

ANNEX V
MODEL TECHNICAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT
ANNEX V - A

TECHNICAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT - PROGRESS

North Sea AC

Agreement number: SI2.743283		Convention period: 01/11/2016 – 31/10/2017	
Year: 2016/17	Country: UK	Agreement duration: 12 (months)	
Title: North Sea Advisory Council			
Partner: North Sea Advisory Council			
Partner's legal representative: Niels WICHMANN			
Period covered by the report		From: .01/11/2016 To: 31/10/2017	
Convention amendments		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

DECLARATION OF CONFORMITY

I, the undersigned, hereby declare that the attached information is accurate and in accordance with the facts. In particular the financial data provided in this report corresponds to the expenditure actually incurred by the project partners for carrying out project activities. This information has been approved by the authorities representing the partners involved in the activities set out in this Report.

.....
 (Original signature of the person legally authorised to act on behalf of the contracting organisation and who signed the agreement))

Name of partner's legal representative: Niels Wichmann

Position within the organisation: Director and Chairman of the Executive Committee

Place & Date:

Report to be returned to the following address:
 European Commission
 Directorate General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries
 Unit CFP and Structural Support, Policy Development and Coordination,
 J99-01/07
 For the attention of Pascale Colson and Martine Aussems
 1049 Brussels
 Belgium

Introduction**A. ORGANISATION**

Name of the organisation in national language <i>(full and abbreviated if applicable)</i>	North Sea Advisory Council (NSAC)
Name of the organisation in EN, FR	North Sea Advisory Council

Head Office

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Post code - Town/city	ABERDEEN, AB11 6YG
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Contact Person

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Authorised signatory

Name	Mr	Niels Wichmann
Position	Chairman and Director	

B. OVERVIEW OF THE ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

NSAC Priorities 2016-17

Work Programme Statement

Landing Obligation: *As the Landing Obligation is implemented and additional species are added there is an urgent need to develop a system to predict when and where chokes may occur, to assess the effectiveness of current mitigation options and develop effective contingency measures should the current toolbox be inadequate. To achieve this, we will have to work closely with scientists, fisheries managers and other experts. We will hold a “Chokes Symposium” in early November 2016 and continue to build on the work completed to date within the NSAC and develop new advice alongside Member States via the Scheveningen Group though out the year. Within the context of the Landing Obligation we will examine how to align the provision of appropriate total allowable catches alongside the timetable for achieving maximum sustainable yield (MSY).*

Technical Measures: The NSAC will complete its advice on the Commission’s Proposal for a Regulation on the Conservation of Fisheries Resources and the Protection of Marine Ecosystems through Technical measures.

Progress:

The NSAC hosted a Chokes Symposium in November which was well attended by NSAC Members, scientists, Member States and the European Commission. Taking the outcomes of the workshop, NSAC members began to further develop their thinking on how to apply the “toolbox” of measures and where required look at alternative options. The NSAC advice [“08-1617 Implementation of the Landing Obligation: Implications for cod, plaice, saithe and whiting”](#) considered the application of the available mitigation methods and identified when chokes were likely to occur. Building on this, further advice was developed [“14-1617 Managing fisheries within the Landing Obligation”](#) which looked at the range of mitigation measures, their effectiveness, and how new ideas could be applied within the existing legal framework as supplementary or additional approaches to those listed in Article 15.

Species specific advice related to the Landing Obligation was also developed; [“10-1617 Introduction of Plaice to the Landing Obligation”](#) requested that the introduction of plaice to the landing obligation be delayed by one year to allow time to develop further and apply techniques and technical innovation to increase avoidance and selectivity, to develop new markets for fish previously discarded and to explore innovations to increase survivability.

The NSAC has had initial discussions within the Demersal Working Group regarding the alignment of total allowable catches with the MSY timetable. An initial scope of work has been detailed which will be further developed in 2017-18.

