

MEDAC contribution in the draft of the management plan on landing obligation for small pelagic

XXII Conference of the EAFE (European Association of Fisheries Economists)



Salerno

29 April 2015

What are the Advisory Councils(ACs)?

- 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- Completely repealed by EC Regulation **1380/2013** on CFP Reform, creating Advisory Councils **not limited at the regional level anymore.**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



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What is MEDAC

- The MEDAC 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)



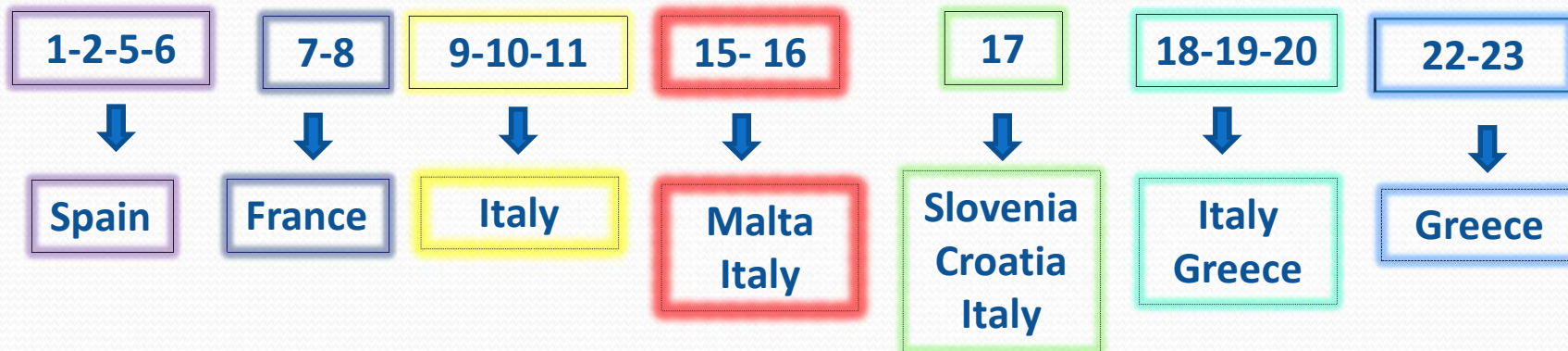
Who are MEDAC members?

- 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.



MEDAC Advice for a Joint Recommendation on Discards Management Plan

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 on June 9, 2014

MEDAC Advice for a Joint Recommendation Discards Management Plan

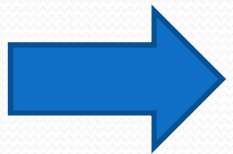
Objectives:

- ➔ 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



Critical Aspects

- Lack of specific official scientific available data;
- First time working within each MS through the election of a Country focal point with no legal framework on the MEDAC functioning;
- First time acting with a new role as Advisory Council > from just giving advices to submitting technical and articulated indications
- First time MEDAC worked directly with MS
- Lack of financial resources to organize additional regional meetings



With no coordination and cooperation with Member States , MEDAC would have never been and would not be able to give a significant and effective contribution

Next Steps

- To review the joint recommendation on small pelagic fishes in 2016 according to 2015 new scientific data;
- To draft joint recommendation on discards for demersal and small scale fisheries;
- To act as facilitator and coordinator on long term management plans concerning shared stocks, as foreseen by the new CFP Reform (GSAs 7 and 17)



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Thanks for your attention!



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