

The Trawler

TOP NEWS – OCTOBER 2019

COMMITTEE ON FISHERIES

Meeting on Wednesday 2 October (9.00 – 12.30 and 14.30 – 18.30) &

Thursday 3 October (9.00 – 12.30), room PHS 5B001

Hearing of Commissioner-designate on

Thursday 3 October (14.30 – 17.30), room JAN 2Q2

in Brussels

HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ Hearing of the Commissioner-designate for Environment & Oceans Virginijus Sinkevičius
- ▶ “The State of the Seas“: state of fish stocks in the Mediterranean Sea and the Black Sea
- ▶ Exchange of views on the new European Maritime and Fisheries Fund
- ▶ Exchange of views with Colm Lordan, Vice-Chair, Advisory Committee, ICES
- ▶ Presentation on the governance of fish stock recovery areas and marine protected areas

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AGENDA

Next meetings of the Committee on Fisheries:
11-12 November 2019

Next public hearing:

„Facing the new challenges of the EU fisheries control system “ (12 November)

WORDS FROM THE CHAIR



Chris DAVIES
Chair of Committee on Fisheries

Dear Friends,

A busy week lies ahead of us, culminating on Thursday with the hearing of Mr Virginijus Sinkevičius, Commissioner-designate for Environment and the Oceans, and who if confirmed will be responsible for the fisheries portfolio whether it is in his job title or not. We shall listen to the answers he gives and weigh up every nuance before passing judgement.

The new European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF) 2021-2027 will be at the heart of the debate in the regular Committee time. We shall consider what has been achieved in practice under the current EMFF, and how the new fund might promote better fishing and better conditions for fishers. At first reading the last Parliament approved the report with a very large majority, but the European Commission tells us that the amendments adopted would lead to an increase in fishing capacity, undermine the sustainability principle of the Common Fisheries Policy, and weaken the EU's position in trying to negotiate a global end to subsidies that harm the environment, so it is not without controversy.

We shall hear about the state of fish stocks in the Mediterranean and the Black Sea. It is not likely to be happy news, with both said to be overfished to a degree that will rob coastal communities of their reason for existence unless better management is introduced. What more must we do to turn this around? We shall also discuss the potential for marine protected areas to protect ecosystems and provide fish nurseries that can help restock our depleted seas.

Finally, we will have what I hope will be an interesting exchange with scientists from ICES. We refer all the time to the need to rely on scientific advice when setting TACs and quotas, but how does the work get done in practice, and why do the scientists sometimes get it so wrong?!

Chris DAVIES

ONGOING FILES / DOSSIERS

COD reports	Rapporteur	Type of procedure	PECH Committee vote	Plenary Session Vote
Fisheries control COM(2018)0368 - C8-0238/2018 2018/0193 (COD) PECH/9/00323	Aguilera	COD	tbc	tbc
Fishing authorisations for Union vessels in United Kingdom waters and fishing operations of United Kingdom fishing vessels in Union waters COM(2019)0398 - C9-0110/2019 2019/0187 (COD) PECH/9/01211	Chair	COD	Simpl. proc. art. 52 (tbc)	OCTOBER II
Reports adopted in EP 1st reading (awaiting 2nd reading)	Rapporteur	Type of procedure	PECH Committee vote	Plenary Session Vote
European Maritime and Fisheries Fund COM(2018)0390 - C8-0270/2018 2018/0210(COD) PECH/8/13776	Millán Mon	COD	12/11/2019 (new negotiation mandate)	1st Reading: 04/04/2019
Multi-annual plan for small pelagic stocks in the Adriatic Sea and the fisheries exploiting those stocks COM(2017)0097 - C8-0095/2017 2017/0043(COD) PECH/8/09349	Tomasic	COD	09/10/2018	1st Reading: 13/11/2018
NLE reports	Rapporteur	Type of procedure	PECH Committee vote	Plenary Session Vote
Conclusion of the Protocol on the implementation of the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the European Community and the Republic of Cape Verde (2019-2024) 08662/2019 - COM(2019)0137 - C9-0004/2019 2019/0078(NLE) PECH/9/00456	Monteiro De Aguiar	NLE	21/01/2020	TBC
Protocol on the implementation of the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the European Community and the Republic of Guinea-Bissau (2019-2024) 08928/2019 - COM(2019)0171 - C9-0011/2019 2019/0090(NLE) PECH/9/00462	Ferreira	NLE	21/01/2020	TBC

