



**GENERAL FISHERIES COMMISSION
FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN
COMMISSION GÉNÉRALE DES PÊCHES
POUR LA MÉDITERRANÉE**



**GENERAL FISHERIES COMMISSION FOR THE
MEDITERRANEAN**

Thirty-fourth Session

Athens, Greece, 14-17 April 2010

MANAGEMENT OF MEDITERRANEAN FISHERIES*

*Original Language: French

I. INTRODUCTION

1. This document summarizes the main advice and conclusions of the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) concerning fisheries management, as included in the report of its twelfth session (document GFCM:XXXIV/2010/Inf.9). The conclusions and advice of the Committee on Aquaculture are presented in document GFCM:XXXIV/2010/7. The document also refers to the draft recommendations of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) and the draft recommendation on management of fishing capacity that the Commission had requested be re-examined at the Thirty-fourth Session¹.

II. SUGGESTIONS AND ADVICE OF THE SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE

2. On the basis of the main conclusions and suggestions of its subsidiary bodies, the SAC has approved the following recommendations :

Aspects relating to environment and marine ecosystems

3. The SAC noted the progress made in defining a sensitive habitat and in promoting activities for the monitoring of elasmobranchs. It noted, in relation to the fisheries restricted area established last year in the Gulf of Lions, that data on vessels operating in the area had not been communicated to the Secretariat as required by recommendation GFCM/33/2009/1.

4. The SAC approved the following proposals:

- The importance of having data from the vessel monitoring system (VMS) and the need to apply formal rules for availability, access and use of such data;

¹ Paragraph 88 of the Report of the 33rd Session.

March 2010

- The urgent need for member countries to provide information, including information from vessel monitoring systems, if possible, on the number of vessels engaged in fishing activities and their respective number of fishing days in 2008 in the area delineated as a fisheries restricted area in the Gulf of Lions;
- Convening a meeting in 2010 to define technical aspects concerning VMS data;
- Exploring the possibility of a new management approach aimed at closing all sea beds to trawl fishing and authorizing certain clearly delineated areas;
- Continuing to develop collaboration between GFCM and partner organizations in identifying Specially Protected Areas of Mediterranean Importance (SPAMI) and protecting living marine resources that could have implications for fisheries management.

Collection of information and statistics

5. The Scientific Advisory Committee endorsed the advice received from its Sub-Committees on the collection of statistical data and information. It also endorsed the results of the workshop on the logbook held in 2009 in Rome, in particular the proposal for a standard logbook format. The SAC drew the Commission's attention to the importance of prompt communication of data required by the Commission and its subsidiary bodies.

6. The SAC also asked the Commission:

- To establish a regional logbook with the parameters presented in the table in Appendix 1 and to adopt a possible recommendation on this subject;
- To conduct in 2010 a more in-depth analysis on the optimal weight threshold above which catches should be declared in the context of Mediterranean and Black Sea fisheries;
- To envisage converting Task 1 component 1.5 to Task 2 concerning necessary biological parameters for stock assessment and biological reference points;
- To envisage translating Task 1 data entry software into GFCM working languages and determine budgetary and related implications.

Socio-economic aspects of fisheries

7. The SAC emphasized the importance of ensuring appropriate monitoring of recreational fisheries and endorsed the proposal that their definition be refined for greater coherence with adopted definitions and agreed that the topic of definitions should be addressed at the workshop proposed by the SCESS for the next intersessional period. The Committee took note of the preliminary work of the SCESS on the impact of fluctuating fuel prices. It also noted the observations on enhanced participation of national fisheries economists in SCESS activities and on the best way of establishing or consolidating related capabilities and of promoting and reinforcing the activities of this sub-committee.

8. The SAC also asked the Commission:

- To consider implementing a specific project to help bolster capabilities of fisheries economists, with a focus on using social and economic data in bioeconomic models in order to produce an analysis of management measures and scenarios;
- To acquire multidisciplinary data to assess the impact of recommendations on managing fishing gear selectivity, notably on the implementation of a minimum mesh size and by-catch reduction devices.

