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Report of the

THIRTY-FIRST SESSION OF THE EUROPEAN INLAND FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE ADVISORY COMMISSION

Killarney, Ireland, 22–24 June 2022

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PREPARATION OF THIS DOCUMENT

This is the final version of the report as approved by the thirty-first Session of the European Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture Advisory Commission (EIFAAC), which was held in Killarney, Ireland, on 22–24 June 2022.

This meeting was kindly hosted by the Government of Ireland. The meeting received generous support from Inland Fisheries Ireland (IFI) and Department of Environment, Climate and Communications (DECC). The FAO Secretariat to the meeting consisted of Raymon van Anrooy, Haydar Fersoy, Zsofia Horvath, and Eniko Koti. Nabil Gangi, FAO deputy regional representative for Europe and Central Asia provided oversight on matters related to the FAO European Regional Conference. Administrative and operational support was provided by the host country (Ireland) and coordinated by Cathal Gallagher and Sandra Doyle of IFI and Denis Maher of the DECC.

This is the final and approved report of the session, which provides a record of the meeting's proceedings as well as the adopted recommendations, resolutions and the Programme of Work 2022–2024.

ABSTRACT

The thirty-first Session of the European Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture Advisory Commission (EIFAAC) was held in Killarney, Ireland, from 22 to 24 June 2022. The Session presented and discussed the results achieved by EIFAAC, its Management Committee and its Technical and Scientific Committee since the thirty Session of EIFAAC in 2019. The Commission adopted four Resolutions and one Recommendation: 1) On EIFAAC Resolutions, Recommendations and Advisory Notes; 2) On the Code of Conduct for Recreational Fisheries and Invasive Alien Species; 3) On the protection of vulnerable and endangered fish species from unsustainable predation from cormorants; 4) On small-scale fisheries and aquaculture; and 5) On the Code of Practice for Recreational Fisheries.

The Commission also reviewed the endorsed the recommendations from the well-attended EIFAAC International Symposium on "Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture - Advances in Technology, Stock Assessment and Citizen Science in an Era of Climate Change", held in Killarney, Ireland, from 20 to 21 June 2022.

Finally, the Commission reviewed and endorsed the updated EIFAAC Rules of Procedure and the work programme 2022–2024 and elected new officers. The Session and Symposium received generous support from the host organizations, Inland Fisheries Ireland and the Irish Department of Environment, Climate and Communications.

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I. OPENING OF THE SESSION

1. The thirty-first Session of the European Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture Advisory Commission (EIFAAC) was held in Killarney, Ireland, on 22 to 24 June 2022. The meeting was kindly hosted by the Government of Ireland and received generous support from Inland Fisheries Ireland (IFI) and the Irish Department of Environment, Climate and Communications (DECC).

2. The EIFAAC Chairperson, Petri Heinimaa (Finland), opened the session and invited the delegate from Ireland Cathal Gallagher to welcome the Members on behalf of the host Government. Nabil Gangi, Deputy Regional Representative of FAO for Europe and Central Asia presented welcome remarks on behalf of the FAO Director General.

II. ATTENDANCE

3. The session was attended by representatives from Austria, Croatia, Czechia, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Sweden and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. The list of participants is provided in Appendix B.

III. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND TIMETABLE

4. The Commission adopted the agenda as shown in Appendix A.

IV. MAIN DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM FAO REGIONAL CONFERENCES AND FISHERIES BODIES

5. The Secretariat referred the Commission to working document EIFAAC/2022/4. The Commission took note of the decisions and recommendations of the following meetings:

- 33rd Session of the FAO Regional Conference for Europe (ERC), Poland, 10–13 May 2022;
- 34th Session of the Committee of Fisheries (COFI), 1–5 February 2021 (convened virtually);
- 44th Session of the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM), 2–6 November 2021 (convened virtually).

6. Attention was drawn also to the United Nations 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals, the FAO Strategic Framework 2022–2031, the FAO aspirations, expressed in the Four Betters, the FAO Blue Transformation roadmap, and the International Year of Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture (IYAFA 2022).

V. MAIN DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE THIRTY SESSION OF EIFAAC

7. The Commission took note of the main outcomes of the thirty Session of EIFAAC, as summarized in EIFAAC/2022/5, and presented by the Chairperson.

VI. RESULTS ACHIEVED DURING THE INTERSESSIONAL PERIOD

8. The EIFAAC chairperson presented the Report from the Management Committee (MC) on decisions taken since the thirty session of EIFAAC (EIFAAC/2022/6), including implementation of the EIFAAC strategy 2020–2024, communications strategy and the postponement of the session from 2021 to 2022 due to the COVID-19 pandemic related travel restrictions. The Commission acknowledged the work of the MC despite the challenges faced during the intersessional period.

9. The Commission noted that most attention had been given to inland fisheries subjects and that aquaculture development needs to be integrated better into the work programme of EIFAAC. Aquaculture is important for many EIFAAC Members.

10. The Commission proposed that hybrid and virtual meetings should be considered for the future to facilitate reaching a quorum and for cost-effective reasons.

11. The Commission further acknowledged that EIFAAC is insufficiently visible at European Union meetings and that EIFAAC should develop a strategy to get involved more in activities within the European Union frameworks related to aquaculture and climate change, focusing on EIFAAC

membership priority subjects, its strengths and comparative advantages.

12. The Commission agreed to collaborate with the Secretariat in the organization of a meeting in Brussels, provisionally scheduled for October 2022, in which EIFAAC work and achievements would be presented to the EU DG MARE and DG Environment and representatives of European Union Member countries based in Brussels. The FAO Liaison Office in Brussels has confirmed support to this event.

13. The Commission requested the Secretariat to include an item in the agenda for the next session on the status and trends of aquaculture development in Europe.

14. The Chairperson of the Technical and Scientific Committee (TSC), Teppo Vehanen (Finland), provided the Commission a summary of the Report from the TSC on outcomes of EIFAAC projects since the thirty session of EIFAAC (EIFAAC/2022/7). The Commission thanked the TSC chairperson, TSC members and project managers for their work in the intersessional period.

VII. MAIN FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE EIFAAC INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM

15. Cathal Gallagher (Ireland) presented the main conclusions and recommendations from the EIFAAC international symposium on "Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture - Advances in Technology, Stock Assessment and Citizen Science in an Era of Climate Change", held in Killarney, Ireland, 20–21 June 2022 (EIFAAC/2022/Inf.3). He informed the Session that the Symposium was a success with 105 participants from 14 countries. The main documentation comprised six invited papers and 35 experience papers and 15 posters.

16. The main conclusions and recommendations from the Symposium are provided in Appendix C.

17. The Commission discussed and endorsed the recommendations from the symposium and requested Members and Secretariat to follow-up. Specific attention was given to Recirculation Aquaculture Systems and Climate change adaptation and mitigation in fisheries and aquaculture. The Members were requested to identify experts to participate in the projects and support each other with knowledge and sharing experiences.

18. The Commission expressed appreciation for all the efforts made by the Government of Ireland and particularly IFI and DECC in the organization of the EIFAAC international symposium. The Commission noted that the symposium provided valuable networking opportunities for the participating scientists, especially young scientists could share their research findings. Many promising studies and innovative technologies and methodologies were presented. It was one of the first in-person meetings of inland fisheries and aquaculture scientists in Europe since the COVID-19 pandemic started.

VIII. EIFAAC RECOMMENDATIONS AND RESOLUTIONS

19. The EIFAAC Secretary presented the EIFAAC draft resolutions and recommendations (EIFAAC/2022/8 Rev.A). The Commission welcomed the development that EIFAAC starts to produce advice in a format similar to most other regional fisheries bodies. The Commission thanked the EIFAAC project managers and TSC members for the scientific research which formed the basis for preparation of the various resolutions and recommendations.

