

### **Seafish EU alert monitoring 09/01/16 – 15/01/16**

**PECH Committee exchange of views with Martijn Van Dam, Dutch Minister for Agriculture, President in office of the Council, on the priorities of the Netherlands Presidency** - Source: European Parliament Committee on Fisheries

On January 14, the PECH Committee held an exchange of views with Martijn Van Dam, Dutch Minister for Agriculture, President in office of the Council, on the priorities of the Netherlands Presidency. Discussions on CFP reform, sustainable fishing and landing obligation. For details of discussion please contact [f\\_wright@seafish.co.uk](mailto:f_wright@seafish.co.uk)

### **New tool to map fishing activities in Europe**

A new tool provides for the first time detailed maps of high intensity fisheries areas in 2014-2015 in Europe. Thanks to tracking data of fishing vessels, it is possible to derive information about the fishing habits of coastal communities and to know, for example, which are the areas where they fish more frequently. This information is crucial to tailor policy and management strategies to boost blue growth, the EU strategy for a more profitable and sustainable exploitation of marine and maritime resources.

<https://ec.europa.eu/jrc/en/news/new-tool-map-fishing-activities-europe>

**DG SANTE: Public consultations foreseen in 2016** – source – European Commission

[http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/health\\_food-safety/dgs\\_consultations/docs/consultation\\_planner\\_en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/health_food-safety/dgs_consultations/docs/consultation_planner_en.pdf)

**Duncan demands discard ban protection for cod fishermen** – Conservatives in the EP - EU Stakeholder - Press Releases source -

Conservative Fisheries Spokesman Ian Duncan MEP is working to change European Union rules that will see fishermen who catch white fish treated differently to those who fish mackerel or herring.

The introduction of the Discard Ban has been phased, with pelagic species, such as herring and mackerel, covered from 1st January 2015, while most white fish species, including haddock, whiting and saithe, were brought under the ban this month. Cod will be covered from 1st January 2017. The intention of the rules was to ensure that fishermen were treated fairly and that the two year grace period would apply to all fisheries as they came under the discard ban.

However, the European Council argues that the period of grace for all fisheries started on 1st January 2015 for all species. The effect of this interpretation is that only the pelagic fisheries will benefit from the full two-year adjustment period. White fish fishermen will have only 12 months of grace and those who fish for cod will secure no grace whatever, despite the fact it is the inclusion of cod which will present the most significant challenge to fishermen.

<http://conservativeeurope.com/news/duncan-demands-discard-ban-protection-for-cod-fishermen>

**Union framework for the collection, management and use of data in the fisheries sector and support for scientific advice regarding the Common Fisheries Policy (recast) – Consideration of draft report EP PECH – Source - European Parliament Committee on Fisheries**

On January 14, the PECH Committee had a discussion about the draft report on the union framework for the collection, management and use of data in the fisheries sector and support for scientific advice regarding the Common Fisheries Policy (recast). For a summary of the debate contact [f\\_wright@seafish.co.uk](mailto:f_wright@seafish.co.uk)

Meeting Documents: [Legislative observatory](#) / [Meeting documents \(point 7\)](#)

**EESC - From the Outer Banks to the Food Banks**

This document is only available in French.

The study was conducted with the aim of analysing feasibility of a supply chain, to capitalise on unsold seafood products for distribution to deprived people.

The study was based on the new regulation regarding landing obligations, and was carried out in three phases. The first part is dedicated to examining the conditions for access to seafood products within distribution networks. The second part of the study focuses on detailing the legal, technical and economic constraints involved in the recovery and exploitation of landed catches that are below the minimum conservation reference sizes, or which exceed individual quotas. The study highlights the obstacles at various levels, from on-board processing to existing processing units, that make it difficult to process raw materials at a cost that is acceptable to stakeholders; it draws attention to the experience of the non-market-oriented structures of the Social and Solidarity Economy in France. On the basis of a comparative analysis of the traceability guarantees and costs related to the various possible technical solutions for a collection and processing system that is appropriate to the volume of supply arising from the landing obligation and to the needs of distribution operators, the study presents a proposal for action, based on the mobilisation of fishery producer organisations and of public financial aid.

<http://www.eesc.europa.eu/resources/docs/ge-01-15-775-fr-n.pdf>

**Thai junta promises illegal fishing crackdown ahead of EU ban decision** - source - Euroactiv

The military junta in Thailand has gone on a last-ditch offensive to clean up its fishing industry ahead of a vital EU decision on whether to ban its exports over abuses of its fishing stocks and fleets.

Thailand is the world's third-largest fish exporter, and in 2014 its exports of fish to the EU stood at 3 billion dollars, according to the Thai Frozen Foods Association.

The regime – which took power in a military coup in May 2014 – is facing a possible total EU import ban for repeated flouting of the Illegal, Unregulated and Unreported (IUU) rules imposed by Brussels.

The junta is already under a 'yellow card' from Brussels – meaning its progress on fighting abuses of fish stocks and supplies is under review. A decision on a 'red card' which would ban all Thai fish imports, is expected any day now.

<http://www.euractiv.com/sections/global-europe/thai-junta-promises-illegal-fishing-crackdown-ahead-eu-import-ban-decision>