During the year the NSAC benefited from extensive cooperation from the European Commission in the development of the NSAC advice; [“05-1617 Brief Commentary on the EU Technical Conservation Regulation”](#) and [“09-1617 Response to the Technical Conservation Framework Regulation”](#). The advice comments on articles within the proposal and basic principles that should be applied when introducing new technical rules. This was subsequently followed up with a letter to the Presidency of the European Council and the members of the PECH Committee highlighting the shared positive elements of the proposal. [“11-1617 EU Technical Conservation Measures – NSAC Advice”](#).

Work Programme Statement

Multi Annual Management Plan: *Work commenced in 2015-16 to provide a response to the proposal for a Multiannual Management Plan for demersal fisheries in the North Sea will continue into 2016-17. We will work closely with the European Commission to ensure that the plan is based on the most up to date scientific information on stocks, mixed fisheries and other aspects of the ecosystem and environment. We will finalise our advice on Sea bass and Brown Shrimp management.*

Progress:

NSAC advice on the North Sea Multi Annual Plan was produced during the year; "[12-1617 NSAC Response to the Multi-Annual Plan for the North Sea](#)". The advice commented on what NSAC members considered to be the strengths and weaknesses of the plan and listed areas that they considered should be given further consideration in finalising the plan.

The NSAC advice on Sea bass "[03-1617 Sea bass Management in the North Sea](#)" was published in December 2016.

We discussed Brown Shrimp management with the Sch HLG to seek advice on the need for a management plan. It was agreed that this did not require further work at that time as brown shrimp is included in the multi-species management plan and we would also wait the outcome of the MSC accreditation process which has been completed and awaits final determination following an extension of the consultation period.

Work Programme Statement

Monitoring Control and Enforcement: *Implementation of the landing obligation will require new monitoring, control and enforcement measures to reflect the change from monitoring landings to monitoring catch at sea. We will consider how compliance within the new Technical Measures Regulation should be measured and monitored. We will work closely with the EFCA to develop advice on MCE. An MCE Focus Group will be established and commence its work early in 2017.*

Data Collection Framework Regulation: *The European Commission has proposed a revision of the Regulation. The NSAC will work to provide advice that reflects the need to collect additional environmental data whilst maintaining viable fishing businesses.*

Progress:

The NSAC published advice on [Monitoring and Control in the Landing Obligation](#) in December 2016 which supported a risk-based approach to monitoring and control. We continue to consider MCE in our discussions and have close links with EFCA, with representatives regularly attending meetings of the NSAC Demersal Working Group.

The Data Collection Framework has been discussed at meetings of the Ecosystem Working Group. Further information will be gathered from the Scheveningen Group to identify what advice and information would be useful in supporting their work in this area.

Work Programme Statement

Protecting the Environment: *We will continue to contribute to the development and monitoring of fisheries management measures for Natura 2000 sites and other Marine Protected Areas. We will work closely with Member States, contributing to consultations on the implementation and monitoring of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive and will work with the Scheveningen Group to develop a clear process for AC consultation under Article 11 of the CFP.*

Progress:

The NSAC has received several presentations from Member States related to their proposals for management measures in Marine Protected areas. Different approaches to consultation have been adopted

by different member states which at times has been confusing for the NSAC and its members. To highlight this the NSAC produced advice "[07-1617 Matters Arising from the application of Arts 11 and 18 of the CFP](#)" which sets out a best practice approach to AC consultation.

The NSAC Executive Committee has been unable to provide NSAC advice in response to Member State consultations due to the diverse opinions held by NSAC members. Members have however contributed considerably to Member State consultations attending meetings with the Netherlands, Germany, Denmark, United Kingdom, Belgium and Sweden Member States.