Sustainable Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of The Gambia and the Implementation Protocol thereto COM(2019)0135 - 2019/0076(NLE) PECH/9/00453	Avram	NLE	11-12/11/2019	TBC
Conclusion, on behalf of the European Union, of the Protocol on the implementation of the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the Democratic Republic of São Tomé and Príncipe and the European Community COM(2019)0377 - 2019/0173(NLE) PECH/9/01195	TBC	NLE	TBC	TBC
Opinions	Rapporteur	Type of procedure	PECH Committee vote	Vote Lead Committee
General budget of the European Union for the financial year 2020 - all sections COM(2019)0400 - 2019/2028(BUD) PECH/9/00513	Davies	BUD	04/09/2019	BUDG 30/09/2019
Conclusion of the Free Trade Agreement between the European Union and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam COM(2018)0691 - 06050/2019- C9-0023/2019 2018/0356(NLE) PECH/9/00631	Bartolo	NLE	2-3/12/2019	INTA TBC
2018 discharge: European Fisheries Control Agency (EFCA) COM(2019)0316 - C9-0080/2019 2019/2085 (DEC) PECH/9/00829	González Casares	DEC	21/01/2020 (TBC)	CONT 20/02/2020

**Note on procedures:*

COD: Ordinary legislative procedure; **INI:** Own-Initiative;

NLE: Non-legislative (consent to international agreements); **DEC:** Discharge; **BUD:** Budget

RESEARCH FROM THE POLICY DEPARTMENT 'B':

REQUESTED:

PUBLISHED (SINCE 2016):

CFP and fisheries management

Implementation and impact of the key European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF) measures on the CFP
The discard ban and the landing obligation in the Western- Mediterranean Sea - The Italian case
The discard ban and the landing obligation in the Western- Mediterranean Sea - The Spanish case
Social and Economic impact of the penalty point system
Scientific Advice in Fisheries Management - Introduction to Stock Assessment and Maximum Sustainable Yield Ranges
Workshop on The discard ban and its impact on the Maximum Sustainable Yield objective on fisheries
The discard ban and its impact on the MSY objective - The Bay of Biscay case/The Baltic Sea/The North Sea
Options of handling choke species in view of the EU landing obligation - the Baltic plaice example
Landing obligation and choke species in mixed fisheries - North Sea/North-Western Waters/South-Western Waters
European fisheries - latest developments and future challenges

Stocks

*Situation of the clam (*Tapes spp*) fisheries sector in the EU*
Environmental, social and economic sustainability of the European eel management
The European eel: reproductive biology, migration and sustainable management

Structural Policy and economics

Markets of fisheries and aquaculture products: The added value chain and the role of promotion, labelling and consumer information - Small-scale fisheries case
Feasibility of measuring socio-economic and environmental impacts of recreational and semi-subsistence fisheries in the EU
Seafood Industry Integration in the EU
The management of the fishing fleets in the outermost regions
Sustainable 'blue growth' in the EU and opportunities for small-scale fisheries
Regional ocean governance in Europe: the role of fisheries
"Marine Recreational and Semi-subsistence fishing - its value and its impact on fish stocks"
Training of Fishers
Workshop on the Implementation and Impact of EMFF Measures on the Common Fisheries Policy
Seafood Industry Integration in the EU 2018

External dimension

Impact of fisheries partnership agreements in the development of employment in the EU and in third countries
Consequences of Brexit for the Common Fisheries Policy
Legal framework for governance
Trade and economic related issues
Resources and fisheries

Mission briefings

Fisheries in Madeira/Japan/Guadeloupe (2017)
Fisheries in Andalusia/Finland/Ireland/Vietnam (2018)

@ You can access the studies and other documents via this [link](#)

FISHERIES NEWS IN BRIEF

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

[News - Press service](#)

Parliament voices strong concern over Brexit uncertainty for the fishing sector 24/09/2019

The Committee on Fisheries held a debate with Commission representatives on the level of preparedness for changes to the EU fishing sector in the event of Brexit.

In light of the continued uncertainty regarding an orderly withdrawal of the UK from the EU, the Fisheries Committee asked the Commission for a comprehensive overview of their “Brexit preparedness” strategy for the sector.

Commission representatives presented an updated legislative proposal on a simplified procedure for granting fishing authorisations, subject to the principle of access reciprocity, which would extend the contingency measures to 31 December 2020. The Commission underlined that the actions taken are unilateral preparedness measures, aiming to ensure that EU fishermen are protected in the short term.

The main concern raised by MEPs was the lack of certainty for the entire sector, especially with regards to the reciprocal access to EU and UK waters, with only five weeks to go before Brexit is set to take place. All fishermen and other economic actors, irrespective of their nationality, are looking for answers as to how their operations will be impacted immediately after the UK’s withdrawal. It was noted that this uncertainty has been fueled by the lack of concrete reaction from the UK government on the matter.

MEPs are extremely worried by the immediate prospect of conflict in the event of a “no deal” Brexit, combined with a closure of UK waters, as well as the negative economic impact on jobs and welfare of coastal communities.

Background

The Commission tabled on 4 September an updated draft regulation to adjust one of the EU’s ‘no-deal’ contingency measures concerning the fishing sector. The Fisheries

Committee will decide in its next meeting on 2-3 October whether to adopt this regulation along a simplified procedure without amendment. The draft regulation is set to be approved by the EP plenary meeting during the October II session.

Member States carry out fishing activities at a value of €585 million in the United Kingdom waters. The overall dependency of eight Member States (Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Ireland, Spain, Sweden and The Netherlands) on UK waters averages 14% of their overall landings, ranging from 50% for the Belgium fleet to around 1% for Spain.

Finnish Presidency outlook and State of the Seas

04/09/2019

The Committee on Fisheries debated the Finnish Presidency work programme and the state of fishing stocks in the North Sea, Baltic Sea and Western Waters.

Agriculture and Forestry Minister Jari Leppä presented Fisheries Committee MEPs with the key priorities for the Finnish Presidency of the Council in the field. These include the implementation of fishing efforts (Total Allowable Catches and quotas) and the corresponding multiannual fisheries plans, as recently agreed, with particular focus on preserving cod stocks.

The Presidency will also work on overhauling the [European Maritime and Fisheries Fund](#), on which negotiations with member states are expected to start as part of the 2021-2027 budget framework, to reduce red tape and improve funds allocation. The fight against illegal fishing and enhancing the role of regional fisheries management organisations were the other two priorities outlined.

MEPs called for the social impact of reforms to be taken into account when talking about making the sector more sustainable and called for funds going to the EMFF not to be cut, even after Brexit takes place. The Minister reassured MEPs on the first point and committed to work to find a fair balance on the EMFF. Members also questioned the Presidency on international fisheries agreements, namely the soon-to-

expire deal with Mauritania as well the ones with Guinea-Bissau and Morocco, all of which represent important opportunities for the EU fleet.

State of the Seas

During the second part of the meeting, committee members held an exchange of views with European Commission representatives on the state of the stocks, with a special focus on the North Sea, Baltic Sea and Western Waters.

Members welcomed the overall progress, with 59 out of 81 assessed species achieving sustainable levels and an increase in the marine biomass volumes of 36% over the past 15 years, according to the Commission. While the EU fishing fleet is shrinking slightly, their economic performance reached record levels in 2017.

Nevertheless, fishing pressure on Western Baltic Haring and Western Baltic cod needs to decrease significantly for stocks to recover. Fishing of Eastern Baltic cod, which is suffering also from ecological factors, should stop completely and so should the fishing of haring West of Scotland, says the Commission. Overall, member states should step up controls of the new landing obligations and allocate more resources to scientific research to assess stocks, also beyond the 81 species currently assessed (out of some 200).

Committee Chair Chris Davies (Renew Europe, UK) said: 'Year by year, the fish in the seas of northwest Europe are increasing in numbers and sizes. We have problems in individual fish stocks that must still be address but the CFP is at long last showing signs of success'

Some MEPs asked the Commission to engage in a more holistic approach - including environmental factors - when assessing stocks and deciding on remedies. Others wondered how the EU can prevent putting fishermen out of business due to drastic and sudden changes in quotas. Furthermore, they would like to hear from the Commission about plans on how to to mitigate the impact of Brexit on EU fishermen in one of the next committee meetings.

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

News - Press service

The European Fisheries Control Agency (EFCA) trains Gambian fisheries inspectors

24/09/2019

Twenty fisheries inspectors from the Republic of The Gambia received training in control techniques to fight and deter Illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing (IUU).

The training ended with a practical exercise in the fishing port of Banjul, allowing fisheries inspectors from The Gambia to discover new methods of fisheries control and to become familiar with EFCA's e-learning platform.

The theoretical and practical training was organised in the framework of the PESCAO programme, financed and implemented since 2018 by the European Union.

Fisheries inspectors from various Gambian administrations needed to become familiar with the different techniques and applicable regulations, in the context of the recent membership of the Republic of The Gambia to the [International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas \(ICCAT\)](#) and the sustainable fisheries partnership agreement signed with the EU.

Largest polar expedition ever will map climate and marine ecosystems in central Arctic ocean

20/09/2019

The Polarstern icebreaker will embark on a year-round expedition to study climate change in the Arctic. On board is a team of scientists, supported by the EU, who will conduct pioneering research on the marine ecosystems of the central Arctic ocean. The results of their expedition will improve our understanding of these ecosystems and help us determine whether fish stocks might exist in this area that could be harvested on a sustainable basis.

The MOSAiC (Multidisciplinary drifting Observatory for the Study of Arctic Climate)

expedition is the largest polar expedition to date. The backbone of the expedition is the German research vessel Polarstern, which will spend a year drifting through the central Arctic ocean while attached to an ice floe. Hundreds of researchers from 19 countries will visit the Polarstern during this year to conduct research and gather data to gain a better understanding of global climate change.

