



# Implementation of the CFP reform in the Mediterranean

*Meeting on the implementation of the Mediterranean  
Regulation – State of play and next steps*

European Commission

Directorate Mediterranean and Black Sea

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# Implementation of the CFP reform in the Mediterranean

- Fisheries resources overexploited (around 50 stocks evaluated with data gathered in 2011)
- Delay in management plans (ex EFF and Med. Reg.)
- Significant level of instability in the third party countries to the south of the Mediterranean that does not facilitate control, cooperation and dialogue



# Implementation of the CFP reform in the Mediterranean

- Characteristics of the fishery sector:
  - A clear predominance of small-scale fisheries carried out by thousands of small and medium sized enterprises
  - a large part of the sector dedicated to trawl fisheries; multi-specific catching patterns with seasonal trends that differ in terms of quantity and quality of the catch (and bycatch )
  - An extremely high number of landing points dotted along the tens of thousands of km of coast and on the countless islands of the basin
  - a highly ramified market structure that differs greatly according to the context



# Possible reasons behind the overexploitation of fisheries resources

- Inefficiency or insufficient enforcement of the measures set out in the current CFP;
- An increase in fishing effort in various GSA by the fleets from third countries;
- Technological innovation that has increased catchability (a concept introduced by the reform that compensated the loss of fleet capacity);
- Widespread illegal fisheries;
- Inefficiency (or late/non implementation) of the management plans ex Reg. 1967/06 and in the EFF);
- ?



# Basic regulation on the CFP-New role of the RACs/ACs

- Basic Regulation on the CFP – final compromised text:
  - New role of RACs/ACs
  - Regionalization
  - Landing obligations
  - Management plans



# Basic regulation on the CFP-New role of the RACs/ACs

- New Role of the RACs/ACs:
  - Art. 3 letter (f): *“appropriate involvement of stakeholders, in particular of Advisory Councils, at all stages – from conception to implementation of the measures”*
- Functioning of the ACs:
  - Art 45.4 : *The Commission shall be empowered to adopt **delegated acts** in accordance with Article 46, laying down detailed rules on the functioning of Advisory Councils.*



# Basic regulation on the CFP- New role of the RACs/ACs

- Implications:
  - Art. 44 Tasks of ACs:
    - submit recommendations and suggestions on matters relating to the management of fisheries and the socio-economic and conservation aspects of fisheries to the Commission (...)
    - contribute, in close cooperation with scientists, to the collection, supply and analysis of data necessary for the development of conservation measures.



# Landing Obligations

- Art. 14 paragraph 1: ... Member States may conduct pilot projects, based on the best available scientific advice and **taking into account the opinions of the relevant Advisory Councils (...)**





# Landing Obligations – Art. 15 what and when?

- Species which are subject to catch limits and minimum landing sizes ex Reg. No 1967/2006:
  - BFT, undersized product of target species of the capture system, and the by-catch (consisting always of species subject to minimum size)
- Pelagic species from 1° January 2015 (only 4 pelagic fishes subject to minimum size):
  - Undersized or over quota of BFT,
  - Undersized of anchovies, sardines
  - By-catch of mackerels and sprats



# Landing Obligations – Art. 15 what and when?

- 1<sup>o</sup> January 2019 all other species subject to minimum landing size ex Reg. 1967/2006:
  - 16 fish species
  - 4 species of crustaceans
  - 3 species of bivalve molluscs



# Landing Obligations – All other Species which are subject to minimum landing sizes as defined in Reg. No 1967/2006

Species	Gear	Minimum landing size 1967/06
Dicentrarchus labrax	Small scale	25 cm
Diplodus annularis	Small Scale/Trawl	12cm
Diplodus puntazzo	Small Scale/Trawl	18 cm
Diplodus sargus	Small Scale/Trawl	23 cm
Diplodus vulgaris	Small Scale/Trawl	18 cm
Epinephelus spp.	Small scale	45 cm
Lithognathus mormyrus	Trawl	20 cm
Merluccius merluccius	Trawl	20 cm
Mullus spp	Trawl	11 cm
Pagellus acarne	Small Scale/Trawl	17 cm
Pagellus bogaraveo	Small Scale/Trawl	33 cm
Pagellus erythrinus	Small Scale/Trawl	15 cm
Pagrus pagrus	Sometimes Trawl	18 cm
Polyprion americanus	Trawl	45 cm



