

Seafish EU alert monitoring 31/12/15 – 08/01/16

Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership

The main TTIP page can be viewed [here](#)

EC - Commission follow-up to EP Resolution on TTIP – Source – European Commission

The follow-up of the European Commission to the European Parliament resolution containing the European Parliament's recommendations to the European Commission on the negotiations for the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP), adopted by the Commission on 21 October 2015 has been published. No link available please contact f_wright@seafish.co.uk for more details.

DG Trade: Meeting report of the Transatlantic Trade & Investment Partnership Advisory Group meeting – source - European Commission

A meeting of the Transatlantic Trade & Investment Partnership Advisory Group meeting took place on 10 November 2015. The report can be found [here](#).

DG MARE

Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries: DG MARE - New year, new EU Presidency: what to expect for fisheries and maritime affairs

The Netherlands have taken over the rotating six-month EU Presidency as from 1 January 2016. For fisheries, the new Presidency has announced its aim to achieve more "in-depth sustainability" as agreed in the framework of the EU's reformed Common Fisheries Policy.

Priority should be given to two points: concluding agreements on multiannual plans for sustainable fish stock management and expanding the landing obligation to prevent food waste.

A multiannual Baltic plan on cod, herring and sprat is currently in the works - the first of its kind under the EU's reformed Common Fisheries Policy. After its adoption the Commission will propose a new North Sea mixed fishery plan in order to support the implementation of the landing obligation, which is gradually being rolled out across the EU.

Other issues on the fisheries agenda include the revision of the Data Collection Regulation, reviewing the approach to technical measures, the revision of the Fishing Authorisations Regulation, and achieving progress on the deep sea access regime.

http://ec.europa.eu/newsroom/mare/itemlongdetail.cfm?item_id=28140&subweb=347&lang=en

8th Annual Commission Report on the Implementation of the European Fisheries Fund (2014) -

Source - Council of the EU - Reports

In line with Article 68 of the European Fisheries Fund (EFF) Regulation¹, by 31 December each year the Commission must forward to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions a report on how the EFF is being implemented. The report is based on an examination and assessment by the Commission of the Member States' annual reports and on any other available information. It also includes an analysis of the implementation of some key EFF measures. The report can be found [here](#)

Food Safety and Food Fraud

Question for Written Answer on the follow-up to the Commission consultation on a European eco-label for fishery and aquaculture products

Answer within 6 weeks

1. The Commission recently published a summary of its public consultation on a European eco-label for fishery and aquaculture products. Has it yet consulted the Member States on the subject?
2. When does it intend to publish the feasibility report on options for an eco-label scheme for fishery and aquaculture products, which, according to the legislation, was scheduled to appear on 1 January 2015?

Question for written answer on Food chain safety

Answer available within 6 weeks

Consumer protection is a priority for the EU. Given that:

Product safety could be compromised along the entire supply chain – from primary production, processing and transportation to distribution – not only by the lack of or by the incorrect application of the voluntary HACCP (Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point) practices, but also through accidental contamination or tampering both from internal and external agents;

There is a real risk of terrorist attacks polluting or contaminating food through the food supply chain;

Current legislation makes it possible to ensure the product along the supply chain through voluntary certification;

1. does the Commission believe that more visibility and importance should be given to this voluntary certification through specific legislation?
2. Is it possible to implement mandatory certification instead of voluntary certification under the current regulation?

Intention of the Commission to prolong the possibility to use non-organic juveniles and seed from non-organic bivalve shellfish hatcheries – Source - Official Journal http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=uriserv:OJ.C_.2015.437.01.0005.01.ENG&toc=OJ:C:2015:437:TOC

Written Question on seafood and globalisation – source – European register

Answer within 6 weeks

A recent documentary on a Franco-German television channel showed how shrimps caught in the North Sea are processed first in Morocco, then in the Netherlands, before being sold in Germany: the shrimps travel 6 756 kilometres over 13 days between being caught and sold.

This documentary illustrates one of the flaws of globalisation, namely the distance covered by some seafood which is processed far from the catch area and the place of consumption.

This mode of production and consumption is neither environmentally nor socially sustainable.

Will the Commission endeavour to reduce the distance travelled by processed seafood products?
Will it seek to devise economic and legal levers that will help us return to a more environmentally friendly mode of production and consumption allowing jobs to be relocated?

Common Fisheries Policy / Landing Obligation

Options of Handling Choke Species in the View of the EU Landing Obligation - source - European Parliament - Reports - European Parliament Directorate-General for Internal Policies

The aim of this study was to analyse the significance of choke species in the Baltic Sea, using the example of plaice, to provide ideas how to mitigate apparent problems, and to analyse the impacts of those measures. It concluded that the problem of choke species can be effectively solved and the objectives of the CFP reform met if a structured approach is applied, in the Baltic Sea and likely also elsewhere. All potential solutions to the choke species problem will have economic consequences which will be addressed in larger Horizon2020 projects within the next few years. The full report can be viewed [here](#)