20. The Commission agreed that resolutions and recommendations would be used as follows:

- **EIFAAC Recommendations** promote harmonized sub-regional or regional inland fisheries conservation and management measures, inland fisheries and aquaculture development, establish regional measures, and endorse inland fisheries management plans for sub-regional or regional implementation.
- **EIFAAC Resolutions** encourage all stakeholders in the EIFAAC area to implement or support implementation of sub-regional, regional or international instruments related to inland fisheries and aquaculture, or address other issues of common interest.

21. The Commission further decided that the recommendations should be mainly the result of own EIFAAC work on management and conservation of inland fisheries and aquaculture, while resolutions can be the product of collaboration.

22. The Commission discussed the process of drafting, submission, review and adoption of the recommendations and resolutions. It was agreed that EIFAAC Members, Projects and the Secretariat can draft and propose recommendations and resolutions, for review by the TSC, followed by review by the MC and for final review and possible adoption by the Commission.

23. The Commission also agreed on the possibility to make decisions on recommendations and resolutions intersessionally.

24. The Commission discussed and adopted the following resolutions, which appear in Appendix D to this report:

- Resolution EIFAAC/31/2022/1 "On EIFAAC Resolutions, Recommendations and Advisory Notes"
- Resolution EIFAAC/31/2022/2 "On the Code of Conduct for Recreational Fisheries and Invasive Alien Species"
- Resolution EIFAAC/31/2022/3 "On the protection of vulnerable and endangered fish species from unsustainable predation from cormorants"
- Resolution EIFAAC/31/2022/4 "On small-scale fisheries and aquaculture".

25. The Commission discussed and adopted one recommendation, which appears in Appendix D to this report:

- Recommendation EIFAAC/31/2022/1 "On the Code of Practice for Recreational Fisheries".

26. The Commission referred the discussion on the draft eel resolution to the intersessional period. The Commission appreciated a thorough review by the TSC in the next two months, after which the proposer would be requested to amend (as necessary) the draft resolution. The reviewed draft resolution would be passed to the MC for review and then shared with Members, via the Operational Focal Points and official channels of communication, for comment via e-mail, after which a final review and adoption can be facilitated via a virtual Commission meeting.

27. The Commission requested the Secretariat to amend the working document EIFAAC/2022/8 Rev.A by removing the paragraphs 7 to 13 of the working document and the draft eel resolution in its annex.

28. The Commission agreed that advisory notes prepared by projects, should be reviewed by the TSC for final review and endorsement by the MC. No formal Commission endorsement is required for advisory notes.

IX. AMENDMENT OF THE EIFAAC RULES OF PROCEDURE

29. The secretary presented the draft amendment to the EIFAAC Rules of Procedure (EIFAAC/2022/9). Following the guidance from EIFAAC 30, the Management Committee in cooperation with the EIFAAC Secretariat and in consultation with the FAO Legal Office had prepared amendments to the Rules of Procedure to address the following matters:

- to improve Management Committee and Technical and Scientific Committee membership eligibility and related operational challenges;
- to fill the gap in the Rules of Procedure on the role of the FAO Secretariat to EIFAAC;
- to facilitate rapid intersessional advisory capacity of EIFAAC to its members.

30. The Commission reviewed and adopted the draft revised Rules of Procedure proposed in section IV of Working Document EIFAAC/2022/9, with one change to Rule II [Officers and Operational Focal Points]. Paragraph (1) should remain as follows: "The Commission shall elect, at the end of each session, a Chairperson, a first Vice-Chairperson and a second Vice-Chairperson from among the representatives to the Commission who shall remain in office until the election of the new Chairperson and new Vice-Chairpersons at the next session. The Chairperson and Vice-Chairpersons shall be eligible for re-election for a term of two years, but not exceeding a total of four consecutive terms. " The adopted revised Rules of procedure are provided in Appendix E.

31. The Commission confirmed that TSC members are elected and undertake their tasks in their

personal capacity as expert, providing independent scientific advice, and that they do not represent their respective countries.

32. The Commission requested the membership to timely update the Secretariat of changes in their Operational Focal Points assignation.

X. VOLUNTARY COUNTRY AND OBSERVER REPORTS ON EMERGING ISSUES FOR NATIONAL INLAND FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE

33. Delegates from the Czechia, Austria, France, Iceland and Sweden presented their country reports to the Commission. The Commission appreciated the reports and noted that many challenges (e.g. precipitation uncertainties, climate change, fish predation) are common across the region.

XI. EIFAAC WORK PROGRAMME 2022–2024

34. The Secretariat introduced the EIFAAC work programme 2022–2024, which is largely based on the Strategic Plan 2020–2024. Project managers were requested in May 2022 to provide their plans for the upcoming intersessional period. Most managers responded to the request.

35. The Commission expressed appreciation for the work by and plans of EIFAAC Project "Management / Threat of Aquatic Invasive Species in Europe". In view of the importance of Establishment of national monitoring systems for invasive alien species, in line with European Union Regulation 1143/2014, the Commission requested EU DG-MARE support for capacity building of Western Balkan countries for implementing the European Union Regulation, and in the organization of the 3rd Freshwater Invasives – Networking for Strategy (FINS) workshop.

36. The Commission fully supported the planned activities under EIFAAC Project "Developing Advice on Sustainable Management Actions on Cormorant Populations", and requested the Secretariat to discuss with Sweden the possible organization of a Cormorants stakeholder Conference in the 1st semester of 2023, and to seek also support from EU DG-MARE on the important subject of reducing protected fish species predation by cormorants.

37. The Commission requested the EIFAAC/ICES/GFCM WGEEL to include in its TORs for 2022–2023 the earlier (in 2019) requested work on eel fisheries and to report to EIFAAC. Moreover, the Commission requests WGEEL to produce information on the relative impact of recreational and commercial fisheries, hydropower/pumping stations, water pollution, and other anthropogenic causes of eel mortality.

38. In view of the lack of data and information on the socio-economic value of eel fisheries and aquaculture throughout Europe, the Commission requested the facilitators of EIFAAC Project "Determination of economic, cultural and social values of inland fisheries and freshwater aquaculture in Europe" Teppo Vehanen and Petri Heinimaa (Finland) to integrate a study in the workplan of the project and to share a short concept note for funding the study with the Members. Various Members indicated interest in funding such a study.

39. Various project facilitators urged the Members to identify scientists, institutions and other stakeholders in their countries to participate in and support the active implementation of the EIFAAC projects. The Commission noted that Members and the Operational Focal Points should support the project facilitators and managers with finding scientists in their countries.

40. The Commission appreciated the collaboration with the Central Asian and Caucasus Regional Fisheries and Aquaculture Commission (CACFish) in the development of fish stocking guidelines under EIFAAC Project "Fish stocking guidelines, including general principles, best practices, economic aspects, interaction with natural stocks and safeguarding biodiversity".

41. The Secretariat informed the meeting that FAO has a project modality for grants, which is relatively simple with low administrative requirements and can be used in support of implementation of regional EIFAAC projects.

42. The Commission approved the Work Programme 2022–2024, which is made available in Appendix F.

XII. ELECTION OF EIFAAC OFFICERS

43. Fiona Kelly (Ireland) was elected as chairperson of the Technical and Scientific Committee (TSC).

44. The following scientists were elected as members of the TSC:

- Robert Arlinghaus (Germany)
- Andreas Melcher (Austria)
- Jan Kubecka (Czechia)
- Klaus Wysujack (Germany)
- Ana Gavrilovic (Croatia)
- Ali Serhan Tarkan (Turkiye)

45. Petri Heinimaa (Finland) was elected as chairperson of the Commission and will also act as chairperson of the Management Committee (MC). Cathal Gallagher (Ireland) and Gudni Magnus Eiriksson (Iceland) were elected respectively as first and second Vice-Chairperson.

