



LONG DISTANCE **ADVISORY COUNCIL**

Function and Role in promoting
dialogue on sustainable fisheries

EFDAN
Berlin 22nd May 2014

- One of the main achievements of the last CFP Reform in 2002: creation of the ACs
- The new CFP underlines the importance and the role of the ACs



MAIN FUNCTIONS

- To prepare and submit opinions and recommendations on management and conservation.

- To advise European Institutions on questions concerning:
 - Fisheries Agreements with third countries,
 - Relations with the Regional Fisheries Organizations (RFOs) of which the EU is a signatory or a partner, or, in whose waters the Community fleet operates,
 - International fish markets and trade.

- To contribute to the implementation of the Common Fisheries Policy outside Community waters.

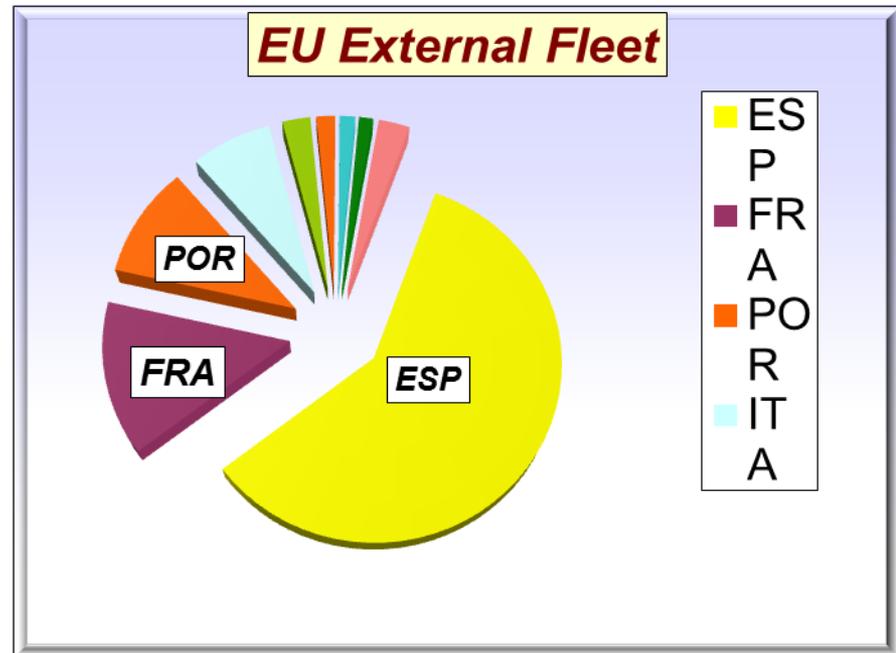
- To improve the EU's external relations in fisheries matters.

718 Vessels < 1% of EU Fleet operate in all oceans

465.900 GT = 24% of EU Total GT

1,2 MT = 21% EU Catches

EU External Fleet	
ESP	424
FRA	100
POR	73
ITA	52
GRE	18
LIT	12
EST	10
UK	9
Others	20
Total	718





IMPORTANCE OF EU MARKET FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

- ACP countries not only provide access to EU fleets, but also provide 11% of EU fish imports

<http://agritrade.cta.int/Fisheries/Topics/Market-access/Executive-Brief-Update-2012-ACP-EU-fisheries-Market-access-and-trade>