March 2010

Monitoring fish stocks and fisheries management measures

9. The Scientific Advisory Committee welcomed the increase in assessments in geographical sub-areas and the continuing progress in terms of quantity and quality, although other improvements were still needed. It, however, noted that further research was required to verify the existence of correlations likely to impact on the spatial delimitation of stock units and assessments carried out in geographical sub-areas and stressed the urgency of improving stock assessment forms, by adding new sheets reserved specifically for stock assessments.

10. With regard to stock assessment, the SAC reviewed the results of assessments carried out by specialized working groups or directly during sessions of the Sub-Committee on Stock Assessments (SCSA).

11. The Committee discussed at length the contradictions that it had noted between fish stocks and management advice for small pelagics in geographical sub-area 17. It was suggested that, in future, management advice be accompanied by points of reference for the biomass and that a new concrete assessment of sardine and anchovy stocks be carried out in sub-area 17 in 2010, using the most recent information while providing full documentation on the changes introduced and analyzing their impact.

12. The SAC approved the following specific proposals:

- Establish an *ad hoc* joint working group of Moroccan and Spanish scientists to analyse existing data on black spot seabream (*Pagellus bogaraveo*) in geographical sub-area 3 (GSA3);
- Focus the measure for a reduction in demersal fishing effort on fleet capacity and operations, which would be more useful to fisheries managers ;
- Finalize implementation of the joint database for sardine and anchovy fisheries and direct monitoring in the Adriatic at sub-area level ;
- Strengthen cooperation between France and Spain in updating biological data and data on catches and fishing effort gathered by the two countries engaged in sardine fisheries in the Gulf of Lions;
- Monitor the fry fishery in the south of Sicily, whose impact on sardine fisheries is unknown.

13. On the basis of available scientific information on the status of assessed stocks, sub-area by sub-area, the SAC endorsed management advice on selected demersal and small pelagic species. This advice is reproduced in Appendix 2 (a and b) of this document. The Commission is invited to examine the possibility of converting advice into management measure in the form of a recommendation or resolution.

Proposed recommendation from the work of the SAC

14. The SAC referred to the Commission's decision to reduce general fishing effort to protect demersal stocks in the Mediterranean (Resolution GFCM:XXXI/2009/1) and unanimously agreed that solid evidence existed to strengthen the measure by converting this Resolution into a Binding Recommendation under Article V of the GFCM Agreement.

Proposal concerning the management of fishing capacity in the Mediterranean

15. The proposed recommendation in document GFCM:XXXIV/2010/Inf.15 on freezing fishing capacity in the GFCM area was proposed by the EU at the 33rd session of the Commission, which decided to re-examine the matter at its 34th session, also taking into

March 2010

consideration the advice from the transversal workshop on the assessment, management and monitoring of fishing capacity held in Rome in February 2010. The detailed report of the workshop is provided in document GFCM:XXXIV/2010/Inf.10. The workshop discussed possible options including the following two main options that can be combined:

- Development of a regional plan of action for the management of fishing capacity in the GFCM area which would include specific actions and activities to be identified at subregional workshops to be convened in 2010 and 2011;
- A freeze on fishing capacity in the GFCM area. Implementation of this decision would have to be closely allied with full implementation of the fleet register.

Proposed recommendations of the ICCAT on Mediterranean fisheries

16. The International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) adopted the following recommendations concerning Mediterranean fisheries at its 21st regular session held in Brazil in November 2009:

- ICCAT recommendation [09-04] for a management framework for the sustainable exploitation of Mediterranean swordfish and replacing ICCAT recommendation 08-03;
- ICCAT recommendation [09-06] amending recommendation 08-05 to establish a multi-annual recovery plan for bluefin tuna in the Eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean;
- ICCAT recommendation [09-07] on the conservation of thresher sharks caught in association with fisheries in the ICCAT convention area.

