

FINAL COMPROMISE AMENDMENTS

COMP 1 - Fisheries and aquaculture integral part of EU food system

AMs: 22, 24, 25

- A. whereas *the fishery and aquaculture sectors are an integral part of the EU food system, and* the resilience and sustainable development of *these sectors* depends on the work *and contributions* of European fishers and fish farmers, as they play a key role in supporting the *environmental*, economic and social dimension of coastal, *island* and many inland communities;

COMP 2 - Covid 19

AMs: 30, 35, 51

Aa. whereas the unprecedented public health crisis brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic will have repercussions for trade and the market, and has come as a serious blow to fishers throughout Europe; whereas, despite the health risks and the low price of fish, European fishers have continued to work, distinguishing themselves as key workers as the crisis has highlighted the importance of fisheries and aquaculture in ensuring access to food; whereas the EU has provided short term response such as more flexible access to EMFF funds and state aid approval and more long term support outlined in the Recovery plan for Europe; welcomes in this regard the Commission intention to present a contingency plan to ensure food supply and food security across the EU in times of crisis;

Ab. whereas it is necessary to enforce the competition and social economy rules in a Common Market Organization (CMO) whose principles derive from 1970, and update its framework with specific programmes and financial instruments to provide non-discriminatory market access to self-employed workers in small-scale fisheries, empowering their organizations that efficiently concentrate the marketing of their products creating significant social value, and that were excluded from the COVID support provided by Regulation 560/2020, although they proved to be very important for society during the pandemic, and suffered the health risks as an essential sector for the EU food system, and the price drop due to the HORECA channel closure;

COMP 3 - Level playing field and market standards

AMs: 26, 27, 41, 61, 62, 66

Ac. whereas the EU fisheries, aquaculture and processing sectors subscribe to the highest marketing, environmental, sustainability and social standards, but there is a need for review and approval to ensure environmental and social sustainability throughout the entire value chain, including labour rights and

animal health and welfare, and whereas those sectors provide high-quality seafood products, thereby playing a fundamental role in the food security and nutritional well-being of the population; whereas it is therefore of the utmost importance to assess the fisheries and aquaculture sector on EU-internal market and the imports of these products in order to achieve a fisheries model that reflects the balance between the three key dimensions (environmental, social and economic) proposed in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its 17 goals;

Ad. whereas marketing standards in the EU, including environmental, sustainability and social standards are very high, but only apply to 75% of landings in the EU and to less than 10% of imports (given that fillets and frozen fish are excluded) this results in a large number of imported products that fall short of the high norms and standards that the EU-based sector must comply with and result in an uneven playing field and puts EU producers' competitiveness in a disadvantage;

COMP 4 - CFP objectives

AMs: 31, 65

Ae. whereas the objectives of the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) include, amongst others, supplying the Union market with foods of high nutritional value, reducing the Union market's dependence on food imports and ensuring that foods reach consumers at reasonable prices; whereas the current pandemic has made it even more apparent that the EU needs to be able to fully guarantee food security for its citizens and reduce its reliance on food imports from third countries;

COMP 5 - Protein/carbon foot print

AMs: 33, 37, 39, 44, 48

Af. whereas fisheries and aquaculture products are an important source of protein and an important component of a healthy diet; whereas more than half the adult population of the Union is overweight, contributing to a high prevalence of diet-related diseases, such as cardiovascular disease, and increasing healthcare costs; notes that consumption of fish and aquaculture produces in the EU varies greatly across Member States;

Ag. whereas, compared with other animal proteins, fish caught in the wild has the lowest environmental impact as it lives in the wild and does not require any land, artificial feeding, water supply, antibiotics or pesticides for its production, and it is therefore the perfect option for animal proteins in terms of food security and climate protection;

COMP 6 - Fisheries management improvements

AMs: 28, 40, 53

Ah. *whereas improvements in EU fish populations and the positive results using efficient, science-based fisheries management focusing on sustainability, responsible fisheries, minimising the commercial fisheries impact on ecosystems and founded on ambitious, internationally agreed management targets are owed to the work of fishers and the ongoing work of implementing the CFP; whereas there are still environmental parameters that needs further efforts in order to improve;*

Ai. *whereas the sector has for a long time helped to provide European consumers with high quality products that meet high nutrition and food safety standards and is now a global leader in terms of sustainability;*