<http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/market-observatory/>

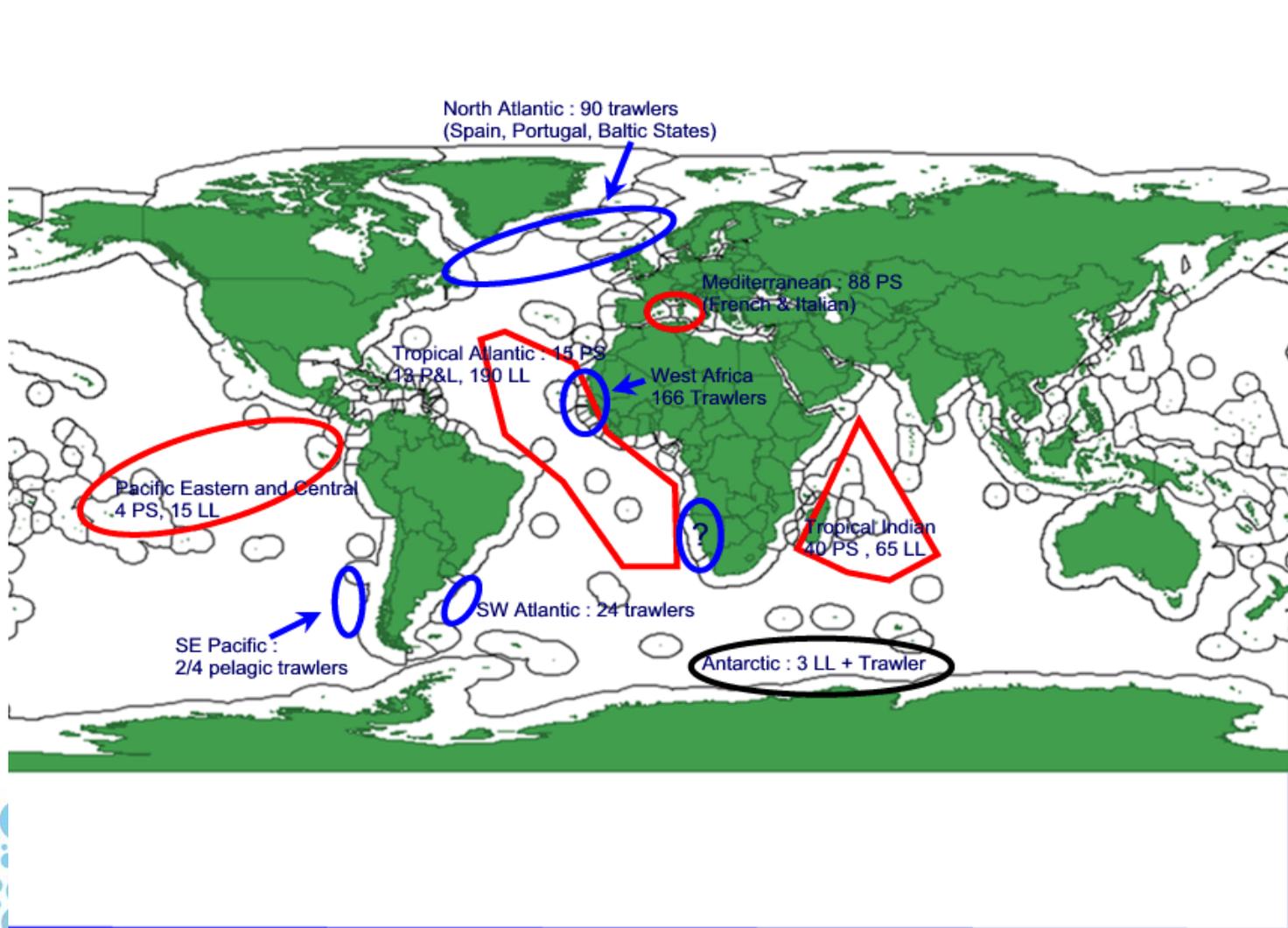
- Other developing countries are important fish trade partners for the EU: Thailand/Indonesia/Philippines (Tuna, shrimp), Argentina (hake), Chile (salmon), Ecuador (Tuna, shrimp) etc.

