STECF EXPERT WORKING GROUPS EWG 24-11

Evaluation of fisheries dependent information for European Fleets

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Terms of Reference EWG 24-11 Evaluation of Fisheries Dependent Information for European Fleets

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Background information

EWG 24-11 Evaluation of Fisheries Dependent Information (FDI) for European Fleets to review the data transmitted by Member States under the 2024 FDI datacall to judge:

1. If data submitted is complete in terms of areas of fishing, types of fleet segment and gear operated and species identified;
2. If data submitted is complete in terms of type of data requested: capacity metrics, effort metrics, landings, discards and spatially disaggregated landings and effort.

In addition, the EWG is asked to map the data on fishing effort obtained from the call for spatially disaggregated data.

In considering the completeness of the data submitted the EWG is entitled to use external sources of data where necessary, as well as expert judgement.

The STECF EWG is requested to:

1 – Review and document completeness of the data set and feedback from Member States on approaches used and problems encountered in responding to the data call.

1.1 As a matter of priority, the EWG is requested to ensure that all unresolved data transmission (DT) issues encountered prior to and during the EWG meeting are reported online via the Data Transmission Monitoring Tool (DTMT)[1]. Such issues should be reported in full within 2 weeks of the end of the EWG.

1.2 Review outputs of the ad hoc contract that provides the catches, landings and discards, at a level of aggregation corresponding to the fleet, area and gear type as specified in the EU relevant delegated regulations specifying the details of implementation of the landing obligation for 2025.

1.3 Review data quality checks and produce National methodological chapters.

1.4 Discuss the development of quality checks relevant to FDI EWG under QualyTrain project.

1 https://dcf.ec.europa.eu/dtmt_en

2 – Provide landings and discards data for exemptions in discard plans.

Based upon the previous work and method established in STECF EWG 20-10, EWG 21-12, EWG 22-10, EWG 23-10, and the output of the ad hoc contract:

2.1 STECF is asked to provide figures for landings and discards in 2023, at a level of aggregation corresponding to the fleet, area and gear type as specified in Delegated Commission Regulations (EU) 2023/2459, 2023/2623, 2023/2918, 2023/2462 and 2023/2460 specifying details of implementation of the landing obligation for 2025.

2.2 STECF is asked to assess and if possible, provide percentages of discards estimates below and above MCRS at a level of aggregation corresponding to the fleet, area and gear type as specified in in Delegated Commission Regulations (EU) 2023/2459 and 2023/2623 specifying details of implementation of the landing obligation for 2025.

2.3 Where there is insufficient discard data for the above task, the STECF is asked to provide **estimated catches** (landings + discards) for 2023. Only if this is possible and sufficient data is available for such estimation.

3 – Review dissemination formats and produce dissemination tables and maps of spatial effort and landings by c-squares

3.1 Discuss current dissemination formats and check if it is still relevant. Update script produced to support the dissemination of the data if needed. Discuss the possibility of disseminating the spatial data at national level and feasibility to aggregate it to level that would not compromise confidentiality of the data provided by Member States.

3.2 Discuss interpretation of the Table B and agree on format of dissemination of refusal rate data

3.3 If GIS technical skills are available in the EWG, produce maps of effort and landings by c-square (to be inserted in the EWG report) for the following regions (as defined in COM-2016-134 for areas other than 'distant waters') and major gear types (as defined in appendix 4 of the data call):

a. Baltic; North Sea; North Western Waters; South Western Waters; Mediterranean and Black Seas; Distant waters

b. Trawls (except beam trawls) with mesh < 100mm; trawls (except beam trawls) with mesh ≥ 100mm; beam trawls with mesh < 120mm; beam trawls with mesh ≥120mm; seine nets; gillnets and entangling nets; dredges; hooks and lines; surrounding nets; pots and trap.

4 – Discuss data submission results following recent changes in the data call and definitions, discuss further feasibility of other changes:

4.1 Discuss changes in the AER fleet definitions and feasibility to add a new fields to the FDI data call.

4.2 Discuss changes requested by ICES RDBES.

5 - Access results of pilot IDs / Domain names submission to Med&Black Sea data call and discuss MS experience with the Med and Black Sea region data submission in 2024. Discuss development of RDBFIS – Integrated Fisheries Information System for the Mediterranean and Black Sea.

6 – Provide recommendations on protocol for the work done under the annual ad hoc contract [see annex 1] that provides the catches, landings and discards, at a level of aggregation corresponding to the fleet, area and gear type as specified in each exemption of each delegated regulation specifying the details of implementation of the landing obligation. With the aim to incorporate work done to the STECF EWG procedures, as this is one of the major deliverables of the FDI database for DG MARE as end user.