Among them are scientists from the EU-funded consortium European Fisheries Inventory in the Central Arctic ocean (EFICA). This international consortium will map marine ecosystems in the area. Little scientific data exists on this subject, particularly from wintertime.

The work of the scientists will support the implementation of an international agreement to prevent unregulated high seas fisheries in the central Arctic ocean. This agreement takes a precautionary approach to potential medium or long-term fishing opportunities in the area. No fisheries can take place, until scientific evidence exists that it can be done sustainably. Building scientific knowledge on marine ecosystems in the central Arctic, including which marine living resources exist in it, is therefore a logical first step.

The EU is one of the first parties to the agreement to set up such a research expedition.

[Read more](#)

Exchanging information leads to more effective actions at sea: CISE

17/09/2019

Improving the coordination between maritime authorities and across borders is a long-winded work. The key to success is interoperability: the technical ability to exchange information between systems that were developed completely independent from each other. The EU's Common Information Sharing Environment (CISE) is doing exactly that, and just last week, the European Commission has released a staff working document to present its progress so far.

CISE, initiated in 2014, is gradually taking shape. Important interoperability projects, including [EUCISE2020](#) and national projects,

have been successfully completed. And as CISE develops, it helps to bring about a significant political mentality change. National and EU maritime authorities have come to realise that, by cooperating in exchanging information, they can work more efficiently and effectively.

CISE is now ready to develop from an R&I product into an operational environment for structural information exchange. The [transitional phase to operations](#), managed by EMSA, will enable further coordination in the next two years. Further reflection will be necessary, also at political level, to make CISE fully operational and successful. The Commission intends to support CISE also under the next EMFF.

Read more

[Integrated maritime surveillance Study to support the Common Information Sharing Environment \(CISE\) Review](#)

Euronews OCEAN episode 7: Women in fisheries

13/09/2019

Women play a key role in fishing and aquaculture — but too often their work remains unrecognised and underpaid. Limited career choices, unfair pay gaps — many women have a hard time making their way in this male-dominated sector.

In this episode, Euronews travels to Spain, in Galicia and Vigo, to meet women who make a living by working in different fields of the fishing sector. From shellfish gatherers, net menders or women who work in the seafood processing sector, they all challenge the stereotypes and build successful professions or businesses. The EU is helping women capitalise on their knowledge and determination through targeted funding and local partnerships. The Galician Foundation for Fishing and Shell fishing (FUNDAMAR) runs several EU-supported projects to promote gender equality, while FARNET, a community-led local development network, offers support under the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF).

Tune into Euronews from 13 September @ 20:55 GMT – on any platform.

OCEAN is a Euronews magazine in collaboration with the Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (MARE). In monthly 5-minute videos, we highlight fascinating projects and developments related to the ocean and coastal communities.

Previous episodes were on marine protected areas (June), small-scale fisheries (May), ocean energy (April), aquaculture (March), IUU fishing (February) and sustainable fisheries (January). Missed one? [Check out the previous episodes here!](#) You will also find some nice extras about these topics.

EU and China join forces to improve international ocean governance 10/09/2019

At the first Blue Partnership Forum for the Oceans (05/09/2019), the European Commission and Chinese authorities have shown their eagerness to work together and improve international ocean governance. Together with Chinese and European stakeholders, both administrations have started to define joint actions that will implement the Ocean Partnership, signed in July 2018.

The Ocean Partnership between the EU and China marks an important moment in our bilateral relations. Its implementation can play a major role in achieving the targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in particular SDG 14. We can look back on a very successful event. A few first conclusions:

1. **The blue economy and the Blue Economy Finance Principles** – Stakeholders agreed more direct investments should go into sustainable oceans sectors and ecosystem restoration. Financial institutions play a crucial role in directing financial flows. The Blue Economy Finance Initiative and Principles are a practical tool for them to deliver ocean solutions.
2. **International cooperation on sustainable fisheries** – China and the EU are important global fisheries players. Actions should reinforce the implementation of the existing legal framework, including ratification of the

Port State Measures Agreement, enhancing RFMO performance, strengthening the fight against IUU fishing and strengthening fisheries data transparency.

3. **Area-based management tools**, including maritime spatial planning and marine protected areas – Participants stressed that different sectors (science, business, public organisations, NGOs...) need to work together when developing these tools. EU and China should strengthen cooperation in the planning of marine protected areas and advancement of global maritime spatial planning. EU stakeholders called on China to support the EU and its Member States' proposals to create two marine protected areas in the Southern Ocean at the annual meeting of the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources in October this year. [Read more](#)

Sustainable fisheries: EU and The Islamic Republic of Mauritania extend existing protocol 04/09/2019

The EU and the Islamic Republic of Mauritania have agreed to extend, for maximum one year, the protocol to the sustainable fisheries partnership agreement which was due to expire in November 2019.