- EU is negotiating FTA with this developing countries

http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/international/facilitating-trade/free-trade/index_en.htm

http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/docs/2009/september/tradoc_144912.pdf

AREAS OF OPERATION



General Assembly: 50 Associations from 12 MS

Executive Committee:

With the new CFP: 60% Fishing sector
40% Other interest groups

5 Working Groups:

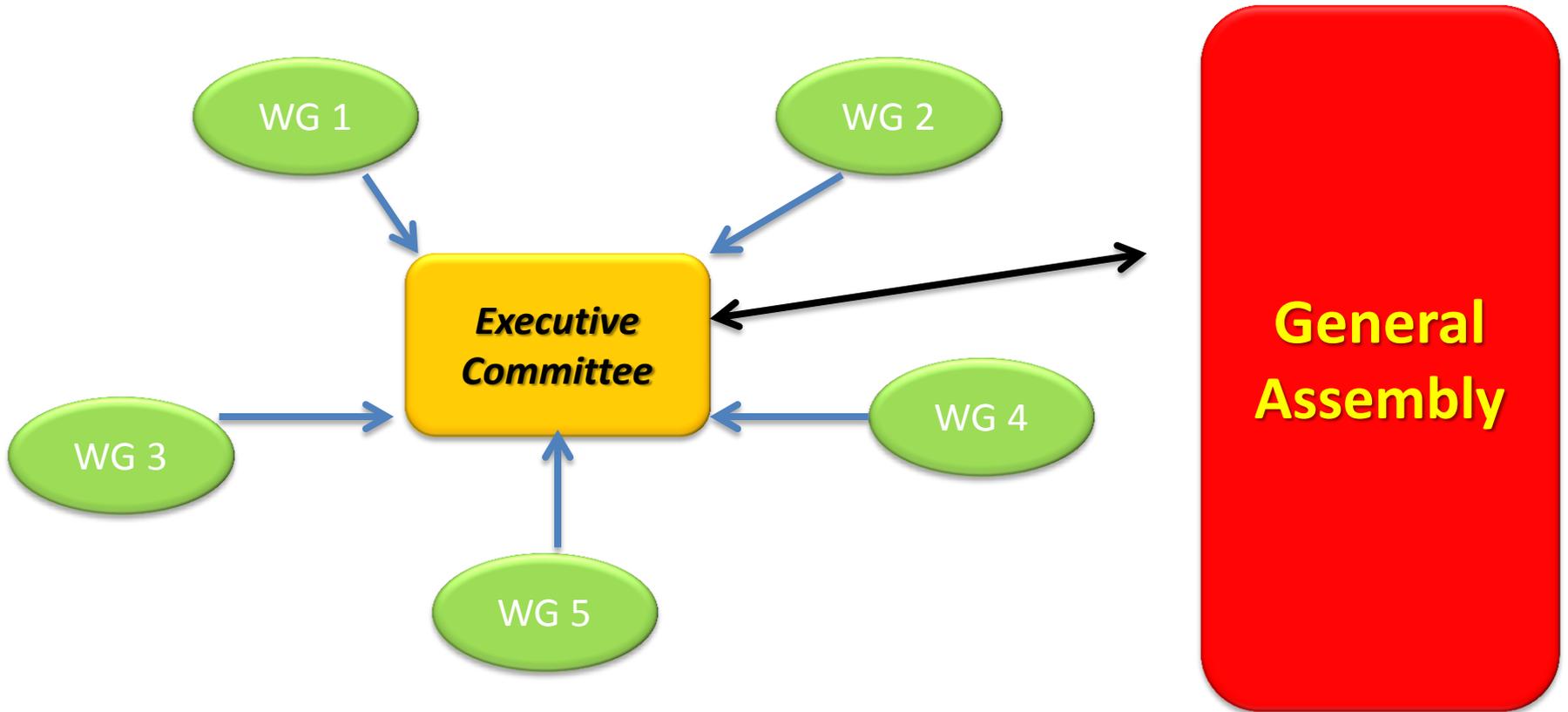
WG 1, Tuna and tuna-like RFMOs

WG 2, NAFO, NEAFC, Fisheries Agreements North Atlantic

WG 3, the rest of the RFMOs plus non-regulated areas

WG 4, FPAs

WG 5, Horizontal matters (mainly Trade and Markets)



