MEDAC - Registered Office Via XX Settembre, 20 - c/o MIPAFT - 00187 Rome (Italy) - Tax identification number 97534810581 - Association registered with the Prefecture of Rome as a legal entity n.1224/2017

Ref.:164/2019

Rome, 21 June 2019

To João Aguiar Machado

Director General Maritime Affairs and Fisheries

To Roland Kristo

GFCM Chairperson

Subject: MEDAC letter on socioeconomic indicators

In the Adriatic Focus Group of MEDAC held in Thessaloniki on 4 June, MEDAC members gave attention to the advice process related to the request by the 42nd session of the GFCM to the SAC on technical elements for the management of demersal fisheries in the Adriatic Sea.

According to the outcomes of the following expert groups:

- Sub-Regional Committee on Adriatic Sea (23-24 May) that discussed the work carried out by the Workshop on management Strategy Evaluation-AS (17-18 May)
- WKMSE-AS held on 17-18 May that discussed the work carried out by the recent STECF expert group on Multiannual Plan for the fisheries exploiting demersal stocks in the Adriatic Sea (STECF-19-02)
- STECF Expert Group (STECF 19-02)

MEDAC members highlighted the relevance of consultation with stakeholders in evaluating the socio-economic implications of the proposed measures in the Multiannual plan of demersals, whereas:

- The comments of STECF to the Expert Group (STECF 19-02) report that "consultation with stakeholders would be needed to better understand the socio-economic implications of the proposed Multiannual Plan" (ToR 1 pg.8 STECF 19-02)[1]
- GFCM SRC-AS also noted that the socio-economic analysis should be carefully reviewed and that an estimated assessment of social (e.g. on number of employees potentially affected) and economic impact (e.g. potential losses versus future benefits) should be attempted based on the analyses already carried out[2].
- The aim of the MAP should be the environmental-socio-economic sustainability.

[1] Scientific, Technical and Economic Committee for Fisheries (STECF) – Multiannual Plan for the fisheries exploiting demersal stocks in the Adriatic Sea (STECF-19-02). Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg, 2019.
[2] MEDAC Observer

info@med-ac.eu
+39 06.46.65.21.12 T
+39 06.60.51.32.59 F

med-ac.eu
Via XX Settembre, 20
00187 Roma (Italy)

Co-funded by the European Union

Moreover, MEDAC members agreed on the opinion that multiannual management plans should be previously evaluated through bio-economical models *ad hoc*, considering the diversification of conditions and fishery segmentation in the Mediterranean and indicating any interventions to support the sector from Member States and/or the EU.

Despite the time constraints, MEDAC believes that stakeholders' consultation is an opportunity on which this Advisory Council should cooperate in order to improve the two economic indicators analyzed in the report of the Working Group STECF 19-02 (dependency and contribution analyses).

Moreover, MEDAC should suggest possible alternative solutions, as the improvement of the added value for local products or the opportunity for the fishermen to manage the total amount of fishing days in the year.

MEDAC first contribution on socio-economic indicators will be provided shortly, wishing that account be taken on this opinion. In order to carry out an analysis of the possible socio-economic indicators, the MEDAC is waiting for the management scenarios that should be provided by GFCM and STECF.

Yours sincerely,

Giampaolo Buonfiglio
President

info@med-ac.eu
+39 06.46.65.21.12 T
+39 06.60.51.32.59 F

med-ac.eu
Via XX Settembre, 20
00187 Roma (Italy)

Co-funded by the European Union