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DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR MARITIME AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES

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POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND CO-ORDINATION

Brussels,  
MARE/A1/DK ARES(2012)

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**E-MAIL/FAX NUMBER**

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**To:**

- **Ministries and Permanent Representations**
- **Single Liaison Offices in Member States**
- **European Fisheries Control Agency (EFCA)**

**Contact:** Ana-Maria CARAMAN      **Telephone:** +32.2.298 76 30  
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**Number of pages** 2

**SUBJECT:** Fisheries Control Experts Group meeting  
- Implementation of the IUU regulation

**DATE:** 23/10/2012 - 10h00–17h30

**PLACE:** CENTRE A. BORSCHETTE  
RUE FROISSART 36  
BRUXELLES

**(Room will be indicated at the entrance)**

*Please be aware that in order to access the building it is necessary to bring the invitation.*

*Please inform us of any particular need resulting from a disability, so that we may take it into account when organising this meeting/conference.*

**Croatia's participation in Experts group meetings**

The principle of an information and consultation procedure following the formal conclusion of accession negotiations is supplemented by an observer status granted to Croatia as of 10 December 2011, the day following the signature of the Accession Treaty. Observer status means the '*right to speak*' but does not include the right to vote or stand for election. This principle is applied by various institutions and bodies of the Union in order to facilitate the integration of new Member States in the institutional architecture and decision-making processes of the Union.

Article 2 of Commission Decision C(2011) 9005 of 8 December 2011 provides for observer status for Croatia in Commission expert groups and committees. The provision also provides for the possibility to hold a meeting without the presence of representatives or experts from Croatia, or to restrict part of the meeting to representatives of or experts from Member States, for agenda items that are not relevant to the period after accession.

As regards reimbursement of expenses for Croatian participants in expert groups and committees of experts, no reimbursement will be made until further notice. Representatives from the Mission of Croatia are not entitled to reimbursement of costs.

**Message:**

As previously announced per invitation of 19 September 2012 (ARES(2012)1085724) the next ad hoc meeting in the fisheries control experts group will take place in Brussels on **Tuesday 23 October 2012 in the Centre A. Borschette, Rue Froissart 36, Brussels from 10h00.**

The aim of the meeting is, as during the previous meetings, to discuss the implementation of all the chapters under the IUU Regulation (No 1005/2008).

The draft agenda is as follows:

1. Opening and general state of play by the Commission
2. Cooperation with DG SANCO/ health authorities
3. Mutual assistance – Liberia and other cases
4. Denial of landings and imports – status by Member States
5. Evaluation of the implementation of the IUU Regulation – way forward
6. Non-cooperating countries – developments since June
7. Poss. Information from EFCA on upcoming training sessions
8. A.O.B


In order to stick to the new format of the ad hoc group, **each Member State is kindly requested to prepare interventions** to points 2, 3 and 4 of the agenda.

As for the Cooperation with DG SANCO / health authorities will encourage each Member State to present to their colleagues during the ad hoc meeting, the cooperation in their own Member State and how it would envisage an improvement in this cooperation, if deemed necessary. Member States are also kindly requested to present information on the latest mutual assistance cases as well as denial of landings.

As in previous meetings, it would be useful if each Member State in advance of the meeting could transmit to the Commission any problems arising in relation to the implementation under these points.

In the light of reimbursement of 3 experts per Member State, the Commission strongly recommends Member States having notified more than one authority in charge of the implementation of the IUU Regulation to ensure the presence of at least one official per notified authority.

Please send specific points for the agenda and, as requested in our invitation, the name(s) and contact details of the participant(s) to this meeting to Ms Caraman ([ana-maria.caraman@ec.europa.eu](mailto:ana-maria.caraman@ec.europa.eu)) at the latest on **Thursday 18 October 2012.**

  
Ernesto PENAS LADO  
Director