

National Coordination Meeting [IRELAND]

Data Collection Framework

BIM Office, Limerick

Date: June 22nd, 2012

Attendance:

Marine Institute (MI): Frank O Brien (*FOB*), National Correspondent, Ciaran Kelly (*CK*), Gráinne Ní Chonchuir (*GniC*), Helen Mc Cormick (*HmC*), Niamh Slattery (*NS*),

Bord Iascaigh Mhara (BIM) (Irish Sea Fisheries Board): Emmet Jackson (*EJ*), Herbie Dennis (*HD*), Catriona McCarthy (*CmC*), Conor Nolan (*CN*).

1. Notes DCF Coordination Meeting of 2011 (FOB)

The meeting notes of July 13th, 2011 were reviewed and many items to be dealt were on the present agenda.

- The fine the EU Commission withheld against Ireland's final payment of the 2009 DCF allocation was rescinded and paid in April 2012. It was noted this is a major problem for many member states and much of it is caused by stock coordinators who incorrectly fill in their tables leading to a fine being levied. The Commission needs to clarify this with ICES and save incorrect fines being levied on Member States which inevitably leads to an explanation by the member states showing in most cases the fine has been incorrectly levied.

2. National Programme Annual Report 2011 update status/issues

Ireland's Annual Report 2011 (*Both Technical Report 2011 & Cost Statement 2011*) were submitted to the EU on May 25th 2012 (a week ahead of the deadline). The European Commission has sent a letter acknowledging receipt of report and on first examination of the format and completeness it is considered admissible.

- *Cost Statement 2011 (FOB/NS)*: The 2011 claim is within planned expenditure for the programme.
- *Technical Report 2011 (GniC/CN/EJ/CmC/HD)*:
 - The STECF review of DCF annual reports takes place next week. GniC will circulate feedback once the evaluation has been completed. The compiling of the annual report went well.

- The 'Pilot Study To Estimate Recreational Angling Bass Landings in Ireland' by IFI was submitted in full as an annex, the exploitation rate is very low so will be considered for a derogation to sample. This may be discussed at SGRN.
- EJ – *fishing fleet*: economic variables: no issues. Had slight adjustments in fleet segments with clustering changes.
- HD - aquaculture sector: from 2010 onwards BIM have reduced the number of segments to allow for greater aggregation to protect confidentiality. For 2008 & 2009 some segments were so small the individual vessels could be identified.
- CmC – processing industry: access to abridged company accounts and an introduction of a new form has improved the financial data for 2010 & 2011.

3. Current National Programme ~ 2012

- *Review Progress*
 - EJ – 2012 survey returns very low due to a reduction in grant aid. BIM have been in contact with industry and have to target specific vessels within the segmentation. Data issues have been raised at RAC meetings, industry members are asking RAC focus groups to assist with economic data. HD & CmC – aquaculture & processing data is coming in ok.
 - MI – data collection is on track.
- *Any Data issues (CK/GniC/CN) Web site/Share Point/IFIS D Base*
 - CK – Regular access to complete IFIS Logbook data is still proving problematic. By December access to complete data and regular data feeds should be available.
 - It was proposed to hold a workshop with BIM next October to identify economic components of the IFIS database and have these included in our revised views. Once MI has the data it is proposed to make economic data available to BIM through the secure MI Sharepoint facility.
 - Another integral part of this data is to incorporate a reliable vessel chronology table. Michael Keatinge has said BIM will provide this table.
 - Roll out of ERS will be complete for vessels $\geq 15m$ by 2013.
- *EU Regional D Base – CK*
 - ICES will host the Fishframe database, it will hold biological and transversal data. Training sessions are currently being provided in ICES to train users to upload biological sampling data. The database should service the criteria under the new DCF for regional sampling. Ireland are currently completing the data call to upload 2010 & 2011 landings and sampling data to Fishframe.

- PGECON had discussion on regional databases and proposing to put their economic data into a separate database possibly hosted by the JRC. There is no conclusion on the discussion to date.
- *BIM – DCF D Base update (BIM)*
- Further database consolidation work is still outstanding due to loss of expertise in that area in BIM. A proposal has been put to DAFM to set up contract with a database development company to rectify the minor issues in line with what is planned in the national programme. BIM will work with MI to best utilise the resources.
- *Other*
 - DGMARE/MRAG “Evaluation contract on DCF” on 2009-2012. Six case study countries including Ireland have been agreed once questionnaire is available.

4. National Programme 2013

- Revisions to 2013 NP by Oct 31st. (HMC/FOB/NS/EJ+)
- Any revisions to the National programme by Ireland should be finalised and submitted to the EU by early September to try avoiding and delaying in approval. Previous amendments have caused delays in payments which are a big issue for many countries and have been raised with the EU. If there are any major revisions that will increase the NP cost, it should be included. Processing may need some revisions. BIM will revert back to FOB by the first week September if they require any amendments to the 2013 programme.
- Updates & Comments from STECF Reviews & RCM Meeting 2011(GniC & HmC)
 - The STECF Review of the 2011 Technical reports is taking place next week in Hamburg GniC will circulate feedback once the evaluation has been completed.
- Report on National Correspondents Meeting of March 2012 (FOB)
 - Delays in payments were flagged as a serious problem by many countries.
 - The mechanism for fines was also discussed, the tables ICES currently complete focus on data used, where in fact data could be provided but not needed -- no fault of the Member State. Once the Regional Database is in operation in 2014 it should be possible to query it and see if data has been collected.
- Report from PGECON (EJ+)
 - Discussions on New DCF 2014-2020 took place at PGECON. The general consensus was that they did not want the Economic Variables to change. Data should still be aggregated at Supra Region Level.

- National Surveys were compared. The current version of Irish Surveys are more detailed than current requirements, this will be an advantage with the new DCF as many of the extended details required then we already collect. Other countries are having difficulties accessing economic data.
 - There will be two further PGECON meetings this year, one on databases in Malta and another on Aquaculture in Portugal.
 - BIM having completed economic reports on Killybegs and Castletownbere. Plans are underway to establish a service agreement with an external Economist who will be engaged to create report for other ports.
5. The new DCF - Multi Annual Programme : 2014-2020
- Current status
 - The EU will give an update on the new DCF on July 17th.
 - IRL inputs
 - Once update is circulated Ireland will be able to submit their comments. MI & BIM will hold a joint workshop to go through the draft and provide joint feedback.
6. AOB
- Delays in EU Member State Payments Schedules (FOB)
 - The Commission is addressing the issue with delay in payments, it is hoped to receive the 2012 advance payment in July 2012.
 - There is a possibility with the 2014-2020 programme the advance payment for the whole 7 years may be made up front.
 - Aquaculture data call – this data call has been completed by Ireland and submitted a week ahead of the deadline.
 - Other
 - The 2012 RCM for the North Atlantic will be held in the Marine Institute in Galway, 10-14 September.
 - Sentinel Programme – inputting the data provided by the vessel owners is an issue due to lack of available personnel resources and a ban on recruitment.

Frank O Brien

National Correspondent Ireland

DCF

August 7th, 2012