46. The following persons were elected as members of the MC:

- Marina Piria (Croatia)
- Ruta Medne (Latvia)
- Reinhold Hanel (Germany)

XIII. ANY OTHER MATTERS

47. Not any other matters were raised.

XIV. DATE AND PLACE OF THE NEXT EIFAAC SESSION

48. Croatia kindly offered to host the 32nd session of EIFAAC in 2024, subject to final confirmation. Latvia kindly offered to host, in principle, the 33rd session of EIFAAC in Riga in 2026 and Lithuania expressed interest in hosting one of the future sessions and symposiums.

XV. REVIEW AND ENDORSEMENT OF THE REPORT BY THE COMMISSION AND CLOSING OF THE SESSION

49. The report was approved by the Members present at the 31st Session. The Chairperson thanked the Commission, Secretariat and the host, the Government of Ireland, for their effective work and contributions to the success of the Session. He also thanked the MC and TSC members for their commitments in the intersessional work conducted and looked forward to continue collaboration with all Members.

50. The Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications, and Transport, of Ireland, Eamon Ryan TD, made a closing address to the meeting. He expressed appreciation for the work of EIFAAC and that Ireland was proud to have hosted an EIFAAC session for the 3rd time (1960, 1996 and 2022). He referred to the important tasks ahead with land use planning in view of climate change, and the challenges with improving water quality and biodiversity conservation. Minister Ryan emphasized that we have to “change our connection with nature” and would need a green evolution also in inland fisheries and aquaculture.

APPENDIX A

AGENDA

1) Opening of the Session

2) Adoption of the Agenda and Timetable

3) Main decisions and recommendations from FAO Regional Conferences and Fisheries Bodies

4) Main decisions and recommendations of the thirty Session of EIFAAC

5) Results achieved during the intersessional period

6) Main findings and recommendations from the EIFAAC International Symposium

7) EIFAAC recommendations and resolutions

8) Amendment of the EIFAAC Rules of Procedure

9) Voluntary country and observer reports on emerging issues for national inland fisheries and aquaculture

10) EIFAAC work programme 2022–2024

11) Election of the EIFAAC Officers

12) Any other matters

13) Date and place of the next EIFAAC Session

14) Adoption of the report of the Session

APPENDIX B

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APPENDIX C

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE 2022 EIFAAC SYMPOSIUM

The Symposium demonstrated scientific advances in technology, stock assessment and citizen science in an era of climate change, on inland fisheries and aquaculture. Some of the research presented brought novel ideas and approaches that can be of use for the whole EIFAAC membership. Despite the COVID-19 pandemic in recent years, which restricted travel and constrained working together, inland fisheries research has continued and resulted in new insights.

The conclusions of the symposium can be summarized as follows:

- Stocking of inland water bodies is often considered as the best management tool to ensure sufficient stocks for recreational and commercial users. Stocking is the number one investment by anglers in Germany and probably also in other countries. Other management tools, such as harvest regulations, habitat improvement, increasing size limits, and constraining anglers efforts, may be more successful in the long-term Scientific evidence suggests that stocking is frequently unsuccessful, but that there are strong social pressures on angling organizations and inland fisheries managers to introduce fish.
- Fish predation by cormorants and American mink continues to increase in various Scandinavian countries. The effects of this predation on brown trout, Atlantic salmon smolt, and grayling is detrimental for the stocks of these species. There are practical tools available to reduce predation on fish; the use of which is hampered by some European Union directives. Scientists conclude that there is an urgent need to take stock of fish predation by cormorants and other predators throughout Europe, as the problem is wider than just Scandinavia.
- Data limited stock assessment and inland rivers and lakes monitoring methods are being developed and experimented. The use of eDNA, DNA, UV light, and hydroacoustic technology as non-invasive techniques to support monitoring and to increase understanding of fish species conservation and habitat usage is increasing rapidly.
- Advances in sampling methodologies and taxonomy in inland fisheries research, using genetic markers, crispr-cas technologies and eDNA are made and applied more widely throughout Europe.
- Citizen science is becoming more popular in recreational fisheries and inland fisheries conservation research. The use of user friendly APPs in Citizen science projects is increasing rapidly. Citizen Science projects are per definition longer-term projects as first a relationship of trust needs to be built between the project scientist and the stakeholder (Citizen Scientist).

It was recommended that the 31st EIFAAC session discusses and considers the following:

- The development (technical) guidelines on responsible stocking of fish in inland waters.
- The promotion of ecosystem based management approaches for inland waters, involving relevant stakeholders and supported by interdisciplinary fisheries research and management methods that link economic, sociological and psychological expertise with traditional biological/ecological data expertise.
- The development of new water quality monitoring and stock assessment technologies for inland water bodies and catchment areas that add to conventional monitoring and sampling methods and tools and support long-term, cost-effective monitoring to meet European Union Water Framework Directive, European Union Habitats Directive and Climate Change Strategy monitoring requirements.
- That EIFAAC take an active coordinating role in advocating for European wide cormorant management, to reduce cormorant predation of fish species, including European Union Habitats Directive protected fish species, by organizing a stock-taking conference, developing a management plan and organizing a “Call to Action”.

- The development of standards for recirculation aquaculture systems (RAS) to reduce failures in RAS designs and risks for RAS investments, and increase access to finance and insurance for aquaculture entrepreneurs interested in RAS technologies.
- That EIFAAC members increase their collaboration in monitoring the impacts of climate change on inland fisheries and aquaculture, and in the joint development of solutions for climate change adaptation and mitigation in inland fisheries and aquaculture.

APPENDIX D

RESOLUTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Resolution EIFAAC/31/2022/1

EIFAAC Resolutions, Recommendations and Advisory Notes

The European Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture Advisory Commission (EIFAAC):

ACKNOWLEDGING EIFAAC's mission, which is to promote the long-term sustainable development, utilization, conservation, restoration and responsible management of European inland fisheries and aquaculture, consistent with the objectives and principles of the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries and other relevant international instruments, and to support sustainable economic, social, and recreational activities towards these goals.

RECALLING the general objectives and functions of the Commission, as provided in EIFAAC's Revised Statutes.

ADOPTS in conformity with the provisions of Articles 1 and 6 of the Revised Statutes of EIFAAC the RESOLUTION that:

1. EIFAAC [shall] advise its Members and FAO on the sustainable utilization, conservation, management protection and restoration of European inland fisheries and aquaculture resources, through the adoption of resolutions and recommendations of a non-legally binding nature and through issuance of advisory notes:
   a) EIFAAC Recommendations [shall] promote harmonized sub-regional or regional inland fisheries conservation and management measures, inland fisheries and aquaculture development, establish regional measures, and endorse inland fisheries management plans for sub-regional or regional implementation.
   b) EIFAAC Resolutions [shall] encourage all stakeholders in the EIFAAC area to implement or support implementation of sub-regional, regional or international instruments related to inland fisheries and aquaculture, or address other issues of common interest.
   c) EIFAAC Advisory Notes [shall] inform and provide guidance to managers, policy- and decision makers and the public on scientific advice generated by EIFAAC projects and its Members.
2. EIFAAC Members, Projects and the Secretariat [shall] prepare draft Resolutions and Recommendations.
3. The Technical and Scientific Committee shall review the draft Resolutions and Recommendations from projects for review by the Management Committee and possible adoption by the Commission.
4. EIFAAC Members can submit draft Recommendations and Resolutions to the Secretariat for review by the Technical and Scientific Committee, Management Committee review and final review and possible adoption to the Commission.
5. The Commission [shall] review and possibly adopt any Resolution and Recommendation submitted by an EIFAAC Member intersessionally.
6. The Commission [shall] aim to adopt its Resolutions and Recommendations by consensus. A Resolution or Recommendation can also be adopted by the Commission through a simple majority of the votes cast by the Members present.
7. Resolutions and Recommendations adopted by the Commission are considered as self-standing voluntary non-binding instruments.
8. If an objection is made to an adopted Resolution or Recommendation, then the objecting EIFAAC Member can be shown as additional text under the title of the applicable Resolution

or Recommendation on request by the Member. Objections [shall] be submitted to the Secretariat within 3 months after publication of the adopted Resolution or Recommendation.