Under the protocol, the EU fleet can fish in Mauritanian waters for shrimp, demersal fish, tuna and small pelagic fish, up to a total of 287,050 tons a year. In addition to the fees paid by the European fleet, the EU pays a financial contribution of €61,625,000 per year, comprising of €57,500,000 for the access to waters and €4,125,000 for supporting local fishing communities in Mauritania and improving fisheries governance.

This extension fully reflects the existing protocol and confirms its underlying principles. It will allow for the continuation of fishing activities of EU operators in Mauritanian waters as of 16 November 2019. Meanwhile, the negotiations for a new agreement and protocol will continue.

The two parties agreed on an exceptional derogatory procedure to tackle potential border blockages during the export transportation of fresh fish caught in Mauritanian waters.

The extension will enter into force when the necessary legislative procedures for its conclusion have been completed.

European Commission pleased with progress international negotiations to protect high seas – ambitious final agreement needed by 2020

03/09/2019

The European Commission looks back on very constructive negotiations with international partners to protect the marine biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction – commonly called the high seas.

These negotiations, held under a United Nations Intergovernmental Conference, should lead to international rules for marine protected areas as well as for assessing the environmental impact of activities carried out in the high seas. They will also help use the high seas' biological resources – in particular its genetic resources – in a more sustainable way.

Positions on several key issues continue to diverge, in particular on the marine genetic resources and capacity building and transfer of marine technology parts. Nevertheless, a vast majority of delegations are now fully committed to the process, submitting a large number of textual proposals.

With regard to environmental impact assessments, the idea of assessing the cumulative impacts from different activities on the same ecosystems seemed to receive near unanimous support. The EU proposal to include a provision on Strategic Environmental Assessments is gaining traction.

The EU will now continue to work towards a final agreement by 2020. The European Commission will organise a workshop on environmental impact assessment and strategic environmental assessment in Brussels during the second half of January 2020. Some EU Member States are also planning to organize

workshops in support of the negotiations. [Read more](#)

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

Next meeting of the [Agriculture and Fisheries Council](#)

14-15/10/2019

No recent news.

MEETINGS OF THE ADVISORY COUNCILS

AC	DATE	PLACE	TYPE
PELAC	2/10/2019	Den Haag	WG I and II
PELAC	3/10/2019	Den Haag	GA, ExCom
ICES	7-10/10/2019	Lisbon	WG on Biological Parameters
ICES	7-11/10/2019	Isle of Man	Scallop Assessment WG
ICES	7-11/10/2019	Ancona	WG on Fisheries Benthic Impact and Trade-offs
ICES	8-10/10/2019	ICES HQ	WG on Improving use of Survey Data for Assessment and Advice
ICES	8-10/10/2019	IJmuiden	WG on Crangon Fisheries and Life History
MEDAC	10/10/2019	Ljubljana	WG1
MEDAC	11/10/2019	Ljubljana	WG2, WG4
ICES	11-12/10/2019	Lisbon	WG on SmartDots Governance
ICES	14-18/10/2019	Rome	WG on Multispecies Assessment Methods
AAC	15/10/2019	Brussels	WG
SWWAC	16/10/2019	Lanester, France	WG for VIII&IX areas
SWWAC	17/10/2019	Lanester, France	Pelagics WG
ICES	21-24/10/2019	Paris	WG on Marine Litter
ICES	21-25/10/2019	By correspondence	Baltic Fisheries Assessment WG
ICES	22-25/10/2019	Bremerhaven	WG on Surveys on Ichthyoplankton in the North Sea and adjacent Seas (WGSINS)
ICES	28/10/2019-1/11/2019	ICES HQ	WG on Cumulative Effects Assessment Approaches in Management
ICES	28/10/2019-1/11/2019	ICES HQ	WG on Mixed Fisheries Advice
BSAC	29/10/2019	Gdynia	Joint WG
AAC	30/10/2019	Paris	ExCom
NS AC	31/10/2019	Schiphol	Circular Design of Fishing Gear FG
ICES	4-8/11/2019	Dublin	WG on Methods for Estimating Discard Survival
ICES	4-8/11/2019	By correspondence	North-Western WG
ICES	4-8/11/2019	Tromsø, Norway	WG on the Biology and Life History of Crabs
ICES	4-8/11/2019	Gdansk	WG on Commercial Catches
LDAC	06/11/2019	Brussels	WG1, WG4, ExCom
LDAC	07/11/2019	Brussels	WG5
ICES	8-13/11/2019	Tromsø	Joint NAFO/ICES Pandalus Assessment WG
LDAC	11/11/2019	London	WG2
ICES	12-14/11/2019	Split	WG on Nephrops Surveys
ICES	18-22/11/2019	Madrid	WG on Acoustic and Egg Surveys for Sardine and Anchovy in ICES areas 7, 8 and 9
ICES	19-21/11/2019	Kristiansand, Norway	WG on Fisheries-Induced Evolution
ICES	25-29/11/2019	Bergen	WG on the Integrated Assessments of the Norwegian Sea
ICES	25-27/11/2019	ICES HQ, Copenhagen	Working Group on Shipping Impacts in the Marine Environment