17. The text of these proposals is reproduced in document GFCM: XXXIV/2010/Inf.13.

III. SUGGESTED ACTIONS FOR THE COMMISSION

18. The Commission is invited to examine and, as appropriate, endorse the conclusions and advice of its Scientific Advisory Committee.

19. The Commission is also invited to examine, for possible adoption, the draft recommendations on the management of fishing capacity in the Mediterranean and those concerning the Mediterranean adopted by the ICCAT in 2009.

March 2010

LOG SHEET No

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Country 3-alpha code 7 digit number (unique reference to the logsheet)



GFCM Logbook



© FAO-GFCM, 2009

▶ VESSEL(S) DETAILS⁽¹⁾

	NAME ⁽⁴⁾	RADIO CALL SIGN (if any) ⁽²⁾	EXTERNAL IDENT. ⁽²⁾	GFCM UNIQUE IDENT. ⁽²⁾	No CREW ⁽⁴⁾	FUEL CONS. ⁽¹⁾⁽⁷⁾
1						
2						

▶ MASTER(S) DETAILS⁽²⁾

	NAME ⁽²⁾	ADDRESS ⁽²⁾
1		
2		

▶ TRIP AND LANDING DATES⁽²⁾

Year⁽²⁾:

2	0		
---	---	--	--

	DAY	MONTH	HOUR	LOCATION
Departure ⁽²⁾				From:
Return ⁽²⁾				To:
Landing ⁽²⁾				At:

▶ GEAR USED⁽⁴⁾

	GEAR CODE ⁽²⁾⁽⁴⁾	DIMENSION 1 ⁽²⁾	DIMENSION 2 ⁽²⁾	MESH/HOOK SIZE ⁽⁴⁾	CHARACTERISTICS ⁽²⁾⁽⁴⁾
1					
2					
3					

▶ TRANSHIPMENT⁽⁴⁾

Details of recipient vessel

NAME ⁽²⁾	RADIO CALL SIGN (if any) ⁽²⁾	EXTERNAL IDENTIFICATION ⁽²⁾	NATIONALITY ⁽²⁾	DATE OF TRANSHIPMENT ⁽²⁾
				day <input style="width: 20px;" type="text"/> month <input style="width: 20px;" type="text"/>

▶ FISHING ACTIVITY⁽⁴⁾

FISHING DATE ⁽²⁾	GEAR				Area	
	GEAR CODE ⁽²⁾	GEAR UNITS ⁽²⁾	Number of fishing operations ⁽²⁾	Fishing duration ⁽²⁾	GSA ⁽²⁾	GFCM Statistical Grid ⁽²⁾

*optional

▶ COMMENTS⁽¹⁾

▶ CATCH INFORMATION⁽⁷⁾

Mark the box inside the cell if target species

T C O A T T A C H L H ⁽⁷⁾	Species name ⁽⁷⁾	Species name ⁽⁷⁾	Species name ⁽⁷⁾	Species name ⁽⁷⁾	Species name ⁽⁷⁾	Species name ⁽⁷⁾	Species name ⁽⁷⁾	Species name ⁽⁷⁾	Species name ⁽⁷⁾	Species name ⁽⁷⁾	Species name ⁽⁷⁾	Species name ⁽⁷⁾	Species name ⁽⁷⁾	Species name ⁽⁷⁾	Species name ⁽⁷⁾	D I S T R I B U T I O N S B
	Code	Code	Code	Code	Code	Code	Code	Code	Code	Code	Code	Code	Code	Code		

▶ LANDING DECLARATION⁽⁴⁾

WHL															
G															
GG															
FIL															
HD															
Transhipment ⁽²⁾	▶														

AGENT ⁽⁷⁾	Name and address ⁽²⁾	
	Signature ⁽²⁾	

Appendix 1 (cont.)