9. EIFAAC Members, Projects and the Secretariat [may] prepare Advisory Notes for review by the Technical and Scientific Committee and review by the Management Committee. EIFAAC Advisory Notes do not require adoption by the Commission and may be issued any time after review by the Management Committee.

10. Proposals for Resolutions or Recommendations for consideration and possible adoption by the Commission [shall] support consistency in the format of these through application of the guidelines on drafting EIFAAC resolutions and recommendations reproduced in the Annex.

11. EIFAAC Resolutions, Recommendations and Advisory Notes shall be circulated by the Secretariat to the EIFAAC Operational Focal Points and made available on the EIFAAC website.

ANNEX

GUIDELINES FOR DRAFTING EIFAAC RESOLUTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- The voluntary character of provisions that are relevant for the whole EIFAAC membership should be expressed by "shall", while provisions that are relevant for some of the members only should be expressed by "may" followed by the verb.
- EIFAAC, at the time of the adoption of a resolution or recommendation that has a voluntary effect under the EIFAAC Statutes, should use the following formula: "EIFAAC (…) Adopts, in conformity with the provision of Articles [insert relevant article] of the Revised EIFAAC Statutes, the resolution [or recommendation] that:"
- All EIFAAC resolutions and recommendations should have an external structure based on a number, a title, a preamble and an operative part, followed, if appropriate, by annexes.
- If appropriate, EIFAAC resolutions and recommendations should include "final provisions" where the relationship with other EIFAAC resolutions and recommendations is indicated, in particular whether previous resolutions and recommendations or some of their provisions are terminated.
- Definitions in EIFAAC resolutions and recommendations should be given only where a word or an expression is used in a technical meaning or in a meaning that is different from the ordinary one. Definitions that are already defined by FAO should be defined in the same way in EIFAAC resolutions and recommendations.
- Acronyms should be put in brackets immediately after the expression that is abbreviated, where in the text it is used for the first time.
- The provisions in EIFAAC resolutions and recommendations should be called "paragraphs"; if appropriate, they should be grouped in parts and sections.
- Each sentence in a provision should enunciate a limited number of rights or obligations – preferably one – pertaining to the subjects to which the decision is addressed; exceptions should be clearly distinguished from rules.

Resolution EIFAAC/31/2022/2

On the Code of Conduct for Recreational Fisheries and Invasive Alien Species

The European Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture Advisory Commission (EIFAAC):

RECOGNIZING that aquatic invasive alien species (IAS) as one of the most important direct drivers of biodiversity loss and ecosystem service changes alongside overexploitation, pollution, habitat destruction and climate change.

ACKNOWLEDGING EIFAAC's mission, which is to promote the long-term sustainable development, utilization, conservation, restoration and responsible management of European inland fisheries and aquaculture, consistent with the objectives and principles of the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries and other relevant international instruments, and to support sustainable economic, social, and recreational activities towards these goals.

RECALLING the adoption of the EIFAC Code of Practice for Recreational Fisheries by the 25th session of EIFAC in Antalya, Turkey, in 2008, which contains a range of good practices on the prevention and management of the introduction and spread of non-native species.

FURTHER RECALLING the Recommendation No. 170 (2014) of the Standing Committee of the Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats under the Council of Europe, adopted on 5 December 2014, on the European Code of Conduct on Recreational Fishing and Invasive Alien Species.

ACKNOWLEDGING Regulation (EU) no 1143/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 October 2014 on the prevention and management of the introduction and spread of invasive alien species. *Official Journal of the European Union L317: 35–55.*

NOTING the Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2016/1141 of 13 July 2016 adopting a list of invasive alien species of Union concern pursuant to regulation (EU) no 1143/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council. *Official Journal of the European Union 59: 4–9.*

ALSO NOTING the Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2017/1263 of 12 July 2017 updating the list of invasive alien species of Union concern, established by implementing regulation (EU) 2016/1141 pursuant to regulation (EU) No 1143/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council. *Official Journal of the European Union L182: 37–39.*

FURTHER NOTING the EC Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/1262 of 25 July 2019 amending implementing regulation (EU) 2016/1141 to update the list of invasive alien species of Union concern. *Official Journal of the European Union L199: 1–4.*

WELCOMING the EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030 and in particular its aim to minimize, and where possible eliminate, the introduction and establishment of alien species in the European Union environment.

MINDFUL of the outcomes from the Inland Fisheries Ireland/EIFAAC 1st Conference on "Freshwater Invasives – Networking for Strategy" (FINS), held in Galway, Ireland, on 9–11 April 2013, and 2nd Conference on "Freshwater Invasives – Networking for Strategy" (FINS II) held in Zagreb, Croatia on 11–14 July 2016.

TAKING IN CONSIDERATION the scientific findings of the EIFAAC Project on "Aquatic Invasive Species in Europe".

ADOPTS in conformity with the provision of Articles 6 (a) and 6 (c) of the Revised Statutes of EIFAAC the RESOLUTION that:

1. EIFAAC Members in collaboration with recreational fisheries associations and commercial fisheries organizations, [shall] encourage their data collection efforts on aquatic invasive alien species.
2. EIFAAC Members [shall] support establishment of National Monitoring Systems for Invasive Alien Species, in line with Regulation (EU) no. 1143/2014, with an emphasis on

digital data collection systems that involve citizen science and apply data-poor assessment methodologies.

3. EIFAAC Members in collaboration recreational fisheries associations and commercial fisheries organizations, [shall] support an actions to reduce invasive alien fish populations, with a focus on those invasive alien fish species that are a threat to European Red List species.
4. EIFAAC in collaboration with government agencies [shall] encourage implementation of Regulation (EU) no 1143/2014 of the European Parliament and Council by non-EU EIFAAC Member States.
5. EIFAAC in collaboration with government agencies [shall] monitor the application and implementation of the European Code of Conduct on Recreational Fishing and Invasive Alien Species every two years through an online survey.

Resolution EIFAAC/31/2022/3

On measures to support the protection of vulnerable and endangered fish species from unsustainable predation from cormorants

The European Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture Advisory Commission (EIFAAC):

RECOGNIZING that predation from cormorants (in particular – *Phalacrocorax carbo carbo*) has become one of the most important direct drivers of negative population trends for European freshwater fish species alongside pollution, habitat loss, introduction of alien invasive species and their parasites, other predators, overfishing, dam construction, and climate change.

ACKNOWLEDGING EIFAAC's mission, which is to promote the long-term sustainable development, utilization, conservation, restoration and responsible management of European inland fisheries and aquaculture, consistent with the objectives and principles of the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries and other relevant international instruments, and to support sustainable economic, social, and recreational activities towards these goals.

ACKNOWLEDGING that EU Council Directive 79/409/EEC of 2 April 1979 on the conservation of wild birds (Birds Directive), has led to a large increase in the population of cormorants in Europe, and that this conservation success has led to increasing conflicts between fishing and aquaculture interests and cormorant protection advocates.

