

Working Program of the Black Sea Advisory Council - BISAC

2018

General Guidelines

The 2018 work programme of BISAC is based on the commitments set by the Bucharest Declaration (2016). It will also follow the specific commitments that the upcoming Ministerial Declaration will include at the High Level Conference on Black Sea fisheries and Aquaculture (06-07.06.2018, Sofia, Bulgaria).

The BISAC will closely follow the work of EU and GFCM and will participate to meetings, such as:

- (a) the High Level Conference on Black Sea fisheries and Aquaculture (06-07.06.2018, Sofia, Bulgaria),
- (b) the High Level Conference on Small Scale Fisheries (25-26.09.2018, Malta),
- (c) the 42th GFCM Annual Session (22-26.10.2018, Romania),
- (d) the GFCM Forum on Fisheries Science (10-14.12.2018, Rome, Italy),
- (e) the European Maritime Day 2018 (31.05.2018, Burgas, Bulgaria)

In the context of the implementation of the GFCM Recommendations adopted at the 41st Annual Session and in particular the multiannual management plan for turbot fisheries in the Black Sea, of the possible new measures to be proposed concerning this sea basin, of the fight against IUU fishing in the Black Sea, of the implementation of the pilot project on joint control and inspection scheme in the Black Sea, BISAC will act to be a forum for dialogue and discussion with stakeholders and will facilitate regionalization and cooperation between Member States, while continuing to work closely with the European Commission.

The main focus of BISAC working program, throughout the year should be:

1. Establishing close regional cooperation between BISAC and the other Black Sea riparian countries at a technical level, as well as enhancing cooperation between MS administrations in terms of BISAC involvement in the preliminary decisions and resolutions for the establishment of the management plans related to Black Sea fisheries. In this context BISAC will also follow the revision of the fisheries legislation in Member States Romania and Bulgaria, taking into account socio-economic and environmental factors related to turbot, white mussels and veined rapa whelk catches.
2. Participating through active involvement in the preparation of the Black Sea Fisheries management plans related to NATURA 2000 network of marine protected areas, with regard to NATURA 2000 network of marine protected areas - analysis of size, characteristics and restrictions and access to fishing activity in the marine protected areas of Member States. BISAC will be active and will participate to discussions with regard to fisheries restricted and marine protected areas ensuring an effective protection of the Black Sea.
3. Signing the Memorandum of Understanding between the Black Sea Advisory Council (BISAC) and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) on behalf of the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM).
4. Supporting the activities of the BISAC working groups (two WG).
 - Selectivity in demersal fishing and compliance with the landing obligation;

- Fisheries Management Plans within the NATURA 2000 network of marine protected areas.
- Implementation of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive for the Black Sea;
- Integrated marine use management - maritime spatial planning;
- Further work on the management of fisheries ecosystems;
- Issues concerning control and inspection, in accordance with the Control Regulation 1224/2009;
- Implementation of landing obligation.
- Implementation of turbot multiannual management plan;
- Actions to enhance the fight against IUU fishing,
- State of play of rapana fishery, perspectives, evolution of catches, related data, markets, fishing technics, bycatches, etc.
- State of play of piked dogfish catches, targeted or not fisheries, evolution of catches, related data, bycatches, etc
- Assessment on the socio-economic conditions in fisheries in Member States.
- Advice on EU funding for the fisheries and maritime sectors after 2020 reflecting the Black Sea context and sectors' objectives after 2020,
- Data collection and implementation of actions and initiatives aimed at maintaining a system of safety, health and control of small-scale fisheries and commercial fishing, in order to create better conditions, taking into account all the fisheries sub-sectors : aquaculture, landing , first sale centers, processing, storage, transport, trade and traceability centers.
- Recommendations on priority species to develop and establish GFCM multiannual management plans.

Other issues of importance to the Black Sea Advisory Council :

Small-scale fisheries will be discussed within the framework of a working group for 2018, being focused on the following topics :

- The development of the small-scale fisheries;
- Resizing the small-scale fisheries;
- Scientific studies on the small-scale fisheries activity;
- Assessment of the regional peculiarities of small-scale fisheries through a regionalized approach.
- Identification of recreational fisheries in the Black Sea with regard to commercial fish stocks.

The BISAC shall maintain close cooperation and continue to work jointly with the Commission, the European Parliament, GFCM, the Agencies for control of fisheries and aquaculture. Science and Technology Committees and Advisory Boards of the respective ministries, national scientific research institutes, as well as the respective projects and activities connected with them, to the extent possible.

Furthermore, the B1SAC shall try to achieve even closer cooperation with the scientific community, working on joint projects aimed at keeping the discarding of fish to minimum, and involving in project focused on technical improvements to selectivity.

The B1SAC shall contribute and work towards the adoption of multiannual management plans in Black Sea.

The Black Sea Advisory Council (B1SAC) shall continue its efforts to play an active role within the Common Fisheries Policy. B1SAC shall focus on these issues within its planned meetings, and shall build up on the achievements of the working groups .

Meetings / activities planned, that should be included in the budget for:

1. General Assembly Meeting - 1 scheduled, and 1 extraordinary
2. Executive Committee 3,
3. Working groups - 2
4. Round tables -2;

Management meetings during the year, if needed (priority should be given to the Executive Committee , if possible).