Number of LDRAC meetings (2007-2013) = 110

*Number of LDRAC recommendations/letters = 71, **Always trying to reach a consensus***

- LDAC is the only forum at EU level for Fishing Industry and NGOs for discussing on FPAs and RFMOs
- LDAC can greatly help the EU to reach its objectives on the external dimension of the CFP.
- LDAC can involve deeply the Administration (ex. COMHAFAT) and stakeholders from Third Countries.

- **Through an active and effective participation in the different international forums, the bond with Third Countries are strengthened, and it is easier to find common objectives to promote responsible and sustainable fisheries worldwide**
(ex: harmonization of access conditions for all fleets, share experiences to support the creation of Advisory Councils in Third Countries, FADs project in the RFMOs, etc.)
- **Science is key, but the resources are very limited, the ACs can help improve the quality of the assessment.**
- **The Member States have the key for defining the role of the ACs, but their level of commitment is very variable**



GREEN PAPER CFP REFORM

- How it was produced: The EC launched the consultation process.
- An AD HOC Working Group is created.
- The Executive Committee approved it and it was delivered among EU Institutions.
- Follow up. EC answer.

FADS

- How was produced: proactive approach. As it was already involved in the main international forums, it was detected as one of the main “hot issues” for the stakeholders.
- A Workshop was organized inviting ALL the players involved (also international ones), and as outcome a proposal for a Management Plan is produced.
- It was sent to EU Institutions, but taken into account that was a global issue, a publication was produced and it was presented in different frameworks:
 - RFMOs
 - IUCN (Annual Summit), a Recommendation based on the LDRAC position is approved.
 - UN: A) SIDE EVENT in COFI; and B) Proposal to make a reference in the UNGA Resolution on Sustainable Fisheries
- Follow-up

NAFO

- The way to work is the same, however by some reasons is not possible to reach consensus.
- Be sure that all the players are properly represented and hear.
- To produce a recommendation with all the positions, cleared indicated which organizations supports what.
- Then it is sent to EU Institutions
- Follow-up



BUILDING UP THE DIALOGUE WITH THIRD COUNTRIES

- The LDRAC participates actively in RFMOs, COFI and UN fisheries related meetings, and other international forums
 - Input in the UNGA fisheries resolution

- MoU with the COMHAFAT/ATLAFCO

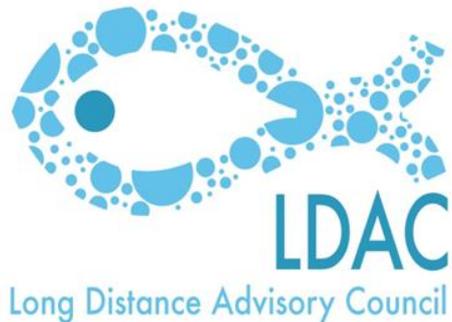
- Strengthening bonds with other 3rd Countries, as well as international/regional bodies
 - AU (IBAR)-NEPAD
 - Indian Ocean Commission (Smart Fish Project)
 - CAOPA
 - FAO
 - DEVCO Agencies (Germany-GIZ, NOAA-USA, Japan, etc)
 - Etc

GOVERNANCE AND TRANSPARENCY WITHIN THE RFMOs

- Through the creation of networks, better way to face the most important issues of the RFMOs (EXAMPLE: CONCLUSIONS COMHAFAT/LDRAC WS)

- Fight against IUU, strengthening MCS standards

- Priorities tuna and tuna like RFMOs:
 - FAD management plans
 - Capacity management
 - Transparency
 - Fisheries Agreements
 - Chartering/access transparency
 - Observer coverage
 - Transshipment at sea
 - Improve compliance, at all levels
 - Management of shark fisheries



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THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

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