

Aquaculture Advisory Council

General Assembly meeting

26th September 2023 (09:00-12:00 & 14:00– 15:00 CET)

Online meeting via Zoom – Interpretation available in EN - FR – ES – IT

Minutes

PARTICIPATION LIST

GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEMBERS

Brian Thomsen (Chair)	Florian Guillou (CNPMEM)	Luisa Alvarez (FEDEPESCA)
Paul Denekamp (1 st Vice-Chair)	Phil Brooke (CIWF)	Sandrine Rambert (Fédération Française d'Aquaculture)
Philippe Le Gal (2 nd Vice-Chair)	Angeles Longa Portabales (Consello Regulador do Mexillón de Galicia)	Ole Christensen (FEFAC)
Addy Risseeuw (Treasurer)	Douglas Waley (Eurogroup for Animals)	Nancy De Briyne (FVE)
Giuseppe Prioli (AMA)	James Hinchcliffe (EFFOP)	Yannis Pelekanakis (HAPO)
Andrea Fabris (API)	Thibault Pivetta (EMPA)	Arthur Fuest (IFOAM)
Garazi Rodriguez (APROMAR)	Danilo Santini (FAI CISL)	Lino Suarez (OPMEGA)
Javier Ojeda (APROMAR)	Catherine Pons (FEAP)	Stéphane Angeri (SENC)
Wouter van Zandbrink (CEP)	Marco Gilmozzi (FEAP)	Ola Öberg (RECIRKFISK)
Marine Levadoux (CIPA)		
Anne-Laure Prego-Cauchet (CNC)		

OTHER PARTICIPANTS

Excused: David Bassett (EATiP), Bruno Guillaumie (EMPA)

Invited: Delilah Al Khudairi (DG MARE), Angelo Kouwenhoven (Dutch Ministry for Agriculture), Nathalie Gamain (OFI), Shane Willis (OFI), Alexandra Philippe (OFI)

Observers: Victor Nita (NIMRD Scientific Council), Emilia Gargallo Gonzales (DG MARE), Lorella De La Cuz Iglesias (DG MARE), Robert Seibold (European Parliament – COM PECH Secretariat)

Secretariat: Cécile Fouquet (AAC Secretariat), Charlotte Musquar (AAC Secretariat)

AGENDA

1. [Welcome words by the Chair](#)
2. [Adoption of the agenda and approval of the last extraordinary GA minutes \(1 February 2023\)](#)
3. [A vision for the future of EU aquaculture](#)



4. [AAC activities in 2022-2023](#)
5. [Approval of new AAC Members](#)
 - a. [Ornamental Fish International \(OFI\)](#)
 - b. [European Bureau for Conservation and Development \(EBCD\)](#)
6. [New EC rules for the AAC Grant](#)
7. [AAC Work Programme for 2023-2024](#)
8. [AAC Budget for 2023-2024](#)
9. [AAC Calendar for 2023-2024](#)
10. [AAC Chair updates](#)
11. [Any other business](#)
12. [Date and place of the forthcoming General Assembly meeting](#)

MEETING MINUTES

1. Welcome words by the Chair

Brian Thomsen (The Chair) welcomed the participants and confirmed the quorum.

2. Adoption of the agenda and approval of the last extraordinary GA minutes (1 February 2023)

The agenda was approved without any change.

The minutes from the previous Extraordinary General Assembly (GA) meeting (February 1, 2023) were adopted without any change.

3. A vision for the future of EU aquaculture

Delilah Al Khudairi (DG MARE) presented the European Commission (EC) views on the future of EU aquaculture. Angelo Kouwenhoven (Dutch Ministry for Agriculture) presented the "Blue Deal" policy in the Netherlands.

The Chair thanked both speakers and the presentations were followed by an exchange of views with AAC Members.

4. AAC activities in 2022-2023

The Secretariat presented the AAC achievements during the past year¹. These included the work of 22 Focus groups and the approval of 10 recommendations (so far).

¹ <https://aac-europe.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/AAC-Retrospective-2022-2023.pdf>



5. Approval of new AAC Members

Ornamental Fish International (OFI)

Shane Willis (OFI Chair) presented his organisation.

OFI was approved as a new AAC member and categorized into the Sector representative's category.

European Bureau for Conservation and Development (EBCD)

Alexandra Philippe (EBCD) presented her organisation.

EBCD was approved as a new AAC member and categorized into the Other interest organisations' category.

6. New EC rules for the AAC Grant

The Secretariat presented the new EC rules for the AAC Grant and the main changes they imply for the AAC.

There were no questions from AAC members.

7. AAC Work Programme for 2023-2024

The Secretariat presented the draft Work Programme (WP) for 2023-2024.

Doug Waley (Eurogroup for Animals) requested that the paper on Data collection be postponed.

The WP for 2023-2024 was adopted with this change.

8. AAC Budget for 2023-2024

The Secretariat presented the draft budget for 2023-2024.

The Treasurer recommended the adoption of the budget as presented.

The budget for 2023-2024 was adopted without changes.

9. AAC Calendar of meetings for 2023-2024

The draft calendar and suggested format of meetings for 2023-2024 were presented by the Secretariat.

The calendar and format of meetings for 2023-2024 were adopted without changes.

10. AAC Chair updates

The Chair informed the members about:

- The ExCom decision on the renewal of the Secretariat contract with Aliénor, including additional activities;



- The work on the external performance review: a report will be made before the end of 2023;
- The work on the revision of the Statutes and Rules of Procedure: the drafts will be circulated for comments after the ExCom meeting of October and adopted by the GA meeting of February.

11. Any other business

The Chair updated the members on the activities of the EC task force for the Aquaculture Communication campaign.

12. Date and place of the forthcoming General Assembly meeting

The next GA meeting will take place virtually for an extraordinary meeting on the 20th of February 2024 to approve the final AAC accounts.