FURTHER ACKNOWLEDGING the European Union guidance document Great cormorant: Applying derogations under Article 9 of the Birds Directive 2009/147/EC, and the options provided to European Union Member States to derogate from the provisions of Articles 5, 6, 7 and 8 of the Birds Directive, where there is no other satisfactory solution.

ALSO ACKNOWLEDGING European Union Council Directive 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora (Habitat Directive), and that despite the protection under this directive populations of several fish species are decreasing rapidly.

NOTING WITH CONCERN the drastic decline of unique populations of grayling (*Thymallus thymallus*) due to excessive cormorant predation, and significant negative impact of cormorant predation on populations of brown trout (*Salmo trutta*), Atlantic salmon (*Salmo salar*), eel (*Anguilla anguilla*), barbel (*Barbus barbus*), nase (*Chondrostoma nasus*), vimba bream (*Vimba vimba*) and even the critically endangered North Sea houting (*Coregonus oxyrinchus*).

WELCOMING the European Union Biodiversity Strategy for 2030 and in particular its aim to protect biodiversity and to restore freshwater ecosystems.

ACKNOWLEDGING the Council of Europe Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (ETS No. 104) (Bern Convention) of 1979, which aims to ensure conservation of wild flora and fauna species and their habitats, with special attention to endangered and vulnerable species.

NOTING the efforts by various EIFAAC Members to keep the cormorant population increase under control, and the ongoing cooperation between Members in the Nordic Cormorant Group, which is an important platform to share knowledge and experiences with the management of cormorants.

TAKING IN CONSIDERATION the scientific findings of the EIFAAC Project on "*Developing Advice on Sustainable Management Actions on Cormorant Populations".*

RECALLING the EIFAAC Advisory Note (1/2022) on the *Impact of cormorant predation on fish and fisheries in Europe.*

ADOPTS in conformity with the provision of Articles 6 (a) and 6 (c) of the Revised Statutes of EIFAAC the RESOLUTION that:

1. EIFAAC Members in collaboration with recreational fisheries associations and commercial fisheries organizations, [shall] take stock of the available research and analysis on cormorant predation and report local impacts of cormorant predation to the EIFAAC Project on "Developing Advice on Sustainable Management Actions on Cormorant Populations".

2. EIFAAC Members [shall] support initiatives to monitor the effects of various management measures in order to find solutions in protecting fish species, fisheries and aquaculture against cormorants.
3. EIFAAC in collaboration with relevant government agencies and other stakeholders [shall] prepare a European-wide cormorant management plan to harmonize measures and regulations aiming to reduce the damage to fish stocks in Europe, for adoption by the European Commission and EIFAAC 32 in 2024.
4. EIFAAC Members are encouraged to develop national management plans that reduce cormorant predation on fish species that are protected by the Habitat Directive, Bern Convention and/or European Red List species.
5. EIFAAC, in collaboration with government agencies, [shall] mobilize resources for more research on cormorant impact on fish, fisheries and aquaculture, where such is needed for management purposes.

Resolution EIFAAC/31/2022/4

On Small-scale Fisheries and Aquaculture

The European Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture Advisory Commission (EIFAAC):

RECOGNIZING that small-scale fisheries and aquaculture play an important role in the provision of food security and healthy nutrition of the European population, rural employment and livelihoods and in the sustainable use and conservation of fisheries and aquaculture resources throughout Europe.

RECALLING the decision of the United Nations General Assembly to declare 2022 as the International Year of Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture (IYAFA 2022).

HIGHLIGHTING the IYAFA 2022 vision statement, which is "A world in which small-scale artisanal fishers, fishfarmers and fishworkers of both genders are fully recognized and empowered to continue their contributions to poverty alleviation, human well-being and resilient and sustainable food systems through the responsible use of fisheries and aquaculture resources and socio-economic development".

RECALLING ALSO the global adoption of the Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication (SSF Guidelines), by FAO in 2014, and the continuing efforts by stakeholders to implement these guidelines, as well as the United Nations Decade of Family Farming (2019–2028).

CONCERNED about the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and the war in Ukraine on the economic viability of small-scale fisheries, recreational fisheries and aquaculture businesses in Europe, as the costs of essential inputs (e.g. fish feed, fuel) increased, value chains (e.g. logistics, storage, transport) are disrupted, and food price inflation affects consumers' fish purchase decisions.

WELCOMING the crisis measures adopted under the European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund (EMFAF) and national level policies in EIFAAC Member States that may provide financial support to fisheries and aquaculture businesses for the additional costs and economic losses stemming from the crisis.

ADOPTS in conformity with the provision of Articles 6 (a), 6 (b) and 6 (h) of the Revised Statutes of EIFAAC the RESOLUTION that:

1. EIFAAC in collaboration with government agencies and other stakeholders [shall] promote IYAFA 2022 celebrations and other activities at national level in EIFAAC Member States.
2. EIFAAC Members, in collaboration with other stakeholders active in inland fisheries and aquaculture, [shall] continue to encourage implementation of the SSF Guidelines throughout Europe.
3. EIFAAC Members [shall] strive to support small-scale inland fisheries and aquaculture businesses with EMFAF and national level crisis measures and funds, to facilitate business continuity and post-crisis rapid recovery of the sector.

Recommendation EIFAAC/31/2022/1

On the Code of Practice for Recreational Fisheries

The European Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture Advisory Commission (EIFAAC):

RECOGNIZING that recreational fisheries provide a vital source of recreation, employment, food and social and economic well-being for people throughout Europe, both for present and future generations.

ACKNOWLEDGING EIFAAC's mission, which is to promote the long-term sustainable development, utilization, conservation, restoration and responsible management of European inland fisheries and aquaculture, consistent with the objectives and principles of the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries and other relevant international instruments, and to support sustainable economic, social, and recreational activities towards these goals.

RECALLING the adoption of the EIFAC Code of Practice for Recreational Fisheries by the 25th session of EIFAC in Antalya, Turkey, in 2008, and the subsequent publication, translation and dissemination throughout Europe.

RECOGNIZING that the EIFAC Code of Practice for Recreational Fisheries aims to establish best practice principles among nations for responsible management and fishing practices, taking into account all relevant biological, technological, economic, social, cultural and environmental aspects. Whilst acknowledging that the Code has to fit alongside national legislation and regional best practice guidelines, the Code provides the minimum standards for environmentally friendly, ethically appropriate and socially acceptable recreational fishing.

MINDFUL of the 2012 FAO Technical Guidelines for Responsible Fisheries. No. 13. Recreational Fisheries and the developments presented and discussed at the World Recreational Fisheries Conferences.

ADOPTS in conformity with the provision of Article 6 (a) of the Revised Statutes of EIFAAC the RECOMMENDATION that:

1. EIFAAC reiterates its commitment to the objectives of the 2008 EIFAC Code of Practice for Recreational Fisheries and that the EIFAAC Members [shall] continue the effective implementation of this voluntary, non-binding fisheries instrument throughout Europe.
2. EIFAAC in collaboration with government agencies and recreational fisheries associations [shall] monitor the application and implementation of the Code and its effects on recreational fisheries among its member countries every two years through an online survey.
3. EIFAAC in collaboration with government agencies and recreational fisheries associations [shall] increase efforts in data collection and assessment of recreational fisheries and fish stocks used by recreational fishing, increasing its effort in digital data collection systems and data-poor assessment methodologies.

APPENDIX E

UPDATED RULES OF PROCEDURE OF EIFAAC

Rule I

Membership

1. Membership in the European Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture Advisory Commission is open to European Member Nations of the Food and Agriculture Organization in accordance with the provisions of Article VI, paragraph 1 of the Constitution of the Organization. Membership shall comprise such eligible Nations as have notified in writing the Director-General of their interest in becoming a member of the Commission.

2. Each Member Nation of the Commission shall, before the opening of each session, communicate to the Director-General the name of its representative who should, as far as possible, have responsibilities related to inland fisheries.

Rule II

Officers and Operational Focal Points

1. The Commission shall elect, at the end of each session, a Chairperson, a first Vice-Chairperson and a second Vice-Chairperson from among the representatives to the Commission who shall remain in office until the election of the new Chairperson and new Vice-Chairpersons at the next session. The Chairperson and Vice-Chairpersons shall be eligible for re-election for a term of two years, but not exceeding a total of four consecutive terms.

2. The Chairperson, or in his/her absence a Vice-Chairperson, shall preside at meetings of the Commission and exercise such other functions as may be required to facilitate the work of the Commission. The Vice-Chairperson acting as Chairperson shall have the same powers and duties as the Chairperson.

3. In the event that both the Chairperson and the Vice-Chairpersons are unable to serve, the Director-General or his or her representative shall act as Chairperson, until an ad hoc Chairperson is elected.

4. The Commission may appoint one or more rapporteurs.

5. Each Member shall appoint an Operational Focal Point for purposes of communication of relevant matters relating to the Commission, who shall have the following functions and duties:

a) facilitate the representation of his/her country at each Session by a National Delegation and regular participation in such Sessions;
b) develop and maintain a national network of fisheries and aquaculture institutions, scientists and practitioners to facilitate communication and the flow of information to and from EIFAAC and in this regard make full use of electronic means, including developing a national website as appropriate that provides information links and resources on EIFAAC and on inland fisheries and aquaculture matters of interest to their country and may be used for information exchange;
c) promote national and international collaboration among fisheries and aquaculture scientists, managers and administrators by providing the necessary contacts, either directly or with the help of the EIFAAC Secretariat;
d) make use of the advice and information provided by EIFAAC, including reports and publications and inform national partners regularly of new EIFAAC inland fisheries and aquaculture publications;
e) periodically brief the relevant government bodies or agencies on the work and achievements of EIFAAC;
f) notify EIFAAC of existing or emerging problems and issues in inland fisheries and aquaculture and inform EIFAAC of relevant new publications and projects from their country;

g) encourage participation by experts from Members in EIFAAC projects and activities; and brief the incoming Operational Focal Point on the ongoing activities of EIFAAC and on the duties of an Operational Focal Point.

Rule III

Management Committee

1. There shall be a Management Committee consisting of the Chairperson, the Vice-Chairpersons, the Chairperson of the Technical and Scientific Committee and three members elected by the Commission for a term of two years. The members shall be eligible for re-election in the same function for a term of two years, but not exceeding a total of four terms. The Secretary shall be an ex-officio member without vote. The Chairperson of the Management Committee shall be the Chairperson of the Commission.

2. The functions of the Management Committee shall be to implement the decisions of the Commission between its Sessions, carry out such other tasks entrusted to it by the Commission and to:

a) propose a strategy and work plan with the assistance of the Secretariat for review and consideration by the Commission, and monitor its implementation;
b) review and decide upon recommendations and advice of the Technical and Scientific Committee;
c) prepare estimates of expenses for the next succeeding two years for presentation to the Commission for submission to the Organization, in accordance with the Statutes of the Commission;
d) ensure that policies and decisions of the Commission are operationalized; and
e) coordinate and monitor the work of the Technical and Scientific Committee and other subsidiary bodies of the Commission.

3. The Management Committee shall meet at least once a year, and the quorum for each meeting shall be four persons. In the unavoidable absence of up to four members of the Management Committee from a Committee session, the Chairperson shall have the power to co-opt such alternate as may be proposed by the government or institution of the relevant member or such other person that may be involved in relevant intersessional work, programmes or projects of EIFAAC.

4. When the Management Committee deals with special issues, the Chairperson of the Management Committee may, in consultation with the Vice-Chairpersons, invite not more than two additional members of the Commission to attend in an advisory capacity the meetings of the Management Committee at which such issues are considered.

5. The Management Committee shall periodically inform all Members of the Commission, through the Secretariat, of any action taken.

6. The Management Committee shall report to the Commission on its activities at each session of the Commission.

Rule IV

Secretariat

1. The Secretariat shall consist of the Secretary and such staff responsible to him/her as may be determined by the Director-General.

2. The Secretary shall be appointed for such term as the Director-General may determine, which shall not normally exceed a total of eight years.

3. The Secretary shall be responsible for implementing the policies and activities of the Commission and for carrying out the duties and performing the functions and responsibilities of the Secretary and shall report thereon to the Commission.

4. Communication between the Secretary and the Members of the Commission for liaison purposes and concerning the affairs of the Commission shall be channelled, as far as possible, through the Operational Focal Points designated in accordance with Rule II.

Rule V

Sessions

1. The Commission shall hold regular sessions at least once every two years.

2. Extraordinary sessions of the Commission shall be held at such other times as the Commission may decide, or at the request of the Management Committee, provided that adequate funds are available for such extraordinary sessions in the Programme of Work and Budget of the Organization, or from extra-budgetary funds.

3. The sessions of the Commission shall be convened by the Director-General, who shall decide on the place where they are to be held, in consultation with the Chairperson and the competent authorities of the host country, taking into account the views expressed by the Commission.

4. Notice of the date and place of each session of the Commission shall be communicated at least two months before the session to all the Members of the Commission, to such Member Nations and Associate Members of the Organization that are not Members of the Commission and to such non-Member Nations of the Organization and international organizations as may have been invited to attend the session.

5. Each Member of the Commission shall have one representative who may be accompanied by an alternate and advisers. An alternate or adviser shall not have the right to vote except when substituting for the representative.

6. Meetings of the Commission shall be held in public unless the Commission decides otherwise.

7. A majority of the Members of the Commission shall constitute a quorum.

8. For urgent matters that require intersessional action, the Commission may apply an electronic decision-making process with respect to technical and scientific advice and procedural and administrative matters other than matters relating to the interpretation of and the adoption of amendments to the statutes of EIFAAC and its rules and regulations.

Rule VI

Agenda

1. The Director-General shall, in consultation with the Chairperson, prepare a provisional agenda for each session of the Commission.

2. The first item on the provisional agenda shall be the adoption of the agenda. No matter referred to the Commission by the Conference or Council of the Organization may be omitted from the agenda.

3. Any Member of the Commission may request the Director-General to include specific items in the provisional agenda.

4. The provisional agenda shall be circulated by the Director-General at least two months before the date on which the opening of the session is scheduled to take place, to all Members of the Commission, to such Member Nations and Associate Members of the Organization that are not Members of the Commission and to such non-Member Nations of the Organization and international organizations as may have been invited to attend the session.

5. Any Member of the Commission and the Director-General may, after the dispatch of the provisional agenda, but not later than one month before the date on which the opening of the session is scheduled to take place, propose the inclusion of specific items in the agenda. Such proposals shall be accompanied by a written explanation of the reasons why the inclusion of the items in the agenda is considered desirable. These items shall be placed on a supplementary list, which shall be dispatched by the Director-General to all Members of the Commission, other Member Nations and Associate Members of the Organization attending the session and to such non-Member Nations and international organizations invited to the session, failing which the items shall be communicated to the Chairperson for submission to the Commission.

6. Documents to be submitted to the Commission at any session shall be furnished by the Director-General to the Members of the Commission, the other Members of the Organization attending the session and to the non-Member Nations and international organizations invited to the session, at the time the agenda is dispatched, or as soon as possible thereafter.

7. Subject to paragraph 2 of this Rule, the Commission may, at any session, decide by a two-thirds majority to amend the agenda by the deletion, addition or modification of any item.

Rule VII

Voting and procedures

1. Subject to paragraph 2 of this Rule, each Member of the Commission shall have one vote.

2. Voting by Member Organizations of the Organization that are Members of the Commission shall be governed by the provisions of Article II.10 of the Constitution of the Organization.

3. Decisions of the Commission shall be taken by a majority of the votes cast, unless otherwise provided in these Rules.

4. Upon the request of any Member of the Commission, voting shall be by roll-call, in which case the vote of each Member shall be recorded.

5. When the Commission so decides, voting shall be by secret ballot.

6. Voting in the Commission shall be carried out *mutatis mutandis* in accordance with the pertinent provisions of Rule XII of the General Rules of the Organization.

Rule VIII

Observers

1. Any Member or Associate Member of the Organization that is not a Member of theCommission may, upon request communicated to the Director-General, attend sessions of the Commission, its subsidiary bodies or ad hoc meetings, in an observer capacity. Such Members of the Organization or Associate Members may submit memoranda and participate without vote in the discussions.

2. States which, while not Members of the Organization, are Members of the United Nations, any of its Specialized Agencies or the International Atomic Energy Agency may, upon their request and with the approval of the Commission, attend sessions of the Commission, its subsidiary bodies, and ad hoc meetings in an observer capacity. The status of States invited to such sessions or meetings shall be governed by the relevant provisions adopted by the Conference of the Organization.

3. Intergovernmental organizations having an interest in the work of the Commission shall be invited to attend sessions of the Commission, its subsidiary bodies and ad hoc meetings, in an observer capacity.

4. International non-governmental organizations having special competence in the field of activity of the Commission shall, upon request communicated to the Director-General, be invited to attend sessions of the Commission, its subsidiary bodies or ad hoc meetings, in an observer capacity.

5. Participation of international organizations in the work of the Commission and the relations between the Commission and such organizations shall be governed by the relevant provisions of the Constitution and the General Rules of the Organization as well as by the rules on relations with international organizations adopted by the Conference and Council of the Organization. All such relations shall be dealt with by the Director-General.

Rule IX

Records and reports

1. At each session, the Commission shall approve a report embodying its views, recommendations and decisions, including when requested a statement of minority views. Such other records for its own use as the Commission may on occasion decide, shall also be maintained.

2. The conclusions and recommendations of the Commission shall be transmitted to the Director-General at the close of each session, who shall circulate them to Members of the Commission and to nations and international organizations that were represented at the session and, upon request, to other Member Nations of the Organization for their information.

3. Recommendations having policy, programme or financial implications for the Organization shall be brought by the Director-General to the attention of the Conference through the Council.

4. The Director-General may request Members of the Commission to supply information in order to keep the Commission informed on action taken on the basis of its recommendations.

Rule X

Technical and Scientific Committee

1. There shall be a Technical and Scientific Committee consisting of seven experts in European inland fisheries and aquaculture, elected by the Commission for a term of two years in the same function, but not exceeding a total of four consecutive terms.

2. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 1, meetings of the Technical and Scientific Committee shall be open to all Members of the Commission, and each Member may designate a representative who has to be expert in European inland fisheries and aquaculture. Decisions at the meetings of the Technical and Scientific Committee shall be taken by all Members present and, as applicable, voting.

3. The Secretary of the Technical and Scientific Committee shall be an ex-officio member without vote. The Chairperson shall be elected by the Commission from among the seven experts elected pursuant to subregulation (1) for a renewable term of two years, but not exceeding a total of four consecutive terms.

4. The functions of the Technical and Scientific Committee shall be to:

a) make, review, evaluate and as appropriate recommend to the Management Committee proposals for programmes or projects to be carried out by the Commission in accordance with these Rules;
b) develop Terms of Reference for programmes/projects and monitor project implementation against the Terms of Reference;
c) provide technical oversight, monitoring and evaluation of projects and related programme of work activities
d) formulate and draft technical and scientific advice for consideration by the Management Committee; and
e) function as an editorial and publications committee.

5. Proposals for programmes or projects to be implemented wholly or partly by the Commission may be developed by the Technical and Scientific Committee, a Member, a donor, a partner organization or an independent partner institution.

6. Each project proposal shall specify the following:

a) purpose of the proposal;
b) expected outcome;
c) benefits of outcome;
d) funding source(s) and budget;
e) Terms of Reference of the proposal;
f) time frame and benchmarks;
g) methodology;
h) project manager and Terms of Reference as appropriate, including authority to select experts and others involved in project implementation;
i) administrative arrangements;
j) partners; and

k) such other requirements that may be recommended by the Technical and Scientific Committee and agreed by the Commission.

7. The Secretariat shall review each proposal to ensure it fulfills the requirements in these Rules or as may be otherwise agreed by the Technical and Scientific Committee in accordance with these Rules, and where such requirements:

a) are not fulfilled shall return the proposal with an explanation and request the originator to re-submit as appropriate; or
b) are fulfilled shall forward the proposal for the consideration of the Technical and Scientific Committee.

8. The Technical and Scientific Committee shall review and evaluate each project proposal, taking into account the following criteria:

a) the project proposal is consistent with the objectives and functions of the Commission and with the terms of its Agreement;
b) the project outcomes shall have relevance to one or more Members of the Commission;
c) to the extent possible, the project proposal is forward-looking, proactive and results-oriented; and
d) the total financial and other support for the project is identified and shall not require any contributions or additional resources from EIFAAC.

9. The Technical and Scientific Committee may recommend a project to the Management Committee or, where a project proposal does not meet the criteria and other requirements of these Rules, reject the project proposal or request further information or modifications.

10. The Technical and Scientific Committee shall review each EIFAAC Working Party in existence at the time these Rules are adopted, and recommend to the Management Committee the continuation as projects under the Agreement of those that are active and meet the requirements of these Rules.

11. Where it has been agreed to recommend a project proposal or continuation of an EIFAAC Working Party as a project under this Agreement pursuant to Rule 8 or 9 above, the Technical and Scientific Committee shall identify the terms of reference of the project for recommendation to the Management Committee, including the following:

a) objective and expected outcome;
b) programme/project management;
c) budget;
d) administrative requirements;
e) reporting to the Committee at regular intervals, including on the implementation of benchmarks and on completion of the programme/project; and
f) follow-up as appropriate.

12. The Technical and Scientific Committee shall require each project manager to report through the Secretariat on the implementation of the approved Terms of Reference no less than twice a year, and shall monitor the implementation of approved programmes/projects no less frequently based on such reports.

13. The Technical and Scientific Committee may, where it considers that the Terms of Reference and other conditions of the programme/project are not being fulfilled, recommend to the Management Committee the imposition of conditions for reform on the programme/project, or suspension or termination.

14. The Technical and Scientific Committee shall meet at least once each year between regular sessions, but shall hold meetings more frequently where the Chairperson of the Committee in consultation with the EIFAAC Secretary deem it necessary to effectively carry out the mandate and functions of the Committee.

Rule XI

Subsidiary bodies

1. The Commission may, on an ad hoc basis, establish such other subsidiary bodies as it deems necessary for the accomplishment of its objectives.

2. Membership in such other subsidiary bodies may be made up of all or selected Members of the Commission or of individuals appointed in their personal capacity.

3. The Commission may recommend to the Director-General the convening of ad hoc meetings, either of representatives of Members of the Commission or of experts serving in an individual capacity, in order to study problems that because of their specialized nature could not fruitfully be discussed during the normal Sessions of the Commission.

4. Experts who are to serve in their personal capacity as Members of any subsidiary body or who are to be invited to attend ad hoc meetings shall be chosen by the Commission unless the Commission decides otherwise, and shall be appointed by the Director-General in accordance with established procedures.

5. The Terms of Reference of the subsidiary bodies and the questions to be discussed by ad hoc meetings shall be determined by the Commission.

6. The establishment of subsidiary bodies and the convening of ad hoc meetings shall be subject to the availability of the necessary funds in the relevant chapter of the approved budget of the Organization, or to the availability of extra-budgetary funds. The determination of such availability shall be made by the Director-General.

7. Before taking any decision involving expenditures in connection with the establishment of subsidiary bodies or the convening of an ad hoc meeting, the Commission shall have before it a report from the Director-General on the administrative and financial implications thereof.

8. Each subsidiary body and ad hoc meeting shall elect its own officers.

9. The Rules of Procedure of the Commission shall apply mutatis mutandis to its subsidiary bodies and ad hoc meetings.

Rule XII

Trust Fund

All voluntary contributions, donations and other forms of assistance, in particular those referred to in Article 6 (i) of the Statutes, shall be placed in a Trust Fund administered by the Director-General in conformity with the Financial Regulations of FAO.

Rule XIII

Expenses

1. Expenses incurred by representatives of Members of the Commission, their alternates and advisers, when attending Sessions of the Commission, Management Committee, Technical and Scientific Committee, subsidiary bodies or ad hoc meetings as well as the expenses incurred by observers at sessions, shall be borne by the respective governments or organizations.

2. Expenses of experts invited by the Director-General to attend sessions or meetings in their individual capacity shall be borne by the Organization.

3. Any financial operations relating to the Commission and its subsidiary bodies shall be governed by the appropriate provisions of the Financial Regulations of the Organization.

Rule XIV

Language

1. English and French shall be the official languages of the Commission.

2. The Commission shall at the beginning of each session decide which of the official languages shall be used as working language or languages. Any representative using another language than one of the working languages shall provide for interpretation into one of the working languages.

Rule XV

Amendment and suspension of Rules

1. Amendment of, or additions to these Rules may be adopted by a two-thirds majority of the membership of the Commission provided that 24 hours' notice of the proposal for the amendment or addition has been given. Amendments or additions to these Rules shall come into force upon approval by the Director-General, subject to confirmation by the Council of the Organization, as appropriate.

2. Any of the above Rules of the Commission, other than Rules I-1; II-4; V-1, 2, 3, 5 and 7; VI-2; VII- 1, 2 and 3; VIII, IX-3 and 4; X-5 and 6; XI; and XIII-1, may be suspended by the Commission by a two-thirds majority of the votes cast, provided that 24 hours' notice of the proposal for the suspension has been given. Such notice may be waived if no Member of the Commission objects.

APPENDIX F

WORK PROGRAMME 2022–2024

Work Area 1: Technical and Scientific services: Achieve the objectives of EIFAAC

Goals:

1) EIFAAC[1] is a leading Pan-European Organization providing policy advice in Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture consistent with the objectives and principles of the FAO (strategic objectives, regional initiatives, UN SDGs) and other relevant international instruments.
2) EIFAAC delivers technical and managerial advice, information and coordination on matters related to Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture to its members and serves as an international network of organizations, stakeholders, communities and intergovernmental organizations.

Main responsible persons: EIFAAC Project Managers, TSC members, FAO Secretariat, and EIFAAC Operational Focal Points

	Outputs	Key performance indicator	Timeframe	EIFAAC Commission endorsement required	Total budget required (Euros)	Budget sources and status	Lead & Partners
EIFAAC Project "Management / Threat of Aquatic Invasive Species in Europe" – Manager: Marina Piria (Croatia)							
1.1 Neobiota Special Issue on advancements in the screening of freshwater and terrestrial non-native species https://neobiota.pensoft.net/special_issues	Addressing existing gaps in the knowledge about non-native species and their management Published papers that identify the most invasive aquatic species in Europe	Emails and letters to EIFAAC Members, making them aware of the latest research findings	2022–2023	No	10 000	Member state contribution at national level	The issue is managed by the international team of guest editors. Lead: Dr Daniela Giannetto (Mugla Sitki Kocman University, Türkiye); Guest editors: Prof. Marina Piria (University of Zagreb, Croatia), Prof. Ali Serhan Tarkan (Mugla Sitki Kocman University, Türkiye) and Dr Grzegorz Zięba (University of Lodz, Poland).
1.2 Data collection on non-native aquatic species at national level	Report with the findings	Emails and letters to EIFAAC Members, making	2022	No	30 000	EC – Erasmus +	Lead: Mugla Sitki Kocman University Partners

[1] These goals have been copied from the workplan 2020–2021.

from Non EU-EIFAAC Members (BiH, Albania)		them aware of the latest research findings					University of Zagreb University of Tirana, University of Bihač and Sarajevo http://www.riskman.mu.edu.tr/en/project-team-7269
1.3 Preparation for the conference "Freshwater Invasives – Networking for Strategy III"	- venue defined - first call sent	Emails and letters to EIFAAC Members	2023	Yes	0	NA	Lead: to be defined EIFAAC Secretariat
1.4 Organize conference "Freshwater Invasives – Networking for Strategy III"	Presentations of the recent advancement on invasive aquatic species Workshop on knowledge gaps	Emails and letters to EIFAAC Members, making them aware of the latest research findings Published paper with the outcome of the workshop	2024	Yes (received)	30 000	EU DG MARE	Lead: Croatia EIFAAC Secretariat
1.5 Organize a capacity building workshop for Western Balkan countries to support the establishment of national monitoring systems for invasive alien species.	Capacity of ministries and institutions improved to establishment of national monitoring systems for invasive alien species, in line with Regulation (EU) 1143/2014.	List of participants Training materials	2024	Yes (received)	70 000	EU DG MARE	

Activities	Outputs	Key performance indicator	Timeframe	EIFAAC Commission endorsement required	Total budget required (Euros)	Budget sources and status	Lead & Partners
EIFAAC Project "Developing Advice on Sustainable Management Actions on Cormorant Populations" – Manager: Niels Jepsen (Denmark)							
2.1 Dissemination of the latest information on the impact of cormorant predation on threatened fish species and recreational fisheries	• EIFAAC Advisory Note on the impact of cormorant predation on fish and fisheries in Europe • 6-monthly messages of operational focal points summarizing the latest research findings	Emails and letters to EIFAAC Members, making them aware of the latest research findings and the importance of providing national information to EIFAAC.	2022–2023	No, only TSC and MC endorsement	0	NA	Lead: Niels Jepsen DTU Aqua Partners Birdlife international, EU DG Environment « Nordic Cormorant group »
2.2 Collect national level baseline information from Member States	Report with the findings of the survey among Member states	At least 10 Members have provided baseline information through the survey	2022	no	0	NA – Members to contribute time	Niels Jepsen, EIFAAC secretariat
2.3 Prepare a draft Europe-wide management plan to reduce damage by cormorants to fish stocks	• Contract signed with management planning expert • Draft management plan • Final draft management plan	E-mail disseminating the draft plan for comments	2023	TSC endorsement only of the final draft management plan	30 000	EU DG Environment/ DG MARE	
2.4 Organize a regional stakeholder conference to discuss, review and validate the draft plan	Expert/stakeholder validated management plan	List of participants Workshop minutes	Mar–Jun 2023	No	90 000	Sweden/ EU DG MARE	EIFAAC Secretariat to organize the workshop
2.5 Submit the management plan for final review and approval to the EU and EIFAAC			Jan–Feb 2024	Yes	0	NA	Niels Jepsen, EIFAAC secretariat

Activities	Outputs	Key performance indicator	Timeframe	EIFAAC Commission endorsement required	Total budget required (Euros)	Budget sources and status	Lead & Partners
Joint EIFAAC/ICES/GFCM Working Group on Eel (WGEEL)" - coordinator: Jan-Dag Pohlmann (Germany)							
3.1 Collection and analysis of eel biometry data	Progress