Abbreviations:

- NWW AC: North Western Waters Advisory Council ([link](#))
- PEL AC: Pelagic Advisory Council ([link](#))
- NS AC: North Sea Advisory Council ([link](#))

- MED AC: Advisory Council for the Mediterranean ([link](#))
- SWW AC: South Western Waters Advisory Council ([link](#))
- LD AC: Long Distance Fleet Advisory Council ([link](#))
- BS AC: Baltic Sea Advisory Council ([link](#))
- AAC: Aquaculture Advisory Council ([link](#))
- MIRAC: ICES/AC meeting ([link](#))
- **GA:** General Assembly, **ExCom:** Executive Committee, **WG:** Working Group, **FG:** Focus Group

MAIN INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS AND EVENTS

NORWAY/FAROE ISLANDS/COASTAL STATES/NEAFC

Date	Organisation	Type of meeting	Venue
2019			
1-3 October	NEAFC	PECMAS	London, UK
15-17 October	Coastal States	Coastal States consultations on Mackerel	London, UK
18 October	Coastal States	Coastal States consultations on Redfish	London, UK
22-23 October	Coastal States	Coastal States consultations on Blue whiting	London, UK
24-25 October	Coastal States	Coastal States consultations on Atlanto-Scandian herring	London, UK
12-15 November	NEAFC	Annual meeting	London, UK
18-22 November	EU-Norway	Consultations on Fisheries Arrangements for 2019 – Round 1	London, UK
2-6 December	EU-Norway	Consultations on Fisheries Arrangements for 2019 – Round 2	Bergen, NO
9-10 December (TBC)	EU-Faroe Islands	Consultations on Fisheries Arrangements for 2019	Torshavn (TBC)

REGIONAL FISHERIES ORGANISATIONS AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS

Date	Organisation	Type of meeting	Venue
2019			
14-17 October	Convention for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT)	Annual meeting	Cape Town, South Africa
21 October –1 November	Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR)	Annual meeting and Scientific Committee and other subsidiary bodies	Hobart, Australia
21-23 October	IMO and Government of Spain	Ministerial Conference on Fishing Vessel Safety and IUU Fishing	Torremolinos, Spain
23-25 October	FAO	4th meeting of the Joint FAO/IMO/ILO ad hoc working group on IUU fishing	Torremolinos
25-26 October	Our Ocean	6 th Our Ocean Conference	Oslo, Norway
TBD	Bering Sea Convention	Annual meeting	Virtual
4-8 November	GFCM	Annual meeting	Athens, Greece
12-19 November	UN	Informal consultations on the draft UNGA resolution on Sustainable Fisheries	New York, USA
18-21 November	FAO	International Symposium on Fisheries Sustainability	Rome, Italy
20-26 November	UN	Informal consultations on the draft UNGA resolution on “Oceans and the law of the sea” – Second round	New York, USA
16-25 November	ICCAT	Panel 1 and Annual meeting	Mallorca, Spain

25-28 November	South East Atlantic Fisheries Organisation (SEAFO)	The European Commission does not intend to attend the 2019 annual meeting of the SEAFO Commission, or any of its subsidiary bodies, unless any issue of special and direct interest for the EU is on the agenda of the meetings.	
2-6 December	IOTC	Scientific Committee	Pakistan
5-11 December	WCPFC	Annual meeting	Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea
16-18 December	Kobe process	Joint tuna RFMO by-catch Working Group meeting	Porto, Portugal