COMP 7 - Climate change

AMs: 38, 46

Aj. *whereas between 2009 and 2018, fuel consumption and CO2 emissions from fishing are down by 4018% if compared to 1990s levels; whereas the energy efficiency of the EU's fishing fleet (tonnes of fish per litre of fuel) has increased over the years, thanks to the adaptation of new technologies and improvements in fish stocks but will still face difficulties due to climate change, of which it is a victim rather than a cause, as demonstrated by the many natural phenomena, such as the increase in water temperature, which have had, and will continue to have, an extremely negative impact on the profitability of the sector;*

COMP 8 - Traceability

AMs: 45, 57, 58

Ak. *whereas the Regulation (EU) No 1379/2013 on the CMO in fishery and aquaculture products considers it essential that consumers are informed, through marketing and educational campaigns, of the value of eating fish and the wide variety of species available, as well as of the importance of understanding the information contained on labels; whereas country of origin information and the traceability of fishery products are clearly in the interests of EU consumers, but existing EU legislation does not require the origin of the final prepared or preserved product to be indicated, even though this is mandatory for the catching sector; whereas information on traceability and sustainable production is therefore lost in the food value chain;*

COMP 9 - Missing Fisheries in the Farm to Fork Strategy

AMs: 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 73, 74, 76

1. *Stresses that the CFP and a functioning European ocean governance are an integral part of the EU food system and supply chain and closely interact with the European health and environment pillars placed at the core of the*

Farm to Fork Strategy; Expresses ***strong*** disappointment at the lack of prominence and ambition ***in the contribution and potential*** of the fisheries and aquaculture sector in the Farm to Fork Strategy ***presented by the Commission***; ***stresses that the lack of ambition in this regard makes it more difficult for the Union to achieve the objectives of the European Green Deal and warns that this will lead to fewer opportunities and less income for EU fishers, aquaculture producers and workers along the fish and seafood supply chain; calls for the Strategy to be enlarged to a Farm to Fork and Sea to Fork Strategy renaming the title of the strategy to "Farm to Fork and Sea to Fork Strategy for a fair, healthy and environmentally friendly food system"***;

- 1a. stresses that the current strategy should be integrated with a cross-cutting approach to fisheries that considers the main EU legislation on the subject, in the light of the objectives of the strategy, taking due account of the three pillars of sustainable development: social, economic and environmental, ensuring that the future food system is fairer, healthier and more respectful of the environment; urges the Commission to pay due attention to the specific features of the fisheries and aquaculture sector in any future legislative proposals, strategies or guidelines it may present as a result of this Strategy and to fill the gap with appropriate additional initiatives;***

COMP 10 - Healthy diets and low carbon footprint

AMs: 88, 89, 90, 91, 99, 100

- 2. Stresses that promoting healthy and sustainable diets as part of the Strategy, as well as the Union's climate change strategy, should privilege the consumption of EU fisheries and aquaculture products, as they are an important source of protein with a small carbon footprint and a crucial component of a healthy diet and also highlight the value of the work of fishers and women in the sector, and of aquaculture; recalls the green job creation potential of sustainable aquaculture and fisheries and that the ecological transition of food systems generally and fisheries in particular should take place in a way that ensures a fair income for the fisheries sector, strengthening its position in the value chain by encouraging grouping it into guilds, cooperatives, associations or other organisations, and conducting appropriate monitoring within the framework of the Directive on unfair trading practices;***
- 2a. Underlines the low impact of fisheries in relation to some environmental aspects and its healthy food production since there is no artificial feeding, antibiotics, fertilizers nor chemical pesticides involved; highlights that due to its heart-healthy properties, fish consumption has great potential to address the European public health crisis in terms of the high prevalence of diet-related diseases, such as cardiovascular disease, in the Union;***

COMP 11 - Food security - integrated food systems

AMs: 95, 98, 102, 112

2b. Highlights that the current pandemic has showcased the need for the EU to improve and safeguard food security and food sovereignty not to have to depend as much on food imports from third countries; Agrees with the development of a contingency plan to ensure the EU's food supply and food security in the event of future crises; recalls the CFP objective, among others, is to contribute to the supplying of highly nutritional food to the Union market and to reducing the Union market's dependence on food imports; emphasises, in this regard, the need to move towards intelligent integration of global, regional and local food systems, promoting short channels in the fisheries value chain in order to improve food security, in accordance with the principles of the European single market;

