

# ***What future for fisheries in the Adriatic-Ionian basin?***

***SESSION 1: Sustainable fisheries a key driver boosting blue growth in the Adriatic-Ionian Basin  
29 October, Termoli***



# What are the (Regional) Advisory Councils(CC/AC)?

- Originally created by Council Decision EC/2004/585 and later amended by Council Decision 2007/409/CE as **regional** stakeholders organizations pursuing an aim of general European interest
- Completely repealed by EC Regulation 1380/2013 on CFP Reform, creating Advisory Councils **not limited at the regional level anymore.**
- Advisory Councils will still be financed by the European Commission on a yearly basis



# How many ACs?

- Baltic Sea AC
- **Black Sea AC**
- Mediterranean Sea AC
- North Sea AC
- North Western Waters AC
- South Western Waters AC
- **Outermost Regions AC**
- Pelagic Stocks AC
- High seas/long distance fleet AC
- **Aquaculture AC**
- **Markets AC**



# What is MED(R)AC

- The MED(R)AC is a stakeholder-led organization and its role is to enable the European Commission to benefit from the knowledge and experience of stakeholders in the formulation and implementation of fisheries management measures.

~~Advices and opinions~~



**Technical solutions and suggestions, including Joint recommendations (ex. Art. 18 Reg.1380/2013 on REGIONALIZATION)**

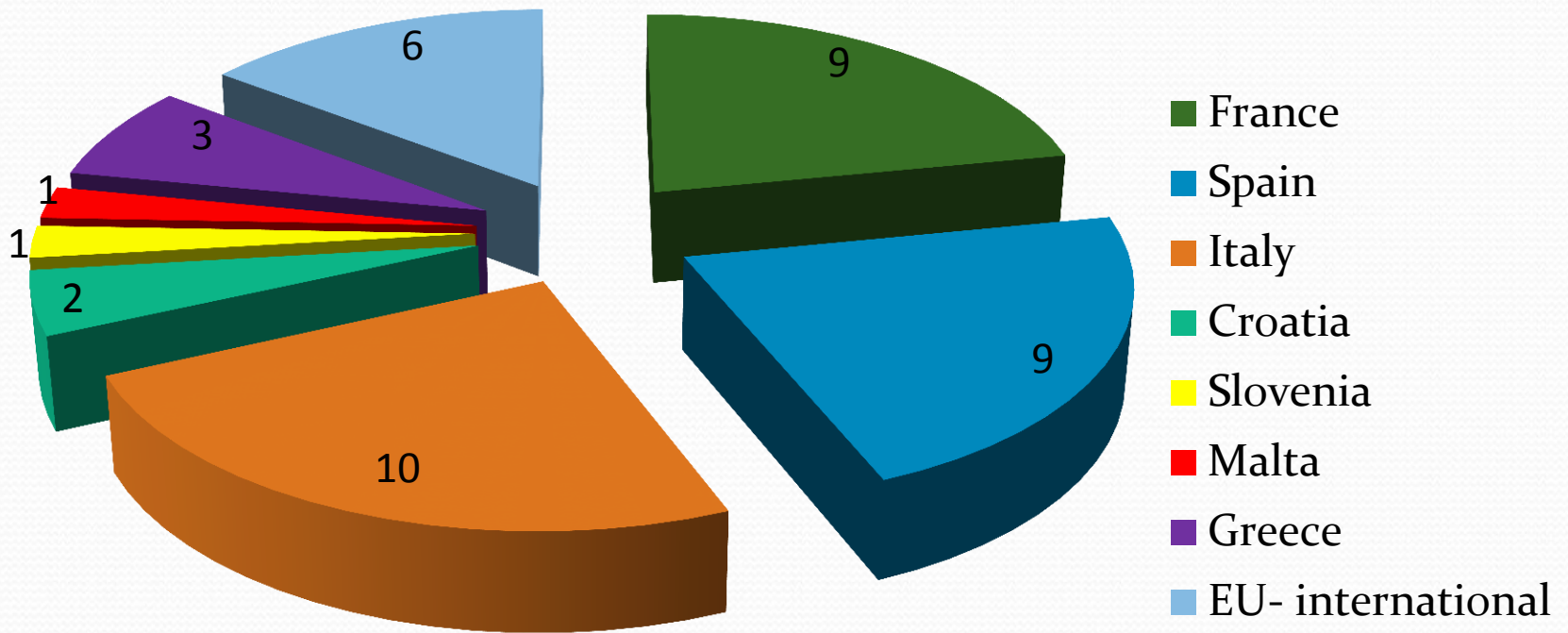


# Who are MED(R)AC members?

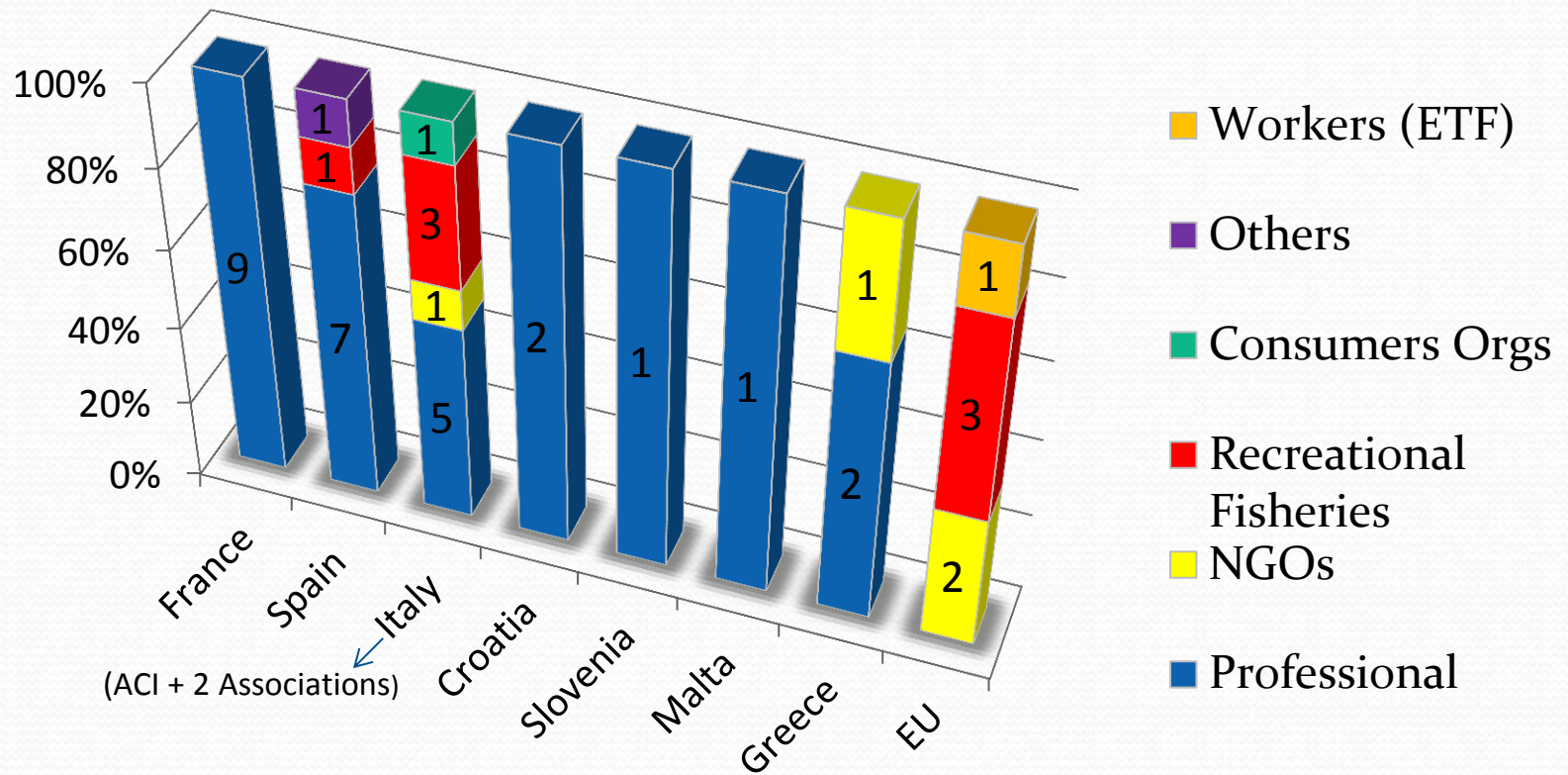
- Associations and organizations belonging to the 8 EU Mediterranean Countries
- The **General Assembly** and **Executive Committee** shall allot:
  - **60 %** of the seats to representatives of **fishermen**, and representatives of the **processing and marketing sectors**
  - **40 %** of the seats to representatives of the **other interest groups** affected by the Common Fisheries Policy, for example environmental (NGOs) and consumer groups.



# MED(R)AC Membership by Nationality



# MED(R)AC Membership by Professional/Other interest groups



# Before the CFP Reform

- During the consultation process of the CFP Reform MED(R)AC suggested various proposals, some rejected and some accepted, among which:
- to boost participation from all stakeholders, in the draft of LTMPs (Regionalization);
- to take into consideration specific local conditions through the implementation of pilot actions to formulate measures for the discards management plans (Discards);
- to define which stocks need to be managed and how, while drafting LTMPs.





