

**Work programme of the Black Sea Advisory Council**  
**2016 -2017**

**Common guidelines:**

The main focus of work for the coming year will be:

- Implementation of the landing/unloading obligation in the Black Sea
- Analysis, evaluation and implementation of legislation on:
  - The equal access in the economic zone to fishery for both parties, reviewing the legislation and a decision to set up a working group of 4 people — two from each country — Bulgaria and Romania.
  - Turbot, economic, social, and environmental factors related to the catching.
  - White Venus (clam), economic, social, and environmental factors linked to the catching
  - access to fishery in protected zones of both Member States.
  - Rapana economic, social, and environmental factors linked to the catching
  - social conditions in the fisheries sectors of both states.

• Contribution to review the challenges with the new environmental reality in the Black Sea  
The Black Sea Advisory Council (BISAC) will endeavour to play an active role within the common fisheries policy. It will also work towards the creation of practices in the new regional management under Art. 18 of the basic Regulation: Regional cooperation on conservation measures.

The Black Sea Advisory Council (BISAC) will focus on these issues within its planned meetings and will aim to set up working groups.

It will maintain close cooperation and it will work with the relevant bodies (Commission, European Parliament, GFCM, Control agencies of fishing and aquaculture, scientific technical committees, and Advisory councils to the relevant field ministries, National scientific institutes) as well as the relevant projects and the related activities, to such an extent to which the human resources, time, and budget allow.

- Selectivity in bottom fishing and discards

Launching and the establishment of working groups to study the situation of the more important species of turbot, Rapana and White Venus (clam). Selectivity in the fishing for turbot and white Venus and the implementation of the landing obligation will become a key issue for the BISAC. The BISAC will be pro-active in pursuing a discard ban in the Black Sea. It will work towards the establishment of close regional cooperation with the other countries of the Black Sea basin. It will also seek close cooperation with the science in joint projects to minimise the fish discard and technical improvements of selectivity.

- Management Plan of the diversity of species

The BISAC will make an active contribution in this direction and conduct its own meetings.

The members of the BISAC are willing to participate in scientific conferences at regional and European level and together with DG MARE and the European Parliament to discuss the setting of parameters for species diversity in an annual plan. The BISAC will take regularly participation as well as will work towards the adoption of a plan for the Black Sea.

During the annual work programme the BISAC will lay the foundations for review and conduct of experiments and studies of the current situation of the turbot stock and fishing opportunities in the short and medium term.

- Conference: The State of the environment in the Black Sea and its impact on the fishing.

The conference for 2016-2017 is still conceptual design so has not yet entered in the budget. It is assumed that the external funding will support the conference.

- Other topics and issues relevant for BISAC

They can be addressed within the existing working groups or may be a subject to ad -hoc working group/workshop:

- o fisheries management in marine protected areas/Natura 2000 areas
- o Further work with the ecosystem on fisheries management
- o implementation of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive in the Black Sea
- o management of the integrated maritime use/maritime spatial planning
- o issues on control and inspection in relation to Regulation 1224/2009

Data collection: actions and initiatives that can contribute to the collection of data in general.

- o Health and safety in the fisheries sector

**Meetings/activities to be planned and provisionally budgeted for:**

- 1 General Assembly 1
- 2 Executive Committee (if we can afford 3)
- 3 Conference/workshop/if possible 1/
- 4 Working groups-3

Management meetings throughout the year if necessary (priority of the Executive Committee if possible)