GFCM Logbook fields

Ref.	FIELD NAME	CODE	DESCRIPTION
1	Vessel details		
1a	Name	-	Name of vessel(s).
1b	Radio call sign (if any)	-	Name of radio call sign if present on the vessel(s).
1c	External identification	-	National registration number or other identification displayed on hull of vessel(s).
1d	GFCM unique identifier	ISO Flag code + 9 digits	Unique vessel identifier for the life of the vessel, composed of the ISO code of the flag country + 9 digits.
1e	Number of crew	-	Number of crew onboard vessel(s) during fishing trip.
1f	Fuel consumption	-	Fuel consumed during the fishing trip.
2	Master details		
2a	Name	-	Name of master(s).
2b	Address	-	Address of master(s).
3	Trip and landing dates		
3a	Year	-	Year of fishing trip and landing.
3b	Departure	-	Day, month, hour and port of departure.
3c	Return	-	Day, month, hour and port of return.
3d	Landing	-	Day, month and port of landing (if different from 3c).
4	Gear used		
4a	Gear code	ISSCFG	Code of the gear(s) used during the fishing trip according to the International Standard Statistical Classification of Fishing Gear (ISSCFG).
4b	Dimension 1	-	First dimension of gear used: <i>Trawls: warp length; Nets: length of one set; Longlines: length of one set; Dredge: mouth width</i>
4c	Dimension 2	-	Second dimension of gear used: <i>Trawls: bridle length; Nets: height; Longlines: number of hooks per line</i>
4d	Mesh/Hook size	-	Mesh size of net (codend for trawls). Hook size.
4e	Characteristics	-	Specific characteristics of gear used: <i>Mesh type: diamond / square; Hook type: circle / J-type; Name of selective device: specify; Other: describe</i>
5	Transshipment (if applicable)		
5a	Name	-	Name of recipient vessel.
5b	Radio call sign (if any)	-	Radio call sign of recipient vessel (if present).
5c	External identification	-	National registration number or other identification displayed on hull of recipient vessel.
5d	Nationality	-	Nationality of recipient vessel.
5e	Date of transshipment	-	Day and month of the transshipment.
6	Fishing activity		
6a	Fishing date	-	Date (day and month) of fishing activity.
6b	Gear code	ISSCFG	Code of the gear (as reported in 4a) according to the International Standard Statistical Classification of Fishing Gear (ISSCFG).
6c	Gear units	-	Total gear units deployed: <i>Number of Traps (NTRP), Number of Hooks (NHKS), Length of Net (m) (LNET), Number of trawl nets (NTRN), Number of FADs fished (NFAD).</i>
6d	Number of fishing operations	-	Number of fishing sets, hauls or encircling operations (per FAD in the case of an FAD fishery)
6e	Fishing duration	-	Fishing duration in hours (soaking time for passive gears).
6f	GSA	GFCM GSA number (1-30)	The GFCM Geographical Sub-Area (<i>Resolution GFCM/33/2009/2</i>) in which the fishing activity took place (see Annex E).
6g	GFCM Statistical Grid (SG)	GFCM SG code	GFCM grid 30" x 30" in which the fishing activity took place (see Annex E)
7	Catch information		
7a	Total catch	-	Total weight of the entire catch (all species) of fishing operation to be reported in kg
7b	Species name	-	Common name of the species caught.
	Species code	ASFIS 3-Alpha code	ASFIS 3-Alpha code of each species specified in 7b (see Annex D).
	Catch by species	-	Weight of catch by species to be reported in kg.