FISHERIES PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENTS

COUNTRY	EXPIRATION DATE OF CURRENT PROTOCOL	NEXT JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING (JCM) 2019		NEGOTIATIONS SESSIONS FORECAST 2019		LEGAL PROCESS			LATEST INFORMATION (last JCM, last negotiation round, etc.)	
		Date	Location	Date	Location	Estimated date of adoption of proposal for negotiating mandate by the Commission	Estimated date of adoption of negotiating mandate by Council	Estimated date of adoption of Council Decision on signing and provisional application		
MIXED AGREEMENTS	Mauritania	15 November 2019	/	/	5-7 NOVEMBER 2019	Nouakchott, tbc	n/a	Adopted on 8 July 2019	Q4/2019	The last JCM took place in December 2018. The 1st round of negotiation took place in Brussels 2-4 sept. 2019. The second round is scheduled on 5-7 November 2019 (Nouakchott, tbc).
	Morocco	17 July 2023	18 JULY 2019	Rabat			/	/	/	New agreement and protocol in force since 18 July 2019.
	Senegal	19 November 2019	NOVEMBER 2019	Dakar		Brussels				Last scientific meeting took place in July 2018. Last JCM took place on 18-19 October, New protocol paraphed on 19 July 2019. Legislative package under preparation by the Commission.
	The Gambia	30 July 2025	NOVEMBER 2019	Banjul			/	/	Adopted on 25 June 2019	Negotiations concluded on 19 October 2018 - protocol initialled. The Commission adopted its legislative package for the signature of the new agreement and protocol on 12 March 2019. Signature on 31 July 2019.
	Guinea Bissau	14 June 2024	15-17 OCTOBER 2019	Brussels			/	/	Adopted on 6 June 2019	Negotiations concluded on 15 November 2018 - new protocol initialled. The Commission adopted its legislative package for the signature of the new Protocol on 10 April 2019. Signature took place on 15 June 2019 and provisional application started from the same date. The first JCM will take place in October 2019 in Brussels.
	Greenland	31 December 2020	NOVEMBER 2019	Brussels	NOV 2019	Brussels	Q4/2019	Q4/2019		Last joint Committee took place in November 2018.
WEST AFRICA	Cape-Verde	19 May 2024	DECEMBER 2019	Cabo Verde			/		Adopted on 17 May 2019	The new protocol was signed on 20 May 2019 and applies provisionally. Pending EP consent. No information on Cabo Verde's ratification.
	Côte d'Ivoire	31 July 2024	OCT - NOV 2019	Brussels			/	/	/	Protocol signed and provisionally applied on 1st August 2018. Pending EP consent. Last JCM took place 27-28 November 2018.
	Gabon	23 July 2016 - EXPIRED			tbd	Libreville	/	/	/	Resumption of negotiation pending political situation.
	Ghana	No Agreement/Protocol					/	/	/	The ex-ante evaluation was conducted end of 2016 and mandate adopted on March 2017.
	Liberia	8 December 2020					Q1/2020	/	/	Protocol signed and provisionally applied on 9/12/2015. Last JCM took place in April 2019 in Brussels.
	Equatorial Guinea	N.A.								The ex-ante evaluation was approved at the end of November 2016.
	São Tomé and Príncipe	23/05/2018 - EXPIRED	DEC 2019 - JAN 2020	tbd			/	/	OCTOBER 2019	Negotiations concluded on 17 April 2019; new protocol initialled.

INDIAN OCEAN	Comoros	DENOUNCED				/	/	/	The termination of the SFPA with Comoros has been notified to the Government of Comoros on 03/07/2018.
	Madagascar	31 December 2018 - EXPIRED		23-25 SEPT 2019	Nosy Be (Madagascar)	/	/	/	The current 4-year Protocol expired on 31/12/2018. The evaluation study has been concluded (March 2018) and sent to Council, EP and Madagascar. 2nd round of negotiations took place in October 2018. 3rd round scheduled on 23-25 September 2019.
	Mauritius	7 December 2021				/	/	/	The new 4-year protocol was signed on 8/12/2017. 1st JCM held 28/02-01/03/2018 Port Louis. The 2nd JCM was held in Brussels on 25-27/02/2019. The third JCM will be planned for early next year.
	Mozambique	31 January 2015 - EXPIRED				/	/	/	Negotiations for a new Protocol suspended until further notice to enable further reflection by both Parties to narrow divergences. Last Joint Committee Meeting in February 2016.
	Seychelles	17 January 2020		17-20 SEPTEMBER 2019	Brussels			Adopted on 15 July 2019	Last JCM took place in Brussels from 27 February to 1 March 2019, no additional JCM is foreseen. First round of negotiations took place on 19-20 August. The second round took place on 17-20 September. A third round to be fixed.
	Mayotte (Access agreement)	5 June 2020	FALL 2019				Q3/2019	OCTOBER 2019	Last JCM took place in Brussels on 1 March 2019. No financial implications for the EU, as this agreement allows access of Seychelles flagged vessels to Mayotte's waters under EU jurisdiction.
	Tanzania	No Agreement/Protocol					/	Adopted on 16 June 2015	A first technical meeting took place in Dar-Es-Salaam 4-6 July 2016. Vague interest in discussing a SFPA with the EU.
	Kenya	No Agreement/Protocol					/	Adopted on 18 July 2016	
PACIFIC	Cook Islands	13 October 2020				/ Q1/2020	/	/	The current 4-year Protocol is in force since 14/10/2016. Currently the only SFPA in the Pacific. Last JCM took place in Rarotonga from 20 to 22 February
	Kiribati	15 September 2015 - EXPIRED		Q3/2019	tbc	/	Adopted on 26 January 2015	/	3 rounds of negotiations took place (last one in November 2017). A technical meeting took place from 5 to 7 June 2019. Next round to be fixed.

COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE ON FISHERIES

BUREAU			
Chair	DAVIES Chris		
1st Vice-Chair	VAN DALEN Peter	3rd Vice-Chair	FERRANDINO Giuseppe
2nd Vice-Chair	GADE Søren	4th Vice-Chair	MONTEIRO DE AGUIAR Cláudia

COORDINATORS			
EPP	MILLÁN MON Francisco José	ID	CONTE Rosanna
S&D	AGUILERA Clara	ECR	TOMAŠIĆ Ruža
Renew	KARLESKIND Pierre	GUE/NGL	FERREIRA João
Greens/EFA	O'SULLIVAN Grace		

COMMITTEE ON FISHERIES FULL MEMBERS			SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS		
AGUILERA Clara	ES	S&D	ANDROULAKIS Nikos	EL	S&D
ALLARD Christian	UK	Greens/EFA	AVRAM Carmen	RO	S&D
BARTOLO Pietro	IT	S&D	BITEAU Benoît	FR	Greens/EFA
BELLAMY François-Xavier	FR	EPP	CARVALHAIS Isabel	PT	S&D
BILBAO BARANDICA Izaskun	ES	Renew	CHABAUD Catherine	FR	Renew
CONTE Rosanna	IT	ID	GONZALEZ CASARES Nicolás	ES	S&D
CORBETT Richard	UK	S&D	GRANT Valentino	IT	ID
VAN DALEN Peter	NL	EPP	HAZEKAMP Anja	NL	GUE/NGL
D'AMATO Rosa	IT	NI	HIDVÉGHI Balázs	HU	EPP
DAVIES Chris	UK	Renew	HLAVÁČEK Martin	CS	Renew
DE MAN Filip	BE	ID	HRISTOV Ivo	BG	S&D
DODDS Diane	UK	NI	HUITEMA Jan	NL	Renew
FERRANDINO Giuseppe	IT	S&D	KALINOWSKI Jarosław	PL	EPP
FERREIRA João	PT	GUE/NGL	KELLER Ska	DE	Greens/EFA
GADE Søren Gade	DA	Renew	MELO Nuno	PT	EPP
GUERREIRO Francisco	PT	Greens/EFA	MILAZZO Giuseppe	IT	EPP
HERBST Niclas	DE	EPP	MONTEITH Brian	UK	NI
JAMET France	FR	ID	MUMMERY June Alison	UK	NI
KARLESKIND Pierre	FR	Renew	PAGAZAURTUNDÚA Maite	ES	Renew
MATIĆ Predrag Fred	HR	S&D	PIRBAKAS Maxette	FR	ID
MILLÁN MON Francisco José	ES	EPP	ROOSE Caroline	FR	Greens/EFA
Baroness MOBARIK Nosheena	UK	ECR	RUISSSEN Bert-Jan	NL	ECR
MONTEIRO DE AGUIAR Cláudia	PT	EPP	SCHMIEDTBAUER Simone	AT	EPP
O'SULLIVAN Grace	IE	Greens/EFA	STANCANELLI Raffaele	IT	ECR
PIZARRO Manuel	PT	S&D	TARDINO Annalisa	IT	ID
SCHREIJER-PIERIK Annie	NL	EPP	WALSH Maria	IE	EPP
TOMAŠIĆ Ruža	HR	ECR	ZARZALEJOS Javier	ES	EPP
ZAGORAKIS Theodoros	EL	EPP			

NEXT FISHERIES COMMITTEE MEETINGS

2019

- Monday 11 November, 15:00-18:30
- Tuesday 12 November, 9:00-12:30
- Tuesday 12 November, 14:30-18:30

- Monday 2 December, 15:00-18:30
- Tuesday 3 December, 9:00-12:30

2020

- Monday 20 January, 15:00-18:30
- Tuesday 21 January, 9:00-12:30
- Tuesday 21 January, 14:30-18:30

- Wednesday 19 February, 9:00-12:30
- Wednesday 19 February, 14:30-18:30
- Thursday 20 February, 9:00-12:30

- Monday 16 March, 15:00-18:30
- Tuesday 17 March, 9:00-12:30
- Tuesday 17 March, 14:30-18:30

- Wednesday 29 April, 9:00-12:30
- Wednesday 29 April, 14:30-18:30
- Thursday 30 April, 9:00-12:30

USEFUL LINKS

- @ EP Committee on Fisheries [link](#)
- @ DG MARE (European Commission) [link](#)
- @ Finland's Presidency of the Council [link](#)
- @ FAO Fishery and Aquaculture [link](#)
- @ ICES International Council for the Exploration of the Sea [link](#)