

Aquaculture Advisory Council

Extraordinary General Assembly meeting

25th February 2026 (10:00-10:50 CET)

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

Minutes

PARTICIPATION LIST

GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEMBERS

Brian Thomsen (Chair)	Loïc Maine (CRC Normandie-Mer du Nord)	Thibault Pivetta (EMPA)
Charlotte Epinay (1 st Vice-Chair)	<i>Anne-Laure Prego-Cauchet (CNC) – proxy given to Addy Risseeuw (Mosselcultuur)</i>	Javier Ojeda (FEAP)
<i>Philippe Le Gal (2nd Vice-Chair) – Proxy given to Thibault Pivetta (EMPA)</i>	Phil Brooke (CIWF)	Luisa Alvarez (FEDEPESCA)
Addy Risseeuw (Mosselcultuur)	Pier Antonio Salvador (COPA)	Ole Christensen (FEFAC)
Leo Kirchmaier (ALFAA)	<i>Béla Halasi-Kovács (COGECA) – proxy given to Pier Antonio Salvador (COPA)</i>	Alain Schonbrodt (FVE)
Giulia Malerbi (ALI)	David Bassett (EATIP)	<i>Nathalie Gamain (OFI) – Proxy to Javier Ojeda (FEAP)</i>
Lorenzo Gennari (AMA)	César Gonzalez (EFFAB)	Lino Suarez (OPMEGA)
Andrea Fabris (API)	Semi Kilic (EFFOP)	Ola Öberg (RECIRKFISK)
Garazi Rodriguez (APROMAR)		Catalin Platon (ROMFISH)
Florian Guillou (CNPMEM)		Paul Denekamp (Vissenbescherming)

Excused: Anne-Laure Prego-Cauchet (CNC), Philippe le Gal (CRC Bretagne-Sud), Nathalie Gamain (OFI), Béla Halasi-Kovács (COGECA)

OTHER PARTICIPANTS

Secretariat: Cynthia Benites (AAC Secretariat), Alicia Mouthuy (AAC Secretariat)

AGENDA

1. [Welcome words by the Chair](#)
2. [Adoption of the agenda](#)
3. [Approval of AAC accounts for 2024-2025](#)
4. [Update from the Chair](#)
5. [Any other business](#)



6. [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

The agenda was approved without any changes.

The minutes from the previous General Assembly (GA) meeting (16 September 2025) have been previously approved by written procedure.

3. Approval of AAC accounts for 2024-2025

The Secretariat presented the final accounting report, accompanied by a remark from the Treasurer, Addy Risseuw, highlighting that the financial situation of the AAC is good and stable and recommending then the approval of the annual accounts.

The GA approved the annual accounts for 2024-2025.

4. Update from the Chair and Secretariat

Chair's Updates

- **European Commission's simplification package:** the Chair noted that, in Denmark, stakeholders had the opportunity to provide input on elements of the Commission's simplification package, including proposed amendments concerning biocidal products and environmental legislation, as well as the Communication on strengthening EU economic security.
- **European Oceans Day:** the Chair will represent the AAC at the European Oceans Day, participating in a panel discussion on the 2040 Vision for aquaculture on 4 March. On that occasion, he intends to stress the need for policy reform and urged members to mobilise national policymakers in support of this objective.
- **Upcoming AAC webinar on the Code of Good Practices on Fish Welfare:** the Chair announced that the next AAC webinar will take place on 26 March and will focus on Improving fish welfare with the "Code of good practices on fish welfare and fish welfare indicators". He invited members disseminating and promoting the event widely among their networks.
- **European Ocean Board:** the Chair indicated that the AAC will submit an application to join the European Ocean Board Expert Group recently launched by the European Commission, whose first meeting is scheduled for March, and will keep members informed of the outcome.



5. Any other business

There were no additional points discussed under AOB.

6. Date and place of the forthcoming General Assembly meeting

The Chair thanked the members and the interpreters.

The next GA meeting will take place online on 22 September 2026 (morning).