COMP 12 - Implementation

AMs: 105, 109, 206

2c. Emphasises that, when implementing the objectives and measures proposed in the Strategy and the transition to a sustainable food system, due attention must be paid to the economic, social and environmental sustainability of food systems and to the competitiveness of the European fisheries and aquaculture sectors, including fair income for primary producers; stresses the importance of the constructive, effective and equal consultation of fishers and aquaculture producers and other relevant stakeholders representing the value chain in any decision related to the Farm to Fork and Sea to Fork Strategy;

COMP 13 - CFP report

AMs: 104, 110, 111, 113, 114, 115

3. Welcomes the Commission's planned report on the functioning of the CFP, due to be published by 31 December 2022, which will need to focus on the risks triggered by climate change for the sustainability of species and the objective of reaching Maximum Sustainable Yield (MSY); highlights however that an overall approach bringing fish stocks to sustainable levels and restoring marine and coastal ecosystems is needed also focusing on the benefits and the social, economic and environmental sustainability of the fisheries and aquaculture sectors including the effects of invasive alien species that threaten some of the economically important species, and attention should, therefore, be paid to the efforts to reduce their impact; calls for this report to be followed up with legislative or non-legislative proposals and actions to better implement the objectives of the CFP in light of the new challenges facing the fisheries sector and to address any shortcomings that prove to be significant;

COMP 14 - Aquaculture

AMs: 122, 123, 124, 125, 130, 131, 133, 136, 173

4. Welcomes *the role of* the announced new EU Strategic Guidelines *for the sustainable development of EU on Aquaculture 2021-2030*; and *emphasises the fundamental role of this sector and its development as a cornerstone in ensuring self-sufficiency of healthy food*; *calls for its quick adoption and completion and highlights in this regard the specific sub-sectors guidelines for shellfish and inland aquaculture in order to give direction for improved management, increased sustainability as well their funding within the new European Maritime Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund*;
- 4a. *Underlines that the continued work on the Farm to Fork and Sea to Fork Strategy should draw inspiration from and build on existing practices already meeting the sustainability objectives in the strategy such as certain types of aquaculture management that also provides environmental and social services*; *calls on the Commission and Member States to facilitate, encourage and to adequately support environmentally friendly aquaculture such as low-impact, closed-system aquaculture, algae, shellfish, pond fish farming or integrated multitrophic aquaculture systems as important parts of circular economy and net contributors to excess nutrient transformation in high quality protein*;
- 4b. *Urges the Commission and Member States to ensure that the plans for the sustainable development of aquaculture take into account the main barriers to development of the sector's potential and recognise the need to allocate space to this sector through appropriate spatial planning*; *highlights the importance of a transparent and participative mechanism, following the Marine Spatial Planning Directive, for allocating space to all stakeholders in an equitable manner, including to existing and new fishing grounds and aquaculture farms*; *stresses that the development of aquaculture requires a solid, reliable and clear legal framework in relation to the use of space and licenses, and one that provides confidence and security for investments in the sector*;
- 4c. *Welcomes the intention to promote organic aquaculture*; *emphasises the economic benefits this will have for aquaculture producers since organic aquaculture still has ample untapped potential for development and growth*; *points out that the transition can be assisted through the European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund (EMFAF)*;

COMP 15 - para 5 - Labelling and traceability

AMs: 107, 127, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 146, 147, 148, 152, 154, 155, 157, 203

5. Requests that the Commission and the Member States improve *and streamline* the labelling, *including via digitally readable codes*, of all fisheries *and aquaculture* products *also at EU level*, whether fresh, frozen *or* processed, marketed in restaurants and through *both* retailers *and wholesalers* to allow

traceability from the place of origin, *species and information on other aspects such as production methods also from third country imports;*

- 5a. *Stresses the need for a food traceability system in the EU that enhances the sustainability of the fisheries and aquaculture sectors and that responds to consumer demands by providing information on where, when, how and what fish has been caught or farmed, primarily to improve food safety but also to enable checks throughout the chain of both EU products and third country imports and to combat fraud and illegal, unregulated and undocumented fishing; calls for a coordinated approach to ensure consistency between different initiatives on this issue and to assess the costs and benefits of different options for consumers, producers and on the internal market as a whole **in line with** the Interinstitutional agreement on Better Law Making in order to prioritise the most efficient way to implement these objectives; believes that this system should involve all actors in the value chain so that they can collaborate with each other, using simple digital systems that are easy to use and that do not entail excessive costs for operators, especially for small businesses;*
- 5b. *Stresses that good traceability mechanisms on sustainability for all products sold on EU markets are essential to ensure transparency for consumers, the sector and the different administrations; welcomes the Commission's intention to support the implementation of the rules on misleading information as regards the sustainability of food products and to develop an EU sustainable food labelling framework and to achieve the targets of the Green Deal and the SDGs; stresses that this step will enhance the value of sustainable products and protect consumer rights; asks the Commission to develop guidelines on digital tools for consumer information, on information transmitted through all links in the value chain, including existing platforms, with the aim of promoting interoperability and improving the efficiency of existing systems;*
- 5c. *Requests that the Commission consider environmental statements that meet robust, internationally recognised criteria, such as ISO 14024, and that are based on a full life cycle assessment rather than focusing on a single part of sustainability and that this be implemented keeping the administrative and financial burden to a minimum, especially for small scale fishers and SMEs; stresses that, to this end, the labelling must be objective, based on scientific data supported by rigorous independent verification, non-discriminatory with regard to the actual nutritional value of the foods and able to provide exhaustive and specific information on the nutrients in the product based on the reference intakes of the average consumer, without misleading and influencing purchasing choices in accordance with Regulation (EU) No 1169/2011; stresses further that also businesses have a role to play in making sure that fishery products they source are traceable to the point of origin, as well as in providing all the required information to consumers in order for them to be able to make a well informed, healthy and green dietary choice;*
- 5d. *Urges in this regard on the Commission to introduce an the obligation to inform consumers with the labelling on the origin and traceability for all*

prepared or preserved fish and sea food products such as crustaceans, molluscs and caviar and to ensure a level playing field and in order to effectuate this, evaluate the need to revise the CMO Regulation and present a proposal if appropriate;

5e. Points out that different standard between products from the EU and third countries could put EU fisheries at a competitive disadvantage in the absence of a global convergence of sustainability standards; stresses, to this end, that the labelling and traceability rules for EU products should also be applied to imported products; stresses, moreover, the need to adjust the current legislation to require EU and third country products which are to be combined in production lines to declare the origin of the final product;

COMP 16 - IUU and level playing field

AMs: 151, 164, 166, 168, 169, 170, 172, 183, 190

6a. Whereas European Union fisheries, aquaculture and processing sectors already apply high environmental and social standards and since these standards will be revised in order to provide higher quality fishery products, it is of the utmost importance to apply the reciprocity principle for fishery products entering the European Union market from the third countries and to ban the products resulting from IUU fishing;

6b. Welcomes the zero tolerance approach towards IUU, recalling the international dimension of this phenomenon and the need to adopt a consistent and coherent neighbourhood policy with regard to fisheries management while fully enforcing Council Regulation (EC) No 1005/2008 on IUU fishing; stresses in this regard that, trade agreements concluded with third countries should include chapters on sustainable fishing that are in line with the EU's sustainable development policies, the CFP and the provisions of the IUU Regulation; requests support for fishers, EU fleets and SMEs in the sea food sector in order to strengthen and improve their position within the value chain; recalls that autonomous tariff quotas (ATQs) must be solely used when there is no sufficient seafood supply for the EU market and cannot be intended to put pressure on EU producers supply and prices;

6c. Stresses that the EU should continuously monitor the efforts to combat IUU fishing put in place by third countries that have been granted preferential tariffs for fishery and aquaculture products; stresses that it is essential for the EU to make full use of the instruments at its disposal in accordance with the IUU Regulation, including the 'red card', if a country that has been granted preferential tariffs fails to comply with the EU requirements in terms of labour rights, sustainable fisheries and traceability of fisheries products;

6d. Stresses the need to ensure a level playing field for all fishery and aquaculture products marketed in the EU regardless of their origin; calls therefore on the Commission and the Member States to ensure implementation of current EU safety, hygiene and quality requirements, including marketing standards on all

fisheries and aquaculture products on the internal market;

