



Scientific Advisory Committee on Fisheries (SAC)

Working Group on Fishing Technology (WGFiT)

Online, Zoom, 8 – 9 April 2021

DRAFT AGENDA

THURSDAY 8 APRIL

Morning, 09.00–12.30 hours (CEST)

1. Opening and arrangements of the meeting

- Welcome and introduction of participants
- Adoption of the agenda and appointment of the rapporteur
- Presentation of the meeting objectives and expected outputs

2. Advances in fishing gear technology to improve the selectivity and rational exploitation of fisheries in the Mediterranean and the Black Sea

- Review of relevant fishing technology and selectivity requests stemming from current GFCM recommendations and resolutions (*by the GFCM Secretariat*)
 - Selected technical contributions on the mitigation of adverse impacts of fisheries on juvenile fish¹ and the mitigation of discards:
 - Preliminary results from the GFCM discards monitoring programme (*by the GFCM Secretariat*)
 - Catch performance of two technical solutions to reduce unwanted catches in Mediterranean bottom trawl fisheries (*Francesc Maynou, Montserrat Demestre, and Alfredo García de Vinuesa*)
 - Assessing the effects of bottom trawl codend in terms of selectivity and discards in the Mediterranean multispecies fishery (*by Chryssi Mytilineou*)
- - - Coffee break - - -
- Improving the selectivity of trawl gears in the Mediterranean Sea to advance the sustainable exploitation pattern of trawl fisheries (IMPLEMED) (*by Mario Sbrana*)
 - Minimizing undersized catches in deep water rose shrimp fisheries in the Strait of Sicily by Low Impact Fishing Techniques (*by Sergio Vitale*)

¹ In line with requests stemming from existing Recommendations, priority will be given to contributions focusing on the mitigation of adverse impacts to juveniles of the following fisheries: Blackspot seabream (*Pagellus bogaraveo*) in the Strait of Gibraltar, Blue and red shrimp (*Aristeus antennatus*) and Giant red shrimp (*Aristaeomorpha foliacea*) in the eastern-central Mediterranean, Deep-water rose shrimp (*Parapenaeus longirostris*) in the Strait of Sicily, European hake (*Merluccius merluccius*) in the Mediterranean in general and in the Strait of Sicily in particular, European eel (*Anguilla anguilla*) in the Mediterranean, as well as fisheries for other [GFCM priority species](#).

- European eel fishing gears and their management for the improvement of the fishery sustainable in Tunisia (*by Marouene Bdioui*)
- Presentation of the ICES workshop on Innovative fishing gears (WKING) (*by Antonello Sala*)

Afternoon, 15.00–17.00 hours (CEST)

- Discussion of urgent technical selectivity measures to be implemented, in particular in relation to management plans adopted by the GFCM
 - Selected technical contributions on the mitigation of the incidental catch of vulnerable and sensitive species (i.e. seabirds, cetaceans, sea turtles, elasmobranchs):
 - Overview of commonly used fishing gear in the GFCM area of application and their impacts on vulnerable and sensitive species (*by the GFCM Secretariat*)
 - The interaction between dolphins and purse seiners (*by Mohamed Keznine*)
- - - Coffee break - - -
- CeNoBS project – cetacean bycatch mitigation in the Black Sea (*by Dimitar Popov*)
 - Passive acoustic reflectors to reduce odontocete bycatch in gillnets (*by Daniel Stepputtis*)

FRIDAY 9 APRIL

Morning, 09.00–12.30 hours (CEST)

- A simple groundgear design exploiting behavioural differences of elasmobranchs at the trawl mouth (*by Emre Fakioğlu*)
- Preliminary trails for mitigating the accidental catches of marine vulnerable species in bottom trawl fishery in GSA 12 and GSA 13 (central Mediterranean) (*by Marouene Bdioui*)
- BRDs to reduce sea turtles bycatch and fisheries interactions with dolphins in the Mediterranean Sea: insights from two EU-LIFE projects (*by Andrea Petetta*)
- Discussion of urgent technical selectivity measures to be implemented, in particular in relation to select decisions of the GFCM

- - - Coffee break - - -

- Exchange of experiences in relation to the marking of fishing gear, as per Recommendation GFCM/42/2018/11 on the regional marking of fishing gear
 - The challenge of marking fishing gears (*by Haraldur Einarsson*)
 - Pilot study on replacement of illegal fishing gear in Lebanon: fishing gear tagging with electronic sensors (*by Imad Lahoud*)
 - Discussion of measures to be implemented for the marking of fishing gear, in particular in relation to management plans adopted by the GFCM

3. Other relevant issues in relation to fishing technology

- Advances in the development of the Mediterranean and Black Sea catalogue of fishing gear (*by Alessandro Lucchetti*)
- GFCM pilot project on marine litter (*by the GFCM Secretariat*)

Afternoon, 15.00–17.00 hours (CEST)

4. Conclusions and recommendations

5. Multi-year work plan

6. Any other matter

7. Closure of the meeting