March 2010

7c	Total discards	-	Total weight of discards (all species) to be reported in kg.
8	Landing declaration		
8a	Presentation of landings	-	Landing weight in kg by species and type of presentation: <i>Whole (WHL)</i> , <i>Gutted (G)</i> , <i>Gilled and Gutted (GG)</i> , <i>Filleted (F)</i> , <i>Headed (HD)</i> .
8b	Transshipment	-	Weight of transhipped catch by species to be reported in kg.
9	Agent		
9a	Name and address	-	Name and address of agent (if applicable).
9b	Signature	-	Signature of agent (if applicable).
10	Comments		

Table 1 – Management advice for demersal species

GSA	Stock	Stock status	Working Group management advice	Working Group comments	SCSA comments	SAC comments
GSA 3 (southern Alboran sea)	<i>Merluccius merluccius</i>	Overexploited	Reduce the fishing mortality by 60 percent	Variable pattern in fishing mortality	Due to one year only data the assessment was considered as preliminary	Assessment was considered as preliminary
	<i>Pagellus bogaraveo</i>	Moderately exploited	Maintain the fishing mortality at the current level	Due to the flat-topped Y/R curve, the Fmax is not well defined	Due to the depletion status of the species in the Spanish coast and the uncertainty of the unit stock, in the Alboran Sea, a joint assessment with GSAs 1 and 3 is recommended	Verify the stock unit
	<i>Parapenaeus longirostris</i>	Overexploited	Reduce the fishing mortality by 30-66 percent (depending on the model). A long term management plan is required	Many Fter values were tried. Schaefer model fitted well the data	The outcomes from one year data used in the analytical model were supplemented by the several years data used in Schaefer model	Endorsed with the comment of the EU delegate that the stock should be assessed as depleted
	<i>Boops boops</i>	Overexploited	Reduce the fishing mortality by 64 percent. A long term management plan is required	No particular comments	Include in the assessment also the artisanal fishery data, if any	No further comments
	<i>Mullus barbatus</i>	Overexploited	Reduce the fishing mortality by 76 percent. A long term management plan is required	No particular comments	Include in the assessment also the artisanal fishery data, if any	No further comments
GSA 5 (Balearic islands)	<i>Merluccius merluccius</i>	Overexploited	Improve the trawl exploitation pattern and reduce the trawl effort. A long term management plan is required		SCSA endorses the WG management advice	Improve knowledge of stock boundary in this area. Explore the possibility to joint data of GSAs 5 and 6
	<i>Mullus surmuletus</i>	Fully exploited	Not to increase the fishing effort		SCSA endorses the WG management advice	Endorsed
	<i>Aristeus antennatus</i>	Overexploited	Not to increase the fishing effort		SCSA endorses the WG management advice	Endorsed
GSA 7 (Gulf of Lions)	<i>Merluccius merluccius</i>	Overexploited	Improve trawl exploitation pattern, close nursery areas to fishing, implement 40-mm square mesh size in trawl codened		It is a necessity to reduce the fishing effort	Endorsed
	<i>Mullus barbatus</i>	Fully exploited	Reduce the fishing effort		The stock status based on the examined docs was changed by the SC from fully exploited to overexploited	Endorsed
GSA 9 (Ligurian and north Tyrrhenian)	<i>Merluccius merluccius</i>	Overexploited	Reduce the fishing mortality by 40 percent. A long-term management plan is required		SCSA endorses the WG management advice	Endorsed. A long term management plan was prepared and was to be adopted by Italian Administration

