportunity to influence and are best placed representing all stakeholders. She added that there is quite a difference between Implementing Act and Delegated Act, and that the process of involving the stakeholders can be different and more vague.

O'Donnell wondered that as both ACs have an interest regarding involvement, would it be worthwhile to have a joint Focus Group between the ACs to develop this input.

Carvalho stated that first a dedicated meeting with the Commission is needed for more insight on the control regulation, and that this was quite urgent.

ACTION: Ask Commission for a technical in-depth meeting on the new control regulation as matter of urgency. Preferably, the request should be submitted through a joint letter co-signed by other ACs.

The Chair wondered if this should be addressed in framework of the Inter-AC meetings, for example as a standing point on the Inter-AC agenda. *"Most important is that the ACs have time to react."*

O'Donoghue agreed that an urgent meeting with the Commission is important and that it needed to be clarified that the ACS are not looking for an hour-long statement from Director General. The key DG MARE unit involved in implementation is needed in order to look into the articles in detail. He felt that the Inter-AC platform was not realistic.

Carvalho agreed that the Inter-AC reference may not be wise.

The Chair concluded that the ACs would draft letter and invite other ACs to co-sign. She added that the meeting should be in-person.

Basis of the joint letter:



- When can the ACs provide input?
- How can the ACs be involved? (The first implementing act is expected in 3 months.)
- Propose letter all ACs on ongoing involvement ACs can go at slower pace.
- Ask specific regular meetings and request clear timings.
- Add the other elements on the slides can be kept for joint advice two ACs. Split it that way.
- Margin of tolerance concern NGOs: this will be revised.

ACTION: Draft NWWAC/PelAC letter to the Commission on the control regulation raising key points presented and discussed during the meeting.

9 Listing of agreed action items

Part I: Spatial Dimension	
1	Put UK MPAs on agenda of next Inter-AC Brexit Forum as a priority issue to address.
2	Both ACs to formally write a letter to Department in Ireland to object to decision ORE subgroup.
3	Write a letter to understand which groups to engage with fisheries in the in Special Member States Groups under marine action plan, to break the silo approach now happening. ACS to write letter COM to encourage to not work in silo, but bring environmental and fisheries topics in these groups. See if fisheries has a place in special MS groups, now all focussed on environmental topics.
4	Deltares reports are available in ENG by googling 'WOZEP ecosystem effects'. Collect reports and circulate to members.
5	Circulate Richard Cronin's noted to HWG participants.
Part II: Control Regulation	
1	Add article 38 on requirement for continuous monitoring of engine power applicable to 'high risk' vessels to list of common issues.
2	Add concerns on point system and sanctions to list of common PelAC/NWWAC issues.
3	The need for harmonisation between MS in their control and enforcement activities should be added as an important matter to the common issues.
4	Ask Commission for a technical in-depth meeting on the new control regulation as matter of urgency. Preferably, the request should be submitted through a joint letter co-signed by other ACs.
5	Draft NWWAC/PelAC letter to the Commission on the control regulation raising key points presented and discussed during the meeting.

10 AOB

None raised

11 End of meetings



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WATERS**
ADVISORY COUNCIL

CONSEJO CONSULTIVO PARA
LAS AGUAS
NOROCCIDENTALES



The Chairs thanked all participants and closed the meeting.



CONSEIL CONSULTATIF POUR
LES EAUX OCCIDENTALES
SEPTENTRIONALES

NORTH WESTERN
WATERS
ADVISORY COUNCIL

CONSEJO CONSULTIVO PARA
LAS AGUAS
NOROCCIDENTALES



Participants

Name	Organisation	AC
Merel Barbosa	Assistant Secretary	PelAC
José Beltran	OPP-Burela	NWWAC/PelAC
Emiel Brouckaert	Rederscentrale	NWWAC
Goncalo Carvalho (Chair)	Sciaena	PelAC
Enda Conneely	IIMRO	NWWAC
Merel den Held	Stichting de Noordzee	PelAC
Manuel Fernandez	Fishermen's Ass. of Punta de Umbria	PelAC
Eileen Harmey	DAFM	
Gérald Hussenot Desenonges	Bluefish	NWWAC
Jerome Jourdain	UAPF	NWWAC/PelAC
Anne-Marie Kats	Executive Secretary	PelAC
Manu Kelberine		NWWAC
Gaetane Le Breuil	EFFOP	PelAC
Olivier Lepretre	Comité des Peches des Hauts de France	NWWAC
John Lynch	ISEFPO	NWWAC
Llibori Martinez	IFSUA	NWWAC
Mo Mathies	Executive Secretary	NWWAC
Anais Mourtada	CNPMEM	NWWAC/PelAC
Patrick Murphy	ISWFPO	NWWAC/PelAC
Aodh O'Donnell	IFPO	NWWAC/PelAC
Sean O'Donoghue	PelAC Chair	PelAC
Deirdre O'Leary	DAFM	
Norah Parke	KFO	NWWAC
Anton Paulrud	Swedish Pelagic Federation PO	PelAC
Alexandra Philippe (Chair)	EBCD	NWWAC/PelAC
Corentine Piton	France Peche Durable et Responsable	NWWAC
Solene Prévalet	FROM Nord	NWWAC
Irene Prieto	OPPF4	NWWAC
Erwan Quemeneur	CDPMEM 29	NWWAC
Dominic Rihan	KFO	NWWAC/PelAC
Jean-Marie Robert	Lez Pecheurs de Bretagne	NWWAC
Alexandra Rodriguez	Executive Secretary	LDAC
Annelie Rosell	SPFPO	PelAC
Despina Symons	EBCD	NWWAC/PelAC
Dominique Thomas	OP CME MMN	NWWAC
Matilde Vallerani	Deputy Executive Secretary	NWWAC
Luca van Duren	Deltares	
Arthur Yon	FROM Nord	NWWAC