Work Programme Statement

Brexit: *The UK's decision to leave the EU will have a significant impact on the work of the NSAC. In terms of fisheries policy many of the areas we are working on will continue to apply to the UK until the point at which the UK leaves the EU and in some cases, continue to apply after the exit has been completed. However, there will be areas that will not apply to the UK post Brexit and in these cases, it will be inappropriate for the UK to contribute to policy development. The NSAC will establish a Brexit Focus Group that will be responsible for examining all aspects of the UK exit in terms of the UK's contribution to policy development. The focus group will also consider options for the long-term structure, management, membership and location of the NSAC. They will also look at options for ongoing consultation and development of advice between the remaining EU countries, Norway and the EU post Brexit.*

Progress:

The Brexit Focus Group has not met as there has been insufficient information to start making decisions and forward plans. Possible implications of Brexit have been discussed at meetings of the Ex Com. Terms of reference have been drafted for a Brexit Focus Group which will meet early in 2018 to commence work in this area and make progress once sufficient information becomes available.

Other Issues of Interest

Work Programme Statement

Continue to develop closer links with the Scheveningen Group. *We will continue to work proactively with the Scheveningen Group providing them with NSAC advice, anticipating the needs of their work plan to develop, implement and monitor the landing obligation and other aspects of the CFP. We will make regular representations to the High Level Group and participate in technical group and control group meetings.*

Progress:

The NSAC has continued to develop close links with the Scheveningen Group. 2017 started with a positive meeting between NSAC Chairmen, secretariat and the Sch Presidency. The NSAC has participated in 5 Sch Technical Group meetings and presented to 3 meetings of the High Level Group. The Netherlands Member State who held presidency of the Scheveningen Group for 2017 attended meetings of the Demersal Working Group and the NSAC Executive Committee to present their work and to have an open exchange of information and opinions. The relationship between the NSAC and the Scheveningen Group is strengthening and we will continue to work constructively in the coming year.

Work Programme Statement

Working closely with scientists. *It is important that NSAC advice is informed by the most up to date scientific advice available. NSAC regularly contributes to ICES and STECF meetings and this will continue. Scientists will be invited to attend all relevant NSAC meetings and we will continue to identify which specialists can add most value and work closely with them or on targeted areas of work. During 2016-17 we*

will host 2 workshops with scientists; one focussing on the Skagerrak and Kattegat and a second for the North Sea. The purpose of these workshops will be to bring together fisheries scientists, managers and stakeholders to identify areas where the science needs to be improved, and where cooperation between scientists and fishermen may yield useful information.

Progress:

The NSAC continues to work closely with scientists. We had excellent presentations from scientists at the NSAC Choke Symposium and scientists have an open invitation to attend all NSAC meetings. We have maintained regular communications and received progress updates from the MAREFRAME and DISCARDLESS projects and attended the DISCARDLESS annual conference. NSAC were represented at the annual ICES MIACO meeting and representatives attended relevant ICES Benchmarking meetings. The proposed science workshops were not held in 2016-17 due to busy workloads but are scheduled for early in the 2017-18 operational year.

Work Programme Statement

Continue to develop closer links with Member States. *Whilst our links with the Scheveningen Group have strengthened over the last 2 years there has been a decline in the number of member state representatives attending NSAC meetings. We will encourage a higher level of member state participation at NSAC meetings aiming to have at least one MS at each NSAC meeting.*

Progress:

Member States have been represented at all NSAC Executive Committee and Working Group meetings this year. There has been increased participation levels from the Netherlands as they have the Sch Presidency. Member State consultation has been particularly focussed on the development of management measures for N2000 and MPAs. With the NSAC being represented at 8 Scheveningen Ad Hoc meeting to discuss proposed measures. This focus has been reflected in the NSAC Ecosystem Working Group meetings which have all been attended by Member State representatives outlining future plans and consultation processes. NSAC members were concerned at the lack of a consistent approach between Member States regarding Article 11 and 18 of CFP. To try to establish a process that was acceptable to all parties the NSAC provided advice [07-1617 Matters arising from application of Articles 11 and 18 of the CFP](#).