## Landing Obligations – All other Species which are subject to minimum landing sizes as defined in Reg. No 1967/2006

Species	Gear	Minimum landing size 1967/06
<i>Solea vulgaris</i>	Small scale /Trawl	20 cm
<i>Sparus aurata</i>	Small Scale/Trawl	20 cm
	<b>Crustaceans</b>	
Species	Gear	Minimum landing size
<i>Homarus gammarus</i>	Small scale	30 cm L.T. 10,5 cm L.C.
Palinuridae	Small scale	9 cm L.C.
<i>Parapenaeus longirostris</i>	Trawl	2 cm L.C.
<i>Nephrops norvegicus</i>	Trawl	7 cm L.T. 2 cm L.C.
	<b>Molluscs bivalves</b>	
Species	Gear	Minimum landing size
<i>Pecten jacobaeus</i>	Dredger	10 cm
<i>Venerupis</i> spp. and <i>Venus</i> spp.,	Dredger	25 mm
<i>Octopus vulgaris</i>	Small scale/Trawl	450 gr

RACMED

# Landing Obligations I - Art. 15 shall not apply to:

- species in respect of which fishing is prohibited
- species for which scientific evidence demonstrates high survival rates
- catches falling under de minimis exemptions of up to 5 % of total annual catches



# Landing Obligations II

## Art. 15 shall not apply to:

- The *de minimis* exemption shall apply in the following cases:
  - where scientific evidence indicates that increases in selectivity are very difficult to achieve;
  - to avoid disproportionate costs of handling unwanted catches, for those fishing gears where unwanted catches per fishing gear do not represent more than a certain percentage



# Landing Obligations

- Problems to face:
  - No data available on the undersized fish or over quota
  - On-board activities:
    - reduction of storage capacity for the products destined to sales,
    - more work on board (selection, compliance with Reg. 1224/09 – fisheries journal, landings declaration, division into lots, etc)
    - obligation of vessels to return to port more frequently
  - Landing:
    - Infrastructure and technical/economic organization
    - Disposal and waste management laws (i.e special waste treatment)



# Landing Obligations

- **How to apply it?**

- Feasibility studies

- Technical and economic problems applied to local conditions:

- who will manage the storage and sale of the product?

- POs, fish markets, service cooperatives, other bodies with mixed public (municipal)/private participation





# Landing Obligations

- **The role of the RAC MED before 1<sup>st</sup> January 2015:**
  - Collaboration with Member States and national research institutes in order to create working groups to:
    - proceed with feasibility studies to be carried out in representative maritime districts in each country in relation to the each catch systems used.



**Tight schedule for the Member States' presentation to the EC of their plans for the application of the landing obligations, their approval and the implementation of pilot projects**



# Regionalization

- Art. 18 paragraph 1: (...) MS having a direct management interest affected by those measures may agree to submit joint recommendations for achieving the objectives of the relevant Union conservation measures, the multiannual plans or the specific discard plans. **The Commission shall not adopt any such delegated or implementing acts before the expiry of the deadline for submission of joint recommendations by the MS.**
- Art. 18 paragraph 2: (...)MS having a direct management interest affected by the measures referred to in paragraph 1 shall cooperate with one another in formulating joint recommendations. **They shall also consult the relevant Advisory Councils.** The Commission shall facilitate the cooperation between MS, including, where necessary, by ensuring that a scientific contribution is obtained from the relevant scientific bodies.

# Regionalization

- **MS enhanced role:**

- to agree and jointly formulate measures that would then be adopted by the EC by means of delegated acts

THROUGH

- the ACs and the assistance of the relevant scientific institutes



# Regionalization

- **Implications:**
  - Member States more active and cooperative
  - Third Countries involvement (Through the MoU with the GFCM?)
  - Bilateral/multilateral MS /stakeholders involvement



# Regionalization

- **How to apply it?**

- Adequate consultative process
- Appropriate involvement of the MS in the ACs
- Creation of *ad hoc* on-line working groups that take into account the sub-regional specificities (Adriatic, the Gulf of Lions, the Channel of Sicily and the Ionian Sea)
- A financial contribution which corresponds to the expectations of the Reform and the increased administrative burden (see our Advice ref 154/AV 30<sup>th</sup> May 2012)



THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION

