

Minutes for the RCG Decision Meeting 2022

Date	19 September 2022	Venue	
Time	14:00		Brussels

Agenda

14.00 – Afternoon session

1. *Welcome of participants*
2. *Adoption of agenda*
3. *Decisions from SECWEB*
4. *Decisions from RCG NANSEA and RCG Baltic*

15.30 – 15.45 Coffee break (in the lobby)

15.45 – Afternoon session continuation

5. *Decisions from RCG Med & BS*
6. *AOB*
7. *Wrap-up of the meeting*

17.30 – Closure

Specific issues addressed

- Rosa Fernández (CETMAR) in her role as responsible for the pilot Secretariat for the RCGs as setup in the SecWeb project opened the meeting thanking all in the room for attendance, the DG MARE officers for hosting the meeting and for their support with the meeting arrangements and the RCG chairs for their work preparing the decisions and recommendations to be discussed.
- House keeping rules and presentation of the RCG Chairs (including those ending the mandate and the incoming chairs) were also addressed.
- The agenda was presented and it was informed a last minute modification to incorporate one decision by RCG Large Pelagics about its chairpersonship assignment.
- A briefing about the decision process was given; national correspondents (NCs) were instructed to only indicate if they did not agree to a decision. Thus, a decision is accepted if nobody expresses an objection. For each decision it was clearly specified which NCs were involved. In the event of NCs not been present at the decision meeting, the relevant NC is contacted by email after the Decision Meeting, in which all relevant decisions are communicated accompanied with a deadline (start of Liaison Meeting), emphasizing that no response would be considered as agreement.
- Afterwhich, the decision concerning the chairmanship of RCG Large Pelagicas was adopted with no objections from the attendees.

- There was one pan regional decision, relating to SECWEB. The decision for SecWeb was presented by Els Torrele, asking to agree on the adoption by all Member States (who did not so already in 2021) of the text provided after the pre-decision meeting to be included as part of the NWP's Text-Box I.b, and each Member State to formally agree on the principles for the long-term implementation of the Secretariat in support of the RCGs.
 - No objection was expressed.
 - Representative from Spain expressed concerns about the direct contract to a service provider as it can only be a short-term solution.
 - Els Torrele explained that during the NCs meeting it is planned to go into more details about an approach where it will be needed to combine a short-term solution for one year with the steps for the setup of a long-term structure.
- RCGs NANSEA and The Baltic Chairs presented a total of six decisions. Those had been advanced and discussed during the on-line pre-decision meeting on September 2nd so no questions or further comments were expected at the Decision Meeting.

There were no objections expressed for any of the Decisions proposed, therefore all of them were adopted.

It was pointed out that for some of the decisions (D01, D02, D03, D04, D06 and D07) Sweden was implicated and should participate in the process. As they could not attend the meeting, the decision documents were submitted to this country NC and feedback requested before the Liaison Meeting was accomplished.

Comments in relation to NANSEA & Baltic Recommendations:

- Jørgen Dalskov (DK) with reference to Decision 06 on the list of ISSGs proposed to work during the Season 2022-2023 comments that he'd been privileged to work for several ISSGs and expressed his hope that all the countries make their assignments. He reminded for all that the assignment of participants to the ISSGs is a part of mandatory regional coordination under the DCF regulation.
- Regarding the list of recommendations presented addressed to DG MARE:
 - Leonie O'Dowd commented: For Recommendations 04 and 05 affecting the Control Regulation, the point was taken and an update on the state of play of the Control Regulation was included in point 6 of the agenda of the NCs meeting to be held the day after the DM.
 - For the recommendation 06 about a list of prioritized species for PETS, the RCGs are informed that the consultation has been made (by DG MARE) to DG ENV and an update will be provided at the Liaison Meeting.
- Finally, the prospects for 2023 Technical Meeting were presented; it is expected to be in Poland and to be an in-person meeting. If for any circumstances it could not be planned in Poland, the alternative of Vigo (ES) (as long as the Secretariat continues in place with no interruption of service) will be adopted. The dates proposed are 6-9 June with some previous on-line meetings in May.
- After the coffee-break it was the turn for Jurgen Mifsud the chair of RCG Mediterranean and Black Sea to go through the list of recommendations they agreed to present during the recently accomplished Technical Meeting, while there were no decisions to be taken by the NCs for the RCG Mediterranean and Black Sea. No further comments were made from the audience.
- Josip Males as Chair of RCG Large Pelagics (LP) presented a decision to undertake the system agreed in the context of the RCG Technical Meeting for a random assignment of a chair and co-chair person in 2023 and ahead. The decision proposed is the approval of the random assignment system. The following comments were made:

Attendees

Last name	First name	Organisation	Delegation
TORREELE	Els	ILVO Marine	NC Belgium
NICHEVA	Simona	Executive agency for fisheries and aquaculture	NC Bulgaria
ZHELEV	Kolyo	Executive agency for fisheries and aquaculture	Bulgaria
DUBEC	Jiri	Institute of Agricultural Economics and Information	NC Czechia
DALSKOV	Jorgen	Ministry for Food, Agriculture and Fisheries	NC Denmark
GADGÅRD BOYE	Anja	Ministry for Food, Agriculture and Fisheries	Denmark
STRANSKY	Christoph	Thuenen Institute of Sea Fisheries	NC Germany
RASMANN	Elo	Ministry of the Environment of Estonia, Fisheries Resources Department	NC Estonia
O'HEA	Linda	Marine Intitute	NC Ireland
CHATZIEFSTATHIOU	Michael	Hellenic Ministry of Rural Development & Food Directorate General for Fisheries	NC delegate Greece
POZA	Juana	General Secretary For Fisheries	NC delegate Spain
DOMÍNGUEZ AMARAL	Maria Del Mar	General Secretary For Fisheries	Spain
BUXÓ DE LA PEÑA	Ricardo	General Secretary For Fisheries	Spain
VÉRON	Louise	Ministère de l'agriculture et de l'alimentation	NC France
VUKOV	Ivana	MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, DIRECTORATE OF FISHERIES	NC Croatia
USTUPS	Didzis	Institute of Food Safety, Animal Health and Environment BIOR	NC Latvia
CESIULIENE	Jolanta	Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Lithuania	NC delegate Lithuania
LENGYEL	Peter	Aquaculture Development Unit, Department of Fisheries Management, Ministry of Agriculture	NC delegate Hungary
MIFSUD	Jurgen	Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture - MAFA	NC Malta: RCG Med&BS chair
CAMILLERI	Kelly	Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture - MAFA	Malta
VAN BEMMEL	Heleen	Ministerie van Landbouw	NC Netherlands
VERVER	Siebrand	Wageningen University	NC delegate Netherlands
WOJCIK	Ireneusz	National Marine Fisheries Research Institute	NC Poland; RCG LDF chair
ROSA	Cristina	National Correspondent PT	NC Portugal
CANO	Suzana	National Coordinator PT	Portugal
GHEORGHE	Alexandru	National Agency for Fisheries and Aquaculture	NC Romania
BERGINC	Tim	Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food	NC Slovenia
LEHTINEN	Heikki	Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry	NC Finland
TIAINEN	Joni	Luke	Finland

Last name	First name	Organisation	Delegation
IOANNOU	Myrto	Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environment	Cyprus
FERNÁNDEZ OTERO	Rosa María	CETMAR	RCG Secretariat
STÖTERA	Sven	RCG Baltic chair (DE)	RCG Baltic
ADAMOWICZ	Maciej	RCG Baltic co-chair (PL)	RCG Baltic
MALEŠ	Josip	RCG LP chair (HR)	RCG Large Pelagics
EGEKVIST	Josefine	RCG NANSEA (DK) Incoming chair	RCG NANSEA
VAN OVERZEE	Harriet	RCG NANSEA (NL)	RCG NANSEA
REIS	Dalia	RCG NANSEA (PT)	RCG NANSEA
STERCZEWSKA	Monika	DG MARE	DG MARE
HURRELMANN	Annette	DG MARE	DG MARE
METTALA	Jaana	DG MARE	DG MARE
O'DOWD	Leonie	DG MARE	DG MARE
PEYRONNET	Arnaud	DG MARE	DG MARE
VERHEYEN	Francoise	MARE	DG MARE

The meeting ends by 17:18 (CET)