Work Programme Statement

Developing closer links with the European Parliament. *We will seek to build on the current level of NSAC awareness by MEPs by inviting them to attend meetings held in the area they represent. NSAC will continue to provide members of the PECH Committee with copies of all NSAC advice approved. We will develop closer links with rapporteurs encouraging participating at relevant NSAC meetings and provide 3 written updates informing PECH Committee members of NSAC activities and meetings.*

Progress:

PECH Committee members have received copies of all advice produced by the NSAC this year. NSAC representatives met with Gabriel Mato MEP to discuss the development of the EU Technical Conservation Framework Regulation. We have highlighted our work programme through NSAC newsletters. We will continue to work on developing these links and a meeting with the Chairman of the PECH Committee has been arranged for early in the 2017-18 operational year.

Work Programme Statement

Developing relationships with Norway and other third countries. *Representatives of the Norwegian fishing industry will be invited to attend a Demersal Working Group meeting to give the opportunity to exchange information and current thinking with NSAC members.*

Progress:

Representatives from the Norwegian Fishing Industry presented at the Chokes Symposium and have attended all the NSAC Demersal Working Groups held this year. We continue to work with Norway to identify best practice and look for opportunities to work together more effectively.

C. RESULTS / PRODUCTS

Table C.1 – Meetings organised by the AC (blue) and attended (orange) by ACs representatives

Title of the meeting	Date	Place	Key results of the meeting (brief summary of the minutes)
A symposium on Choke Avoidance Measures	2 nd – 3 rd November	Copenhagen	Several speakers from NSAC members, scientists and member states presented their thoughts and opinions on how the existing “tool box” could be used to avoid chokes occurring and what alternative options could be considered. http://nsrac.org/choke-avoidance-measures-symposium/
The Monitoring, Control and Enforcement Focus Group	3 rd November	Copenhagen	The Focus Group met to make final changes to a paper to present to the Scheveningen Control Experts Group. http://nsrac.org/forthcoming-meetings/monitoring-control-and-enforcement-focus-group-3rd-november-2016-copenhagen/
Dogger Bank Steering Group	7-8 th November	Brussels	Thomas Rammelt WWF and Wouter Van Broekhoven attended the 2 nd Ad Hoc for the NSAC.
Scoping workshop for a possible plan for small pelagic & industrial species	7-8 th November	Brussels	A Scoping workshop for a possible plan for small pelagic & industrial species was held by the Commission. The meeting was attended by Kenn Skau Fisher.
Demersal Working Group	9 th November	Copenhagen	The Landing Obligation was again a main subject along with Technical Conservation Regulations, the Multi Annual Plan for the North Sea and TACs and Quotas. http://nsrac.org/forthcoming-meetings/demersal-working-group-9th-november-2016-copenhagen/
EFARO held a conference on surveying the sea under CFP and MSFD	23 rd November	Brussels	EFARO held a conference on surveying the sea under CFP and MSFD. Henrike Semmler attended for the NSAC.
DG Mare Inter AC meeting	15 th December	Brussels	NSAC attended the DG Mare Inter AC meeting. Issues discussed included election of members to the Executive Committee, reimbursement to Small Scale Fishermen and an update of the development of the Technical Regulation. Attending for the NSAC were Niels Wichmann, Erik Lindebo and Lorna Duguid.

