

## **BRUSSELS UPDATE 09/04/2016 - 13/05/2016**

**This is an information service provided by Seafish for industry and key stakeholders. The views expressed are not necessarily the views of Seafish.**

- **[Traceability of fishery and aquaculture products in catering and retail](#)**

The Members of the European Parliament (MEPs) approved during the last EP Plenary session a non-legislative resolution asking a more strong traceability policy for all fishery products sold in EU restaurants and shops to avoid food fraud.

More specifically MEPs demanded the Commission to assess the benefits of setting up an EU-wide labelling system which would need to ensure transparency and credibility of the certification process and provide understandable, verifiable and accurate information.

Beside this, MEPs urged to put an end with the confusion caused by the current EU labelling requirements, based on UN Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) areas and sub-areas.

Follow this [link](#) to read the European Conservative party (EPP) view on this matter.  
Follow this [link](#) to read the position of the NGO "Oceana"

- **[Public consultation for the Fitness Check of EU consumer and marketing law](#)**

The EC has launched a public consultation opened till 2<sup>nd</sup> September to gather contributions from citizens, organisations and public authorities on the Fitness Check of EU consumer and marketing law with the view to analyse whether these rules are still up to date and fit for purpose. The following six directives are subject to this Fitness Check:

- Unfair Contract Terms Directive 93/13/EEC
- Consumer Sales and Guarantees Directive 1999/44/EC
- Unfair Commercial Practices Directive 2005/29/EC
- Price Indication Directive 98/6/EC
- Misleading and Comparative Advertising Directive 2006/114/EC
- Injunctions Directive 2009/22/EC

Please click [here](#) to find more information about these Directives.

- **[New fisheries partnership agreements](#)**

EU-Mauritania

On 10<sup>th</sup> May the EP consented to the conclusion of this protocol. For Commissioner Vella this is the EU's biggest sustainable fisheries partnership agreement in financial terms and it is significant improvement compared to the previous protocol. For the EC this agreement may be considered an example to be followed for the negotiation of future agreements with other countries

EU-Liberia

On 10<sup>th</sup> May the EP consented to the conclusion of the agreement and its implementation protocol. According to the MEP Jaroslav Walesa, "the EU and mainly Spanish and French vessels targeting tuna will be allowed to fish in the waters of the Liberian Exclusive Economic Zone. In return, the EU will pay Liberia a financial contribution of €715000 for the first year, €650000 for the second, third and fourth year and €585000 for the fifth year".

- **European Parliament questions to be responded by the EC.**
  - [Use of hydrogen peroxide in the processing of molluscs](#)
  - [Sustainable development of aquaculture](#)
  - [Fisheries management in the Mediterranean](#)
  - [Fishing limits and multiannual plans](#)

#### Useful links:

- [Slovak Presidency of the EU - Website and calendar](#)
- [Business and human rights: an EU Roadmap? - Conclusions](#)
- [EC Implementing Decision \(EU\) 2016/706 of 3 May 2016 establishing the list of Union inspectors who may carry out inspections pursuant to Council Regulation \(EC\) No 1224/2009](#)
- [Proposal for a Council Regulation amending Regulation \(EU\) 2016/72 as regards fishing opportunities for sandeel in certain Union waters.](#)
- [Trade SIA on the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership \(TTIP\) between the EU and the USA Draft Interim Technical Report](#)

#### Events:

- [MSP Stakeholder Series 6th Conference: Maritime Spatial Planning Worldwide \(MSP\)](#), June 23-24, University of the Azores, Ponta Delgada, Azores
- [Tapping into blue growth: the way forward for European aquaculture](#), 24 May, Brussels
- [Workshop on strategic cooperation on Blue Growth in the North Sea](#), 20-21 June, The Hague

#### DG MARE:

[http://ec.europa.eu/information\\_society/newsroom/cf/mare/news.cfm?subweb=342&sub=1&lang=en](http://ec.europa.eu/information_society/newsroom/cf/mare/news.cfm?subweb=342&sub=1&lang=en)

EFSA: <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/>

#### Other events:

<http://europa.eu/newsroom/calendar/?siteLanguage=en>

Cristina Fernández  
Cristina.fernandez@seafish.co.uk