March 2010

GSA	Stock	Stock status	Working Group management advice	Working Group comments	SCSA comments	SAC comments
	<i>Mullus barbatus</i>	Overexploited	Reduce the fishing mortality by 30 percent (when FMSY reference point)		SCSA endorses the WG management advice	Endorsed. A long term management plan was prepared and was to be adopted by Italian Administration
	<i>Parapenaeus longirostris</i>	Fully exploited			The stock status diagnosis is also based on the fact that fishing mortality is close to F0.1	Endorsed. A long term management plan was prepared and was to be adopted by Italian Administration
GSA 10 (South and Central Tyrrhenian)	<i>Merluccius merluccius</i>	Overexploited	Reduce the fishing effort until fishing mortality is below F0.1. A long term management plan is required		SCSA endorses the WG management advice	Endorsed. A long term management plan was prepared and was to be adopted by Italian Administration
GSA 15 (Malta)	<i>Mullus barbatus</i>	Overexploited	Reduce the fishing mortality by 30 percent. A long term management plan is required	SURBA outputs were uncertain, which is probably due to the short time series data	SCSA endorses the WG management advice	Endorsed
	<i>Mullus surmuletus</i>	Fully exploited	Maintain fishing mortality at the current level	SURBA outputs were uncertain, which is probably due to the short time series data	SCSA endorses the WG management advice	Endorsed
GSA 15+16 (Malta + South of Sicily)	<i>Aristaeomorpha foliacea</i>	Overexploited	Reduce the fishing mortality by 30 percent (when F0.1 reference point)		SCSA endorses the WG management advice	Endorsed. A long term management plan was prepared and was to be adopted by Italian Administration
GSA 17 (Western part of northern Adriatic)	<i>Nephrops norvegicus</i>	Overexploited	Reduce the fishing mortality on females by 64-68 percent and on males by 77-79 percent (depending on M values). A long term management plan is required	Data were available only on the western side of the Adriatic	A joint assessment with data covering the whole GSA was recommended	No consensus was achieved on the assessment advices. SAC recommended to joint western and eastern data for a new assessment. (See Konstantina)
	<i>Solea solea</i>	Overexploited	Reduce the fishing mortality by 82-86 percent. A long term management plan is required	Spatial distribution indicated sole move east across Adriatic with increasing age. Thus fishing mortality based on Italian coast data may be biased	A joint assessment with data covering the whole GSA was recommended	No consensus was achieved on the assessment advices. SAC recommended to joint western and eastern data for a new assessment.
GSA 25 (Cyprus)	<i>Mullus barbatus</i>	Overexploited	Reduce fishing pressure		Since fishing pressure is due more to artisanal fishery, SC recommended to monitor this fishery more closely	Endorsed
GSA 26 (South Levant)	<i>Merluccius merluccius</i>	Overexploited	Reduce the fishing mortality by 51 percent. A long term management plan is required	Model did not fit well the 2008 data. The status reflects the study period only	improve knowledge of the stock unit in the area	Further knowledge on stock unit in this GSA were requested
	<i>Mullus barbatus</i>	Overexploited	Reduce the fishing mortality by 61 percent		Due to the one year only data the assessment was considered as preliminary	Assessment was considered as preliminary

March 2010

GSA	Stock	Stock status	Working Group management advice	Working Group comments	SCSA comments	SAC comments
	<i>Mullus surmuletus</i>	Overexploited	Reduce the fishing mortality by 63 percent		Due to the one year only data the assessment was considered as preliminary	Assessment was considered as preliminary