Technical Regulation Focus Group	20 th December.	London	The met in on Norman Graham from DG Mare attended and provided the group with an update of progress and issues. It was agreed that a letter should be sent to DG-Mare early in 2017 highlighting the NSAC's concerns regarding development of the regulation. This will be followed up with full NSAC advice which is currently being developed. http://nsrac.org/forthcoming-meetings/technical-regulation-focus-group-meeting-20th-december-2016-london/
Scheveningen Presidency	10 th January	The Hague	NSAC met with the Netherlands Government who will hold the Scheveningen Presidency in 2017. NSAC was represented by Euan Dunn, Barrie Deas and Lorna Duguid.
Landing Obligation Focus Group	10 th January	The Hague	A forward plan was agreed to provide the Scheveningen HLG with an update on the NSAC advice prepared in 2016 by the end of February covering cod, saithe, whiting and plaice. A second, more in depth, advice report would be prepared to submit in early summer. http://nsrac.org/forthcoming-meetings/landing-obligation-focus-group-meeting-10th-january-2017-the-hague/
Ad-Hoc meeting of the Scheveningen FISH-ENVI Group – Dogger Bank	17 th January	London	NSAC was represented by Pim Visser and Euan Dunn
Scheveningen Technical Group	18 th January	The Hague	Attending for NSAC was Barrie Deas, Kenn Skau Fischer and Irene Kingma.
ICES MIACO	19-20 th January	Copenhagen	The annual Inter AC and MIACO meeting with ICES was attended by Lorna Duguid, Barrie Deas, Kenn Skau Fischer and Henrike Semmler.
International Dialogue on Pulse Fishing	20 th January	Amsterdam	Peter Breckling attended for NSAC.
Inter AC Tec Reg Discussion with Gabrielle Mato	25 th January	Brussels	NSAC was represented by Erik Lindebo, Kenn Skau Fischer and Caroline Gamblin.
German Natura 2000	31 st January	Bonn	NSAC was represented by Pim Visser and Stephan Lutter
ICES Benchmark for Kattegat Cod	7-10 th February	Copenhagen	NSAC was represented by Claus Hijoerne Pedersen
Demersal Working Group	8 th February	Paris	Issues related to implementing the Landing Obligation continued to be the focus of the meeting. http://nsrac.org/forthcoming-meetings/demersal-working-group-8th-february-2017-paris/
Our Oceans 2017 meeting	14 th February	Brussels	Erik Lindebo represented NSAC at the meeting
Scheveningen High Level Group	21 st February	Brussels	NSAC were represented by Mike Park, Erik Lindebo and Barrie Deas

Ecosystem Working Group	23 rd February	Edinburgh	Marine Scotland and the Netherlands Member State presented proposed management measures for MPAs as part of the informal consultation process. http://nsrac.org/forthcoming-meetings/ecosystem-working-group-23rd-february-2017-edinburgh/
Scheveningen Technical Group	1 st March.	The Hague	Kenn Skau Fisher and Irene Kingma attended the meeting on behalf of NSAC.
Technical Regulation Focus Group	2 th March	Paris	Work continued on the development of the NSAC response to the Tech Control Regulations. http://nsrac.org/forthcoming-meetings/technical-regulation-focus-group-2nd-march-2017-paris/
EFCA Advisory Group	3 rd March	Brussels	Niels Wichmann represented NSAC at the meeting.
Executive Committee	9 th March	The Hague	Update on work activities were presented from the Demersal Working Group and the Ecosystem Working Group. An outline to re-instate and refresh the Skagerrak and Kattegat Working Group was presented. http://nsrac.org/forthcoming-meetings/executive-committee-meeting-9th-march-2017-the-hague/
Discardless Conference	9 th – 10 th March..	Rome	Pim Visser and Irene Kingma attended the conference
Technical Regulation Focus Group	20 th March.	Skype	The NSAC response to the Tech Regulations was finally agreed and prepared for Ex Com approval.
Plaice Focus Group	30 th March.	Skype	Initial discussions on preparing advice recommending a postponement to the introduction of plaice to the LO in the North Sea.
NSAC Advice Planning meeting	3 rd April	Aberdeen	Niels Wichmann, Tony Hawkins and Lorna Duguid met to consider how the process for developing advice could be improved. A paper was developed to present to the Executive Committee.
Scheveningen Technical meeting	5 th April	The Hague	Barrie Deas, Kenn Skau Fisher and Irene Kingma attended the meeting on behalf of NSAC to discuss the phasing of the Landing Obligation
North Sea Multi Annual Plan Focus Group	11 th April	Amsterdam	Work commenced on drafting advice for MEP members of the PECH committee. The purpose of the paper is to bring to the attention of MEPs any outstanding issues the NSAC had with the plan. Work continued with the advice to prepare for approval at the Ex Com meeting in June.
Scheveningen High Level Group	12 th April	The Hague	Niels Wichmann, Barrie Deas and Irene Kingma attended the meeting.
Demersal Working Group	19 th April	The Hague	The implementation of the Landing Obligation continued to be the main subject of discussions. A paper proposing to postpone the introduction of plaice to the LO was discussed as was the Technical Conservation Framework Regulation and the Multi-Annual Management Plan for the North Sea. The meeting was attended by representatives of the Norwegian fishermen who provided an update. John Pope provided an update on the MareFrame project. http://nsrac.org/forthcoming-meetings/demersal-working-group-meeting-19th-april-2017-the-hague/