# Priorities lay down in the new CFP

- Regionalization
- Landing Obligation
- MSY for all stocks before 2020 through Long Term Management Plans (LTMP)

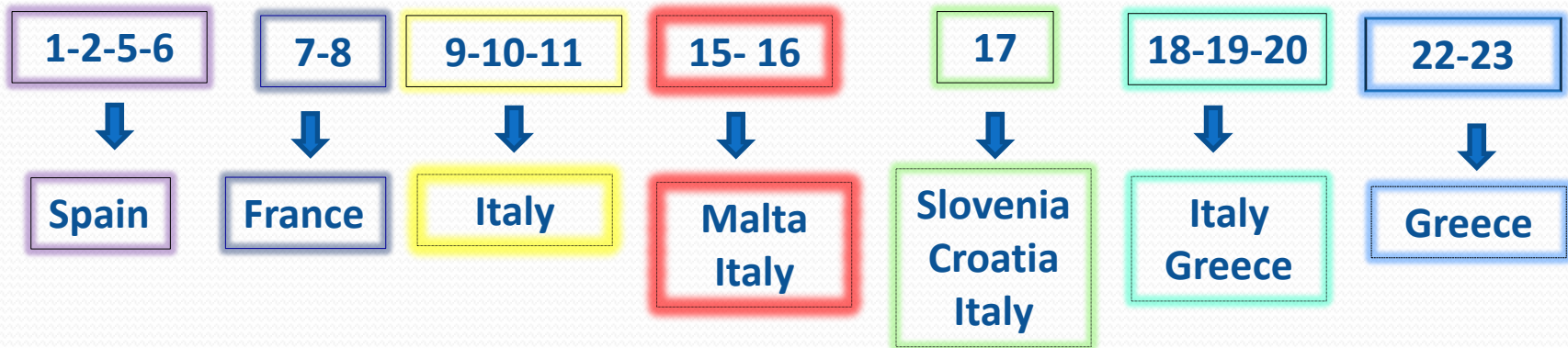
# Advice on the OMNIBUS Proposal COM (2013) 889

The MEDAC considers that the provisions included in this proposal constitutes a new heavy additional bureaucratic burden for ship-owners with negative consequences in terms of

- additional work ;
- high economic costs;
- a related profit reduction, instead of just bridging the gap for the smooth implementation of art.15 of the new CFP Reform.

# Regionalization – Landing Obligation

MEDAC advice for a joint recommendation on discards management plan has been drafted thanks to the results of the ad hoc WG and it has been sent to each Mediterranean MS administration according to their GSAs.



This advice has been adopted by the EXCOM members by written procedure on June 9

# MEDAC Advice for a Joint Recommendation Discards Management Plan

Objectives:

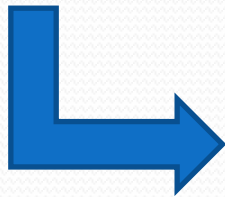
- ➔ to make the application of the de minimis exemption possible in the conditions described herein
- ➔ due to the significant difficulty in applying the de minimis exemption in the Mediterranean as no scientific data on discards minimum size fraction are available, we proposed to apply the de minimis rule (adaptive approach):
  - in the first two years at a fixed rate (the first year for the collection of real data and the second for data processing),
  - according to the percentage of actual catches from the third year onwards

# Next Steps – Discards

- To draft joint recommendation on discards for demersal and small scale fisheries;
- To review the MEDAC joint recommendation on small pelagic fishes in 2016 according to 2015 new scientific data

# Next Steps – LTMPs

- To act as facilitator and coordinator on multiannual long term management plans concerning shared stocks, as foreseen by the new CFP Reform organized through various focus groups at the regional level (by GSAs, at EU Level or under GFCM jurisdiction);



Work Programme 2015: setting up of focus groups on two specific GSAs:

- GSA17 – North Adriatic (IT, SLO, HR LTMP on small pelagic)
- GSA 7 – Gulf of Lions (FR, ES on demersal)

# MEDAC's reply to the Consultation on Technical Measures

An approach based on technical measures , designed in the framework of a scientific fisheries management plan is considered much more effective than the current approach

The technical measures should

- create basic provisions that establish the minimum standards and the flexibility to further develop these or other provisions/guidelines on a regional basis
- take into account the specific nature of each fishery
- include very rapid and effective decision-making processes in order to adapt to the circumstances and the evolution of the species involved

# MED(R)AC Advice on Driftnets

This proposed regulation is in contradiction with the principle of regionalization (ex art. 18 CFP Reform) because a possible ban on drift nets should follow a regionalized decision-making process, especially in the Mediterranean basin because of:

- the specific nature, as over 1200 fishing enterprises are involved.
- drift netting is a traditional, local fishery activity
- the socio-economic impact of such a ban should be carefully evaluated



# Thanks for your attention!

**Giampaolo Buonfiglio**

**CC(R) MED –MED(R)AC**

Via Nazionale 243 – 00184 Rome

Tel. +39.06.48.91.36.24

segreteria@racmed.eu

r.caggiano@racmed.eu

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