



КОНСУЛТАТИВЕН СЪВЕТ ЗА ЧЕРНО МОРЕ
/КСЧМ/

CONSILIUL CONSULTATIV PENTRU MAREA
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Minute

Following a meeting of the BLSAC Extraordinary Working Group

July 20, 2021

Subject: "Turbot fishing"

On July 20, 2021, a BLSAC meeting dedicated to turbot fishing and the amendments proposed by INCDM Grigore Antipa regarding the prohibition period took place via video link.

The meeting was attended by videoconference: Ms. Pinelopi Belekou, DG MARE Unit D 1, Ms. Yvanova Yordanka, DG Mare, Mr. Galin Nikolov - ANPA Bulgaria, Mr. Dimitar Valkov - NAFA, Burgas, Mr. Gabriel Popescu - ANPA Constanța, Mr. Konstantin Petrov - GFCM Burgas, Mr. Victor Nita from the Grigore Antipa Institute, Constanța.

On behalf of BLSAC participated: Yordan Gospodinov, Mihaela Mirea, Dragos Buhai, Marian Paiu, Dimitrina Kostova.

Guests: Martin Hristov, Mihaela Velinova and FLAG BG Shabla.

The meeting was opened by BLSAC President Yordan Gospodinov. Participants and guests at the meeting greet BLSAC members.

Following is a presentation by Ms. Mihaela Mirea regarding the BLSAC activity dedicated to turbot fishing in the past.

Mr. Victor Niță adds that in the context of climate change, changes are taking place regarding the reproduction of some fish species, observed in the past years. For example, in 2019, between 30.04-9.05, 70% of females had already laid eggs. By 2020, in early April, 100% of females had already laid eggs. According to scientists, the ban period should start 2 weeks earlier: 1.04-.1.07.

Mr. Gospodinov intervened, saying that this proposal received a negative opinion from an institute, but also from some fishermen.

Mrs Pinelopi Belekou clarifies the period proposed by INCDM Grigore Antipa and introduces her new colleague Mrs Yordanka.

Mr. Marian Paiu asks how this change affects other species in order to understand why fishermen oppose it.

Mr. Gabriel Popescu clarifies that the proposal is to move and not to extend the ban period on the Romanian coast.

Mr. Yordan Gospodinov said that it was desirable to keep the current period, according to the proposal of 2 fishermen's associations, which considered that this situation is not lasting. Extensive research is needed over several years. In addition, small-scale fishermen do not want to move this period.

Mr. Dragos Buhai mentions that Ropescador agrees with a move proposal and opposes an extension proposal.

Mr Paiu asked whether the Antipa study could be consulted somewhere and whether there was a similar study in Bulgaria.

Mr. Gospodinov - requests have been made for Bulgaria, but the data are few.

Ms. Mihaela Velinova clarified that the opinion of IO_BAS has not been received at the ministry yet, and the opinion of IFR supports the Antipa proposal, plus the extension by 15 days.

Mr. Dragos Buhai - in Romania the legislation is different, and fishing in Rapana cannot be carried out on areas where the turbot is prohibited. That is why we only support moving the period.

Mr Gospodinov mentioned that only Mare Nostrum and BG Fish supported the extension. BISAC needs to make a genuine, bottom-up recommendation for the DG Mare and the Member States.

Ms Pinelopi Belekou added that she was following this discussion with interest and would take all views into account. Any changes should be based on sound scientific advice and encourage institutes to discuss this. The duration does not change and she understands that it is just a move. The Black Sea Working Group will have a meeting at the end of July and will discuss the issue and this proposal. We need a solid scientific basis.

Mr Galin Nikolov adds that he understands the proposals and it is important to make the best decision to protect the turbot and fish stocks.

Mr Gospodinov proposes to make a recommendation to move the ban period and to propose detailed scientific research for a period of 3 years, in order to verify the need to extend the period.

The meeting is closed.

The minutes were made by Mrs. Mihaela Mirea

President of BISAC - Dr. Yordan Gospodinov