

RCG NA NS&EA AND RCG BALTIC 2020 REPORT

Decision Meeting

21ST SEPTEMBER 2020
Virtual meeting



Regional Coordination Group
North Atlantic
North Sea & Eastern Arctic



Regional Coordination Group
Baltic

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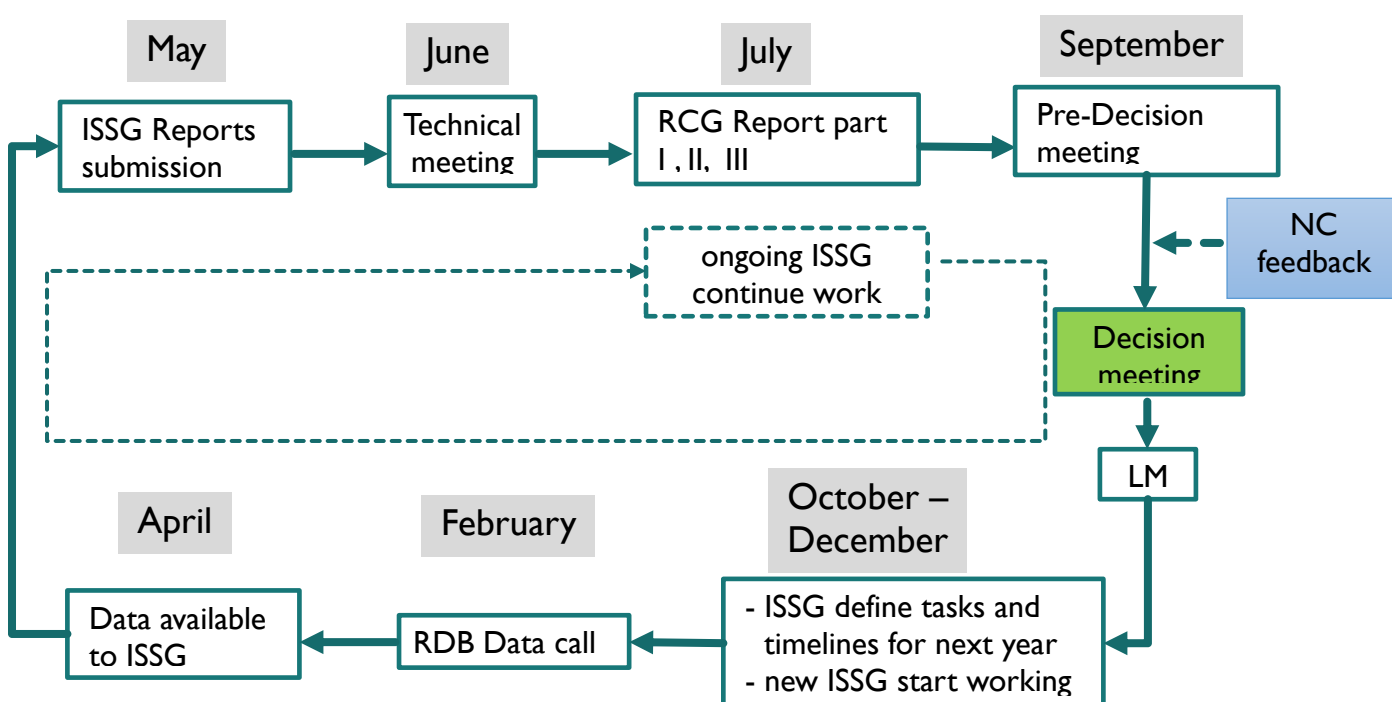
1. Background

The objective of the Decision meeting was to have the formal approval on the Decisions and Recommendations formulated during the RCG NANSEA and RCG BALTIC 2020 Technical meeting 2020.

In preparation of the Decision meeting, two weeks beforehand a pre-decision meeting was organized, where all National Correspondents (NC's) were briefed and informed about the recommendations and the proposed decisions from the two RCGs. During the pre-decision meeting, NCs were able to ask questions and receive further clarifications on as well the recommendations as the decisions.

This new approach to the RCG set up and to the Decision-taking process in general, is reflected in figure 1. It was the first time that this process was implemented, and it was positively received by all NCs of both RCG NANSEA and RCG Baltic. This process will be continued for the period 2020-2021, and have a final evaluation after the Decision Meeting 2021.

Figure 1: Process, flow RCG and Decision Meeting



2. Recommendations

Overview of the recommendations formulated by the Technical Meeting of the RCGs NANSEA and RCG Baltic meeting (June 2020) were fully presented and discussed during the pre-decision meeting. All NC's of both regions, endorsed all the recommendations and where needed, some clarifications were given (see table in annex 1).

R01: Data gaps because of Covid 19 restrictions [addressed to ICES]

R02: Update RDB Data policy [addressed to ICES - WGRDBESGOV]

R03: Implement Upload-logs as standard tool into RDBES [addressed to ICES - WGRDBESGOV]

R04: Advice for completing Table 5A in the national workplans [addressed to MS]

R05: ICES to setup a Workshop on a "pilot FIRMOG" in 2021 [addressed to ICES (and MS to participate)]

R06: Revision of the survey effort and coverage of the IBWSS [addressed to ICES WGIPS]

R07: Non-binding test run for test RWP [addressed to DGMARE & STECF]

R08: PGECON to review NWP template tables 3a, 3b, 3c [addressed to PGECON]

R09: Ensure administrative/technical and financial support for regionally coordinated stomach sampling [addressed to EC - DGMARE]

3. Decisions

Overview of the decisions formulated by the Technical Meeting of the RCG NANSEA and RCG Baltic meeting (June 2020) were all fully presented and discussed during the pre-decision meeting. The reasoning behind having pre-decision meeting was that all NC could come to the Decision Meeting with a clear idea of the decisions proposed by the RCG and their implications. NC's had the opportunity to raise additional questions which were answered during the Decision Meeting before voting.

The voting was made online using the [SuveyMonkey](#) platform. All NC's of both regions or those needed for a specific decision, that linked to a limited number of member states, endorsed all the decisions (see table in annex 1). All decisions were voted unanimously yes (see table 1).

Decisions taken were:

D01: NCs approved the overviews to be made available to WGs, re-approved for access to aggregated RDB data.

D02: NCs approved the use and implementation of the new codes for metiers and reference lists.

D03: NCs approved the proposed changes to the RDB/RDBES Data Policy. New document available.

D04: NCs approved the "Conditions for detailed RDBES data use" document and the procedure behind it.

D05: NCs approved the renewal of the cost-sharing agreements for both the IESNS and WHB survey.

D06: approve the design of a draft RWP as a non-binding test run and endorse elements for test run.

D07: NCs Baltic region agreed to develop the regional sampling plan for small pelagic fishery in Baltic Sea. Agreement on common sampling protocol(s), sampling sizes, sampling intensities, ... that will fulfill the end-user needs.

D08: The list of RCG ISSGs suggested by RCG NA NS&EA and RCG Baltic confirmed to take place during season 2020-2021. Engagement to deliver participants.

Table 1: Overview of voting of the decisions.

No	Decision	Countries	YES	NO
D01	Do NC's approve the usage of RDB catch and effort overviews for selected ICES groups (i.e. those WGs who already have access to aggregated RDB data, approved by the SCRDB, Annex 3) and allow defined exemptions from RDBES data policy?	14	14	0
D02	Do NC's agree to use proposed metier list and target species assemblage group list?	14	14	0
D03	Do NC's approve changes to the RDB/RDBES Data Policy?	14	14	0
D04	Do NC's approve the "Conditions for detailed RDBES data use" document and the procedure behind it?	14	14	0
D05a	Do NC's agree to renew multi-lateral agreement on ASH survey?	5	5	0
D05b	Do NC's agree to renew multi-lateral agreement on WHB (whiting) survey?	5	5	0
D06	Do NC's approve that a draft RWP will be submitted to STECF in October 2020 for a non binding test run and to endorse the elements that were selected for the test run?	14	14	0
D07	Will the MS involved take part in the work and workshop of ISSG "case study small pelagic in the Baltic"?	8	8	0
D08	Do NC's agree on the list of ISSG for season 2020/2021? Can they ensure that experts and manpower is assigned to ISSG work?	14	14	0