

Terms of Reference on the advice for turbot fisheries provided by the 38th Session of the Commission to the WGBS

In the 38th Session of the GFCM, the following Terms of Reference were provided to the WGBS in order to prepare the advice on turbot. These ToRs will be dealt with both in the SGSABS and in the Ad-hoc meeting of the Working Group on the Black Sea on Turbot fisheries.

- Collect and analyse all available information and data referring to turbot and its associated species caught by means of gillnets, trawler or any other fishing gear targeting turbot. Thus, where appropriate, advise on minimum conservation sizes;
- Identify, based on existing knowledge, the stock boundaries for turbot species in the Black Sea, and, if not possible, identify gaps and needs for scientific data and evaluate the way forward to define the distinct biological boundaries;
- Update the existing data and stock assessment methodology, including the identification of the most suitable model to be applied;
- Update the reference points for F and provide intermediate Ftargets with different scenarios and achievable timeframes;
- Carry out a socioeconomic impact assessment of the possible measures and/or scenarios to be applied;
- Evaluate the possible measures/modifications that could be taken/made in order to improve the selectivity of the fishery;
- Collect and analyse all available information and data that would allow estimating the proportion of by-catch, discard and IUU catches;
- Evaluate the effectiveness of the measures already applied at the national level and advise on whether these measures could be applicable to the entire GSA 29.