



CONSEIL CONSULTATIF POUR
LES EAUX OCCIDENTALES
SEPTENTRIONALES

**NORTH WESTERN
WATERS**
ADVISORY COUNCIL

CONSEJO CONSULTIVO PARA
LAS AGUAS
NOROCCIDENTALES

FOCUS GROUP CONTROL & COMPLIANCE

—
31 March 2026



www.nwwac.org

Meeting etiquette

- Please arrive on time so we can dive straight into the agenda.
- Listen actively: Give speakers your full attention, avoid side conversations or interrupting.
- Create a supportive environment: Be respectful, value diverse opinions and use inclusive language.
- Treat people fairly, promote an integrated way of working and respect the dignity of members at all times.
- Use discretion and respect others. Harassment, bullying, intimidation or discrimination in any form are unacceptable.



Agenda

10:00 – 10:10 CET	1. Welcome and introductions <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Welcome by the Chair (Patrick Murphy)• Apologies• Adoption of the agenda• Action points from the last meetings
10:10 – 10:40 CET	2. Discussion on the recent NWWAC Advice and Commission responses: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Joint NWWAC, PelAC and NSAC Advice on the implementation of the EU Fisheries Control Regulation (23/05/2025)- Commission response to Joint NWWAC, PelAC and NSAC Advice on the implementation of the Control Regulation (05/02/2026) - NWWAC Advice on the Commission Delegated Regulation of 27.8.2025 related to Control Regulation and on Boarding Ladder Safety and Material Standards provisions (16/10/2025)- Response received in form of an email text (18/02/2026) - Joint ACs Letter "Towards improved consultation with Advisory Councils and stakeholders on Control Regulation" (03/11/2025)- Commission response to Joint ACs Letter "Towards improved consultation with Advisory Councils and stakeholders on Control Regulation" (05/02/2026)
10:40 – 11:30 CET	3. Open discussion on the challenges that the sector is facing due to the Control Regulation's measures entered into force in 2026 <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Record catch data for each fishing operations in the e-logbook for vessels >12m (Arts. 14, 15 and 15a).- Separate stowage of demersal catches subject to multiannual plans (Art. 44).- Weighing of fishery products (Arts. 60 and 60a).- The implementation of the CATCH system (Arts. From 12a to 12e), as there have been some recent developments (fishers will be able to grant power of attorney to their POs on CATCH)
11:30 – 11:45 CET	4. Discussion on the next steps: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Control Workshop with Member States Control Expert Group- Control Workshop with DG MARE Control Unit
11:45 – 11:55 CET	5. AOB <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Approval of the updated Terms of Reference
11:55 – 12:00 CET	6. Summary of actions agreed and decisions adopted by the Chair

Action points from the last meeting (8 September 2025)

1. Letter to Commission: Agreed to draft a joint AC letter on the legislative stakeholder consultation process. Once the draft advice is ready, NWWAC Secretariat will contact other ACs.
2. Develop a NWWAC Advice on the Commission Delegated Act, which includes NWWAC recommendations on boarding ladder measures.
3. Joint AC work: Secretariat to coordinate with PELAC on possible joint advice regarding the implementing act.
4. Follow-up workshop: Group to support organisation of a further workshop with control experts, Commission, EFCA, and Member States.
5. Possible additional meeting: depending on progress with documents, a short extra FG meeting may be convened before advice submission.





2. Discussion on the recent NWWAC Advice and Commission responses

NWWAC Advice	Commission response	Comments
Joint NWWAC, PeIAC and NSAC Advice on the implementation of the EU Fisheries Control Regulation (Submitted: 23 May 2025)	Commission response to Joint NWWAC, PeIAC and NSAC Advice on the implementation of the Control Regulation (Received: 05 February 2026)	No direct response to the MultiAC queries to DG MARE following workshop on 20 February. According to the Commission a clerical error occurred which meant their system showed this correspondence to have been sent in November last year, but nothing was received by the three ACs.
NWWAC Advice on the Commission Delegated Regulation of 27.8.2025 related to Control Regulation and on Boarding Ladder Safety and Material Standards provisions (Submitted: 16 October 2025)	Response received in form of an email text on 18 February 2026	Text of the email: <i>“Concerning your advice in October on the Delegated Act, we are grateful for the observations provided, as the views from operators are valued. Please note that the draft act was open for feedback during the summer of 2025, adopted by the Commission in August, and subsequently published in November 2025 following scrutiny by the European Parliament. By the time your advice was received, the procedure was at a very advanced stage and the act had been adopted.”</i>
Joint ACs Letter "Towards improved consultation with Advisory Councils and stakeholders on Control Regulation" (Submitted: 03 November 2025)	Commission response to Joint ACs Letter "Towards improved consultation with Advisory Councils and stakeholders on Control Regulation" (Received: 05 February 2026)	According to the Commission, a clerical error occurred in relation to this document, meaning that the Commission system showed this correspondence to have been sent in November last year, but nothing was received by the NWWAC. In addition, the response was then sent out only to the NWWAC excluding the other 5 undersigning ACs. The NWWAC Secretariat have notified the Commission of this error and contacted all involved ACs with this response. The NWWAC Secretariat then received a response from the Commission that an update is not necessary, thus the NWWAC uploaded on website the response as it

3. Open discussion on the challenges that the sector is facing due to the Control Regulation's measures entered into force in 2026

4. Discussion on the next steps:

- Control Workshop with Member States Control Expert Group
 - Control Workshop with DG MARE Control Unit
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- 5 **AOB**
Approval of the updated Terms of Reference
 - 6 **Summary of actions agreed and decisions adopted by the Chair**
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