MAP Focus Group	2 nd May	Amsterdam	The Multi Annual Plan Focus Group met to commence drafting advice in response to the NS MAP.
Scheveningen Technical Meeting	3 rd May	The Hague	Irene Kingma attended
Management of Skates and Rays in N Sea and Western Waters	12 th May	Brussels	Barrie Deas, Erik Lindebo and Olivier Leprêtre attended
EFARO	17 th May	Brussels	Mike Park attended
MUSES Project	17 th May	Poole	Dale Rodmell attended
Landing Obligation Focus Group	19 th May	Amsterdam	The Landing Obligation Focus Group met to discuss drafting of advice for managing fisheries within the landing obligation. http://nsrac.org/forthcoming-meetings/landing-obligation-focus-group-meeting-19th-may-2017-amsterdam/
Sch Ad Hoc N200 in German EEZ of NS	24 th May	Bonn	Pim Visser attended
Sch High Level Group	24 th May	The Hague	Irene Kingma, Barrie Deas and Niels Wichmann attended
Skagerrak and Kattegat Working Group	31 st May	Goteborg	Kenn Skau Fischer was appointed Chairman and Frederik Lindberg agreed to continue as rapporteur. The group discussed cod management and protection of MPA areas. http://nsrac.org/forthcoming-meetings/skagerrak-and-kattegat-working-group-meeting-31st-may-2017-goteborg/
Proposal for Fisheries Management Measures – Denmark Member State	1 st June	Copenhagen	Kenn Skau Fischer, Henrike Semmler and Peter Olson attended
STECF Expert Group - evaluation of MS joint recommendations on discard plans	6 th to 9 th June	Brussels	Paul MacDonald attended
Executive Committee	13 th to 14 th June	Paris	Members were updated with progress in all Working Groups. Managing fisheries within the Landing Obligation continued to be a focus. The Skagerrak and Kattegat Working Group had met after a break and had identified priority areas for work which included a meeting with scientists to discuss how NSAC members could work with scientists to help with their work. http://nsrac.org/forthcoming-meetings/nsac-executive-committee-13th-june-2017-tbc/

General Assembly	14 th June	Paris	The French Minister for fisheries, M. Frédéric Gueudar Delahaye, opened the meeting, highlighting how important it is that the NSAC continues to work closely with the Scheveningen High Level Group and provide advice that can assist in their work. http://nsrac.org/forthcoming-meetings/nsac-general-assembly-14th-june-2017-tbc/
Sch Ad Hoc Dutch Proposals MPAs	20 th June	The Hague	Emilie Reuchlin-Hugenholtz and Pim Visser attended
EFCA 5 Year evaluation seminar	20 th June	Vigo	Niels Wichmann attended
Denmark 5 Natura 2000 sites	27 th June	Copenhagen	Sander Meynes, Kenny Coull, Henrike Semmler attended
Demersal Working Group	13 th July	Edinburgh	ICES advice for 2018 was presented by Ghislain Chouinard. The group discussed how NSAC could work more closely in future with ICES and proposed a workshop on this subject. Monitoring, Control and Enforcement within the Landing Obligation was highlighted as a topic for future discussion with EFCA and work continued on developing Landing Obligation advice. http://nsrac.org/forthcoming-meetings/demersal-working-group-meeting-13th-july-edinburgh/
Landing Obligation Focus Group	19 th July	London	The Landing Obligation Focus Group met to continue working on the next phase of advice on the Landing Obligation “Managing Fisheries within the Landing Obligation” http://nsrac.org/forthcoming-meetings/landing-obligation-focus-group-meeting-19th-july-2017/
Landing Obligation Focus Group	1 st September	Amsterdam	The Landing Obligation Focus Group met in Amsterdam to discuss the final structure and content of the LO advice paper, to prepare for approval at the Ex Com meeting on 4 th October.
The Ecosystem Working Group	6 th September	Brussels	The Working Group received a presentation from Tennet outlining their plans for a North Sea Wind Hub on the Dogger Bank. They also discussed preparing advice on listing prohibited species and potential for a workshop on measuring the socio-economic impact of MPAs. Control and enforcement in MPAs and the Data Collection Framework were also discussed. Possible future topics highlighted for the group were marine plastics and noise impact in the marine environment. http://nsrac.org/forthcoming-meetings/ecosystem-working-group/
EFCA Advisory Board	20 th September	Vigo	Niels Wichmann attended
DG Mare Scientific Seminar	26 th September	Brussels	Niels Wichmann, Irene Kingma and Mike Park attended
Netherlands Member State, Ad Hic Scheveningen Group meeting on MPAs	26 th September	The Hague	Jip Vrooman attended