Table 2 Management advice for small pelagic species

GSA	Species	Stock status	Working Group management advice	Working Group comments	SCSA comments	SAC comments
GSA 1 (Northern Alboran Sea)	<i>Engraulis encrasicolus</i>	Over-exploited With moderate fishing mortality and low abundance	No reference points were given	Presented inside the SC	The use of BRP is also recommended to be used. However based to the examined data, the moderate fishing mortality should change to high fishing mortality	Endorsed. Not increase the fishing effort
	<i>Sardina pilchardus</i>	Over-exploited with moderate fishing mortality and low abundance	No reference points were given	Presented inside the SC	The use of BRP is also recommended to be used. However based to the examined data, sardine was considered as fully exploited with risk to overexploitation	Endorsed. Not increase the fishing effort
GSA 6 (Northern Spain)	<i>Engraulis encrasicolus</i>	Over-exploited with high fishing mortality and low abundance	No reference points were given	Presented inside the SC	The use of BRP is also recommended	Endorsed. Not increase the fishing effort
	<i>Sardina pilchardus</i>	Over-exploited with moderate fishing mortality and low abundance	No reference points were given	Presented inside the SC	The use of BRP is also recommended	Endorsed. Not increase the fishing effort
GSA 7 (Gulf of Lions)	<i>Sardina pilchardus</i>	Moderately exploited but intermediate biomass abundance	As biomass estimation for 2006-2008 remain lower than 2005 estimate, it is recommended not to increase the fishing effort	Mixed fishery. Advice coherent with that for anchovy. Assessment rely on the assumption of unbiased estimate of biomass by acoustics	SCSA endorses the WG management advice The use of BRP is also recommended	Endorsed. Not increase the fishing effort
	<i>Engraulis encrasicolus</i>	Moderately exploited but biomass at low stock abundance	Given the low levels of biomass for the last 4 yrs in comparison with the series of acoustic biomass available, it is recommended not to increase the fishing effort	Mixed pelagic fishery. Assessment relies on the assumption of unbiased estimate of biomass by acoustics (which is consistent with a DEPM estimate). Decreasing tendency in GSAs 06, 07	Endorsed. The use of BRP is also recommended	Endorsed. Not increase the fishing effort
GSA 16 (South of Sicily)	<i>Sardina pilchardus</i>	Moderately exploited but biomass at intermediate abundance	Medium biomass levels in 2006-2008 at moderate fishing levels. In coherence with anchovy, is recommended not to increase the fishing effort with anchovy	Mixed fishery. Advice coherent with that for anchovy. Assessment rely on the assumption of unbiased estimate of biomass by acoustics	Endorsed. The use of BRP is also recommended	Endorsed. Not increase the fishing effort
	<i>Engraulis encrasicolus</i>	High fishing mortality at low stock abundance	Given that biomass was very low for 3 consecutive yrs (2006, 2007 2008) and the increasing trend in exploitation rate, fishing effort should not allowed to increase	Mixed fishery with sardine. Assessment relies on the assumption of unbiased estimate of biomass by acoustics (which is consistent with a DEPM estimate). Harvest rates average the last 3 yrs	Endorsed. The use of BRP is also recommended	Endorsed. Not increase the fishing effort
GSA 17 (Northern Adriatic)	<i>Engraulis encrasicolus</i>	Moderately exploited	Not to increase the fishing effort		Endorsed The use of BRP is also recommended to be used The substantial differences between the new assessments and those of	Since the stock status differed strongly from the previous assessment, the representative of the EC stated that this

March 2010

GSA	Species	Stock status	Working Group management advice	Working Group comments	SCSA comments	SAC comments
					previous years were explained by the improvement of the assessments due to the incorporation of data covering the whole GSA	new assessment must be furthermore validated before being accepted.
	<i>Sardina pilchardus</i>	Fully exploited	Not to increase the fishing effort		Endorsed The use of BRP is also recommended to be used The substantial differences between the new assessments and those of previous years were explained by the improvement of the assessments due to the incorporation of data covering the whole GSA	Since the stock status differed strongly from the previous assessment, the representative of the EC stated that this new assessment must be furthermore validated before being accepted.
GSA 22 (Aegean Sea, Greek part)	<i>Sardina pilchardus</i>	Fully exploited	Harvested sustainably, operating above but close to an optimal yield level, with no expected room for further expansion	Mixed fishery. ICA assessment should be taken with caution given the short time series available. Increasing trend in the estimates of SSB since 2004. Fishing mortality high but at a lower stage since 2004	Endorsed	Endorsed. Not increase the fishing effort
	<i>Engraulis encrasicolus</i>	Fully exploited	Harvested sustainably, operating above but close to an optimal yield level, with no expected room for further expansion	Mixed fishery. ICA assessment should be taken with caution given the short time series available. Increasing trend in the estimates of SSB since 2004. Average exploitation rate (last 5 yrs) =0.35, just < the empirical level for stock decline (E<0.4, Patterson , 1992)	Endorsed	Endorsed. Not increase the fishing effort