



Preparation of the 37th Annual session of the GFCM (Split, 13-17 May 2013)

Our approach to establish a multiannual management plan
for fisheries on small pelagic stocks the Adriatic

European Commission- Directorate General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries

Athens – MedRac , 22 April 2013

Main issues

- *GFCM : a new approach since 2011*
- *Our intention for 2013*
- *A mix of instruments and of legislative framework*
- *What's next ?*



Only a limited number of proposals

- *Tackling the fishing effort and the selectivity (juveniles) in view of future Multiannual management plans*
- *A specific approach for the Adriatic (MS (incl. Croatia) + Albania and Montenegro)*
- *A proposal for establishing minimum standards for the turbot fishery in the Black Sea*
- *Red coral : follow up of the decisions taken in 2012*



The case of the Adriatic

- *A MP for trawl nets, purse-seiners and other type of surrounding nets exploiting small pelagic stocks (anchovy/sardine/sprat) in the Adriatic Sea (GSA 17).*
- *A set of transitional measures for GSA 18 pending the availability of scientific advice*
- *Scientific assessment by SAC forms the basis of this plan and of the related measures proposed*



Scientific Monitoring

- *SAC shall provide each year advice on the status of the small pelagic stocks in GSA 17, including catch forecast in line with precautionary approach and MSY and on the achievement and maintenance of the objectives of the management plan.*
- *SAC shall provide for the first time in 2014 and subsequently each year advice on the status of the stocks of sardine and anchovy in GSA 18.*
- *The GFSM shall review on the basis of SAC advises the performance and operation of the management plan at least every three years from January 2015.*





Content

- 1. Rules for fishing effort and fishing capacity control.*
- 2. Catch limitations for GSA 17*
- 3. Minimum conservation sizes for sardine and anchovy*
- 4. National Programmes for Control, Monitoring and Surveillance*





Rules for fishing effort and fishing capacity control

- *If no changes in the biomass - → Status quo 2011*
- *If reduction → system of reduction of the fishing effort*
- *A system to address situations when the lack of appropriate data prevent SAC to provide an advice for a specific year*
- *5 fishing days/ week with a maximum of 180 days/year*



Catch limits for GSA 17

A controversial issue for the Mediterranean

On the basis of E always $< 0,4$, catch limitations to be established as follows:

- If the current biomass is between the B_{pa} and the B_{lim} then $TAC = 17\%$ of SSB*
- If the current biomass is equal or higher than the B_{pa} then $TAC = 25\%$ of SSB*
- Allocation key on the basis of the average catches over the last 10 years*



Minimum conservation sizes

In line with EU legislation:

- Sardine: 11 cm*
- Anchovy: 9 cm*
- *Prohibition for fishing frys of small pelagic*
- *Measures to avoid discards*



National Control Measures

- *Special fishing authorisations*
- *Designated ports*
- *Prior autorisation*
- *Sampling plan for weighing*
- *Electronic recording of catches*
- *Inspection benchmarks*
- *Joint cooperative actions*



In summary : our objective

- *Enhance GFCM action and long term approach*
- *Provide a more transparent framework and leave the implementation aspects to GFCM members (reduction of the micromanagement)*
- *Enhance SAC activities/advice and facilitate its work*
- *Full compatibility with the spirit of the Mediterranean regulation (bottom up approach)*





Thank you for your attention!