The Skagerrak and Kattegat Working Group	2 nd October	Copenhagen	The group discussed the implications of the Landing Obligation for the area with particular reference to potential choke species. They discussed potential solutions including removing the TAC for whiting. Fisheries management for cod and <i>Pandalus borealis</i> were also discussed. http://nsrac.org/forthcoming-meetings/skagerrak-and-kattegat-working-group-meeting-2-october-2017-copenhagen/
Executive Committee	4th October	Malta	Karmenu Vella, EU Commissioner for Environment, Maritime Affairs and Fisheries opened the meeting, topics discussed included the North Sea Multi-Annual Plan, the Landing Obligation and Brexit. During the Ex Com meeting Dr Henrik Sparholt presented his latest project for developing an Ecosystem FMSY. http://nsrac.org/forthcoming-meetings/executive-committee-meeting-4th-october/
Scheveningen Technical Group	10 th and 11 th October	The Hague	Pim Visser, Emiel Brouckaert and Irene Kingma attended.
Swedish Government Marine Protected areas.	13 th October	Gothenburg	Henrik Lund attended.
Demersal Working Group	19 th October	Brussels	Presentations were received on the Discardless project and selectivity projects currently ongoing. Work continued on the Landing Obligation and we received an update from the Commission on the Technical Conservation Regulation. http://nsrac.org/forthcoming-meetings/demersal-working-group-19th-october-2017-brussels/

Table C.2 – List of recommendations adopted by the ACs

N°	Full title	Date of adoption
2	2-1617 NSAC Response to Sprat Box Joint Recommendation	1 st December 2016
3	3-1617 Sea bass Management in the N Sea	8 th December 2016
4	04-1617 Monitoring and Control under the Landing Obligation	15 th December 2016
5	05-1617 Brief Commentary on the EU Technical Conservation Regulation	17 th February 2017
6	06-1617 Phasing in of the Landing Obligation	27 th February 2017
7	07-1617 Matters Arising from Application of Articles 11 and 18 of the CFP	9 th March 2017
8	08-1617 Implementation of the Landing Obligation - Implications for Cod, Plaice, Saithe and Whiting	30 th March 2017
9	09-1617 NSAC Response to the Technical Conservation Framework Regulation	3 rd April 2017
10	10-1617 Introduction of Plaice to the Landing Obligation	10 th May 2017
11	11-1617 EU Technical Conservation Measures - NSAC Advice	11 th May 2017
12	12-1617 NSAC Response to the Multi-Annual Plan for the North Sea	19 th June 2017
13	13-1617 State of the European Eel	5 th September 2017
14	14-1617 Managing Fisheries within the Landing Obligation	4 th October 2017
15	15-1617 Prohibited Species Listing	4 th October 2017

