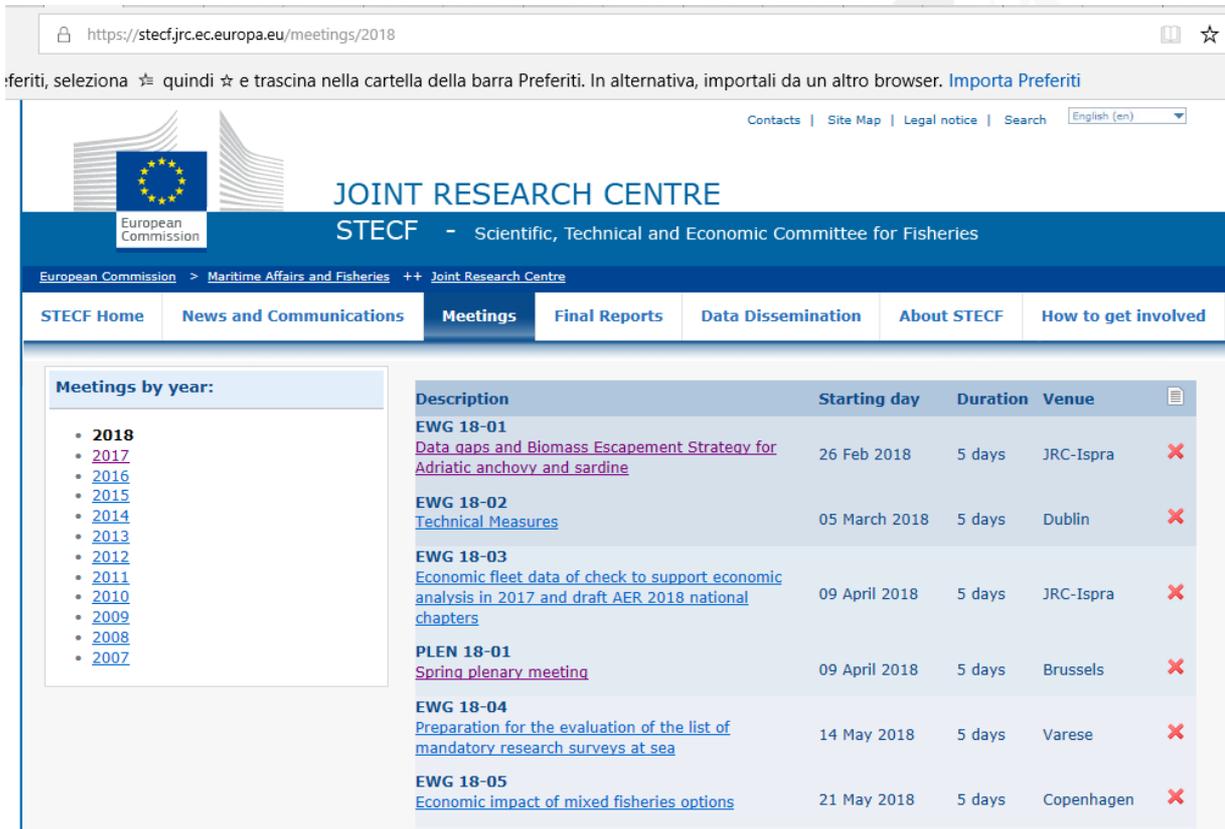




***Report of the STECF
58TH PLENARY MEETING REPORT
(PLEN-18-02)
2 - 6 July 2018, Brussels***

Contents of the 58^o Plenary meeting report

- Mediterranean Sea
- Of interest for the MEDAC's members



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Meetings by year:

- 2018
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Description	Starting day	Duration	Venue	
EWG 18-01 Data gaps and Biomass Escapement Strategy for Adriatic anchovy and sardine	26 Feb 2018	5 days	JRC-Ispra	✘
EWG 18-02 Technical Measures	05 March 2018	5 days	Dublin	✘
EWG 18-03 Economic fleet data of check to support economic analysis in 2017 and draft AER 2018 national chapters	09 April 2018	5 days	JRC-Ispra	✘
PLEN 18-01 Spring plenary meeting	09 April 2018	5 days	Brussels	✘
EWG 18-04 Preparation for the evaluation of the list of mandatory research surveys at sea	14 May 2018	5 days	Varese	✘
EWG 18-05 Economic impact of mixed fisheries options	21 May 2018	5 days	Copenhagen	✘

The scientific output expressed in the Plenary meeting Report does not imply a policy position of the European Commission

Complete list of assessed EWG reports and topics submitted to the STECF Plenary

EWG REPORTS ASSESSMENT

- ✓ 18-04 Preparation for the evaluation of the list of **mandatory research surveys** at sea
- ✓ 18-05: Economic impact of **mixed fisheries** options
- ✓ 18-06 Evaluation of **LO JR**
- ✓ 18-03/7 **AER** of EU fleet 2018
- ✓ 18-09: **Fishing effort regime** for demersal fisheries in the **WMED**
- ✓ 18-10 Evaluation of **Annual Reports**

ADDITIONAL REQUESTS BY THE COMMISSION

- ✓ Derogation from MEDREG - **shore seines** operating in certain territorial waters of **France**
- ✓ Review of national management plan for **boat seines** in the **Ligurian Sea** (GSA 09)
- ✓ Evaluation of the fisheries using **collecting bags**



EWG 18-06 Evaluation of LO joint recommendations

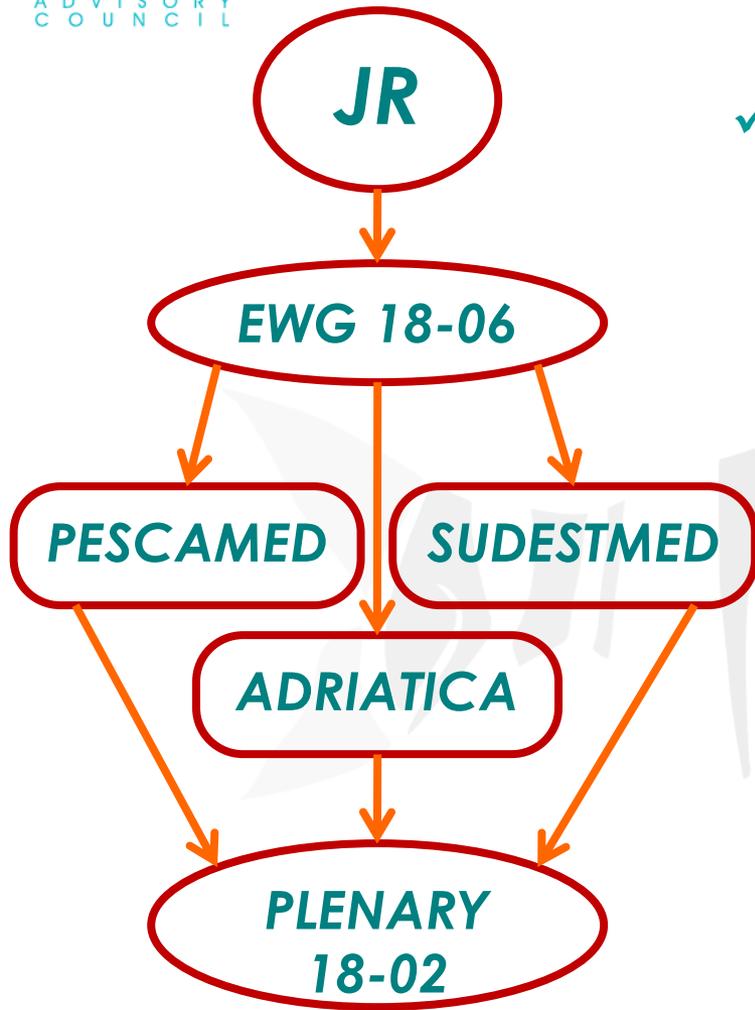


EWG REPORT

Review of JR from MS regional groups for the implementation of the LO in 2019

- ✓ **Templates** developed by STECF, should be submitted in a **timely manner**
- ✓ Many of the requests for de minimis exemptions remain of a “national nature” rather than regionally focused
- ✓ STECF cannot adjudicate on whether exemptions should be accepted or not.
- ✓ Innovative monitoring measures such as **CCTV and Remote Electronic Monitoring (REM)** have been applied in **pilot studies.**

% Exemption	Species	Gears
6% in 2019 and 2020, 5% in 2021 of total annual catches	Hake and Mulletts	Trammel and gill nets
	Hake and Mulletts	Rapido beam trawls
	Common sole	Trawl nets
In July, August and September 6% in 2019 and 2020 5% in 2021 of total catches	Norway lobster	Bottom trawls
7% in 2019 and 2020, 6% in 2021 of total annual catches	Demersal finfish (Hake, Mulletts and pelagic species excepted)	Bottom trawls
		Trammel and gill nets
		Hooks and lines
7% in 2019 and 2020, 6% in 2021 of total annual by-catches	Pelagic species (Anchovy, Sardine, Mackerel, Horse mackerel)	Demersal gears



✓ Limitations in the information provided

a) To support claim of disproportionate costs.

b) Fishery information by member state fleets.

c) Discard data - per species and Member State

that justify the increase in de minimis rate.

Species	Gears	Comments STECF PLEN 18-02
Scallop, Carpet clams, Venus shells	Mechanized dredges	Required supporting information has not been provided
Norway lobster	Bottom trawls	No new evidence to support high survival in the summer months
Deep water rose shrimp	Bottom trawls	No specific information to support the exemption has not been provided
Red sea bream	Hooks and lines	Further survival evidence by PESCAMED would strengthen this case
Lobster and crawfish	Nets and by pots and traps	A reasonably robust study has been provided by PESCAMED (sample size quite small: 16 individuals)
Norway lobster	Pots and traps	Specific information to support the exemption has not been provided

- ✓ For the Med, the **high survival exemption requests** were either
 - i) not supported by scientific studies or
 - ii) lacking in discard rate information or
 - iii) associated with zero discard estimates.
- ✓ **Subjective nature** of the conditionalities for exemptions
- ✓ None of the MED JR's include any concrete proposals for increasing selectivity.

De minimis exemptions reported in the MEDAC annex have been included in all JRs, not the technical measures

Citations as “Spatial measure suggestions were provided in the annex by MEDAC. There is sound science and excellent detail in many of these”

Some information provided by the MEDAC graphs (DCF source) complementary to the data provided by MS

“Strategy for not reaching the De minimis threshold”: No specific recommendations or legal provisions in SUDESTMED and ADRIATICA JR



PLEN 18-02 Report refers to the MEDAC JR only for Hake and Mulletts caught by trammel and gill nets

STECF has consistently proposed that the justification for de minimis exemptions is largely economic



**LACK OF ECONOMIC
DATA**

- ✓ STECF will only be able to consider the validity of the supporting information underpinning the exemptions
- ✓ in many cases will not be able to carry out any meaningful analysis of the economic impacts

If a **deeper analysis** is required by DGMARE this **needs to be discussed with the Member States and Advisory Councils:**

- what information should be provided
- also with STECF to establish what they should evaluate

EWG 18-06 re-iterates that assessing what constitutes high survivability is problematic



limited information available and the high variability in the available survival estimates



wide range of factors
can affect survival

EWG 18-06 considers that the decision to accept or reject an exemption proposal based on the survival value presented is largely one for managers.

✓ **Combined de minimis cases for 2019:**

- These cases allow for potentially large quantities of fish to continue to be discarded.
- De minimis cases require **careful monitoring** of catches and the quantities of fish being discarded, (imperative need for enhanced monitoring).

If the data situation does not improve and the **true quantities** being caught as reported do not reflect the actual removals



significant impact on the quality of scientific advice for next year's fishing opportunities [...]



***STECF EWG 18-05: Economic
impact of mixed fisheries options***



First meeting to analyse economic impacts of the mixed fisheries advice and TAC options
by applying integrated bio-economic models
(in two selected areas: North Sea and Atlantic Iberian Waters)



The added value is to identify possible developments of:

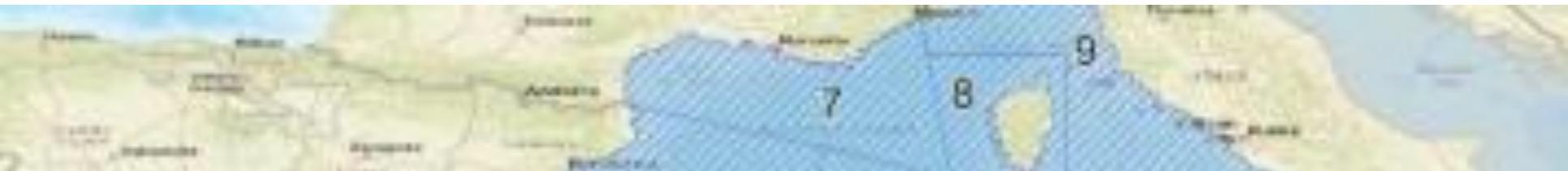
- choke stocks,
- quota uptake rates
- economic indicators of the fleet (among others)

over longer time periods, for various management scenarios and TAC options.

STECF proposes the following steps to provide regular economic and social advice regarding mixed fisheries options



- **Data accessibility:** Accessible data sets and quality protocols.
- **Model updates:** Need of regular bio-economic models update by including the most recent data.
- **Scoping meeting:** Definition of the areas, stocks, and fleet segments to be included in advice.
- **EWG Meeting:** Further discussion on timing of the EWG.



EWG 18-09: Fishing effort regime for demersal fisheries in the western Mediterranean Sea



General features between effort management systems from inside and outside the EU

- ✓ Monitor and control of effort regimes not always easier than landings
- ✓ **Appropriated effort measure** more complicated than for catches
- ✓ **Relationship between nominal fishing effort and fishing mortality** often obscured
- ✓ Alteration of fishing effort effectiveness by targeting behavior and skipper effect;
 - ✓ Risk of vessels movement to less regulated segments
- ✓ Influence of input substitution, technological creep and hyper stability.

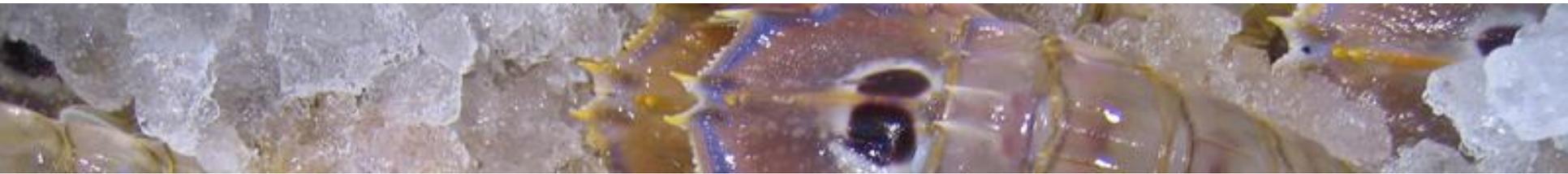
Objective of the EWG 18-09: assessment of the **effects of effort management plans** in the West Med.

Effort -based management:

- ✓ creates incentives to maximize revenue and catch,
- ✓ and in the process expands costs
- ✓ necessary the monitoring whether catches are also decreasing in line with expectations, to assess whether the effort reductions are achieving their objective.

EWG looked into possible ways for alternative segmentation of the fleets in the management plan (0-15m, 15-26m, 26m>) and only used **2013-2015 data**

- ✓ Further elaboration on the analysis and consistent data are needed
- ✓ Reduction in fishing effort probably needs to be considerably higher than the needed reduction of fishing mortality
- ✓ **Increased** knowledge **on the technical creep** can be useful for the development for a sustainable effort management system
- ✓ The opportunities for fishing **vessels to shift to other fishing gears** might be a risk to the success of the effort limitations for the trawl fleets.
- ✓ Proposed Management Plan indicates general reductions in effort. EWG analysis: **no reasons for differentiation** of the reductions for **specific groups of vessels or fisheries**.



Thank you for your attention