COMP 17 - List of goods producers

AMs: 174, 208

6e. Urges the European Commission to set up of a “List of Goods Produced by Child or Forced Labour”, so that EU policymakers and companies can rely on this list and subsequent reports to conduct risk assessments, perform due diligence on supply chains, and develop strategies to address child labour and forced labour; Encourages the Commission to use the list as a tool to take steps against non-compliant fishing vessels and non-cooperating third countries, similar to those established in Chapter VII of the IUU Regulation, particularly to restrict or block imports from fishing vessels or fishing nations (black) listed for serious labour abuse and no respect of basic human rights on board fishing vessels;

COMP 18 - EMFAF

AMs: 175, 177, 178, 179, 180, 184, 210

7. Underlines the importance of EMFAF as an enabler for sustainably managed seas and oceans, the growth of a sustainable blue economy and modernising the sector in line with the objectives of the CFP, creating new employment and income opportunities, supporting sustainable practices, favouring generational renewal, including for small scale fisheries, which can curb depopulation in rural areas and on the islands, and promoting the active participation of women, associations, including guilds (‘cofradías), producer organisations and the retail sector; suggests that making use of EMFAF funds should provide for economic incentives to fishers, aquaculture producers and workers across the supply chain who have already undertaken measures to limit their climate and environmental footprint; welcomes the Commission’s intention to invest in research, innovation and technology, and stresses that the new EMFAF should also be used to support research and innovation programmes and projects aimed at reducing food waste and to promote a sustainable food system, including to promote and create incentives for the digital transformation of the sector in all links of the value chain for fisheries and aquaculture products; stresses, moreover, the need to integrate the current European research and innovation programmes with the Farm to Fork and Biodiversity 2030 Strategies and with the new EMFAF and to fully involve the fisheries and aquaculture sector and other relevant stakeholders representing the value chain, in order to maximise potential synergies between different sectors;

COMP 19 - Campaigns

AMs: 193, 194, 195, 199, 202, 205, 214

8. Recommends that *the Union institutions and all Member States launch appropriately funded far-reaching and effective dedicated awareness campaigns aimed at consumers in order to educate and bolster healthy sustainable fish consumption; highlight the properties and benefits of fish products, and help consumers to choose wisely when buying fresh fish products, including promoting the consumption of lesser known fish species and to implement initiatives to reduce food waste and other waste coming from EU fish and seafood markets;*
- 8a. *considers that one of the cornerstones of all campaigns to promote the consumption of seafood should be the sustainability of the practices used to obtain seafood and the European sector's leadership in this area; stresses, moreover, that these campaigns should be promoted by working closely with trade associations and specific professional bodies, such as nutritionists, doctors and paediatricians, in order to take targeted and effective action to help European consumers;*
- 8b. *Notes the fact that the Commission's proposal for a directive on rates of value added tax (VAT) envisages the use of indirect taxation to encourage the consumption of sustainable and healthy food products; calls on Member States to make use of already existing tools in this regard such as reduced rate of VAT and green public procurement;*

COMP 20 - Involvement of fisheries organisations in F2F strategy

AMs: 75, 84, 182, 204, 209

Underlines the necessity to establish better consultative ways for small scale fishers commercial organizations, allowing them be part of relevant decision making processes with repercussions for their livelihoods, including, for example, their participation in the Social Dialogue Committee. In this regard it is important to have fair and balanced participation of the small scale fisheries sector since it is not enough just to have representation in the advisory councils and other fora's; emphasized specifically the importance of equal and fair representation when implementing international obligations such as social and ecosystems management obligations so as to ensure it being feasible to implement in all fleet segments;

Regrets that whilst the Strategy rightly highlights the role of farmers as 'custodians of the land', it does not give the same recognition to European fishers who should be regarded and recognised as the 'custodians of the sea' and have a key role to play in achieving the Strategy's objectives; expresses its disappointment, in this regard, that the Strategy's does not ensure the involvement of representatives from the sector in institutional forums or encourages a bottom-up approach that fully involves European fishers in drawing up the rules that they have to apply; stresses need for the fisheries sector to be fully involved in order to fully achieve the objectives of the Farm to Fork Strategy;

Stresses the need to encourage small-scale fisher's to come together in associations, cooperatives, producers organisation to have a better negotiating position in relation

with the markets suppliers and to ensure a better position of the small-scale fisheries in the food supply chains so that their position is strengthened to ensure them a fair income; stresses that associations such as the guilds ('cofradías') in Spain should to be recognised under Union law and for them to eligible to receive financial support on an equal footing with producer organisations and calls on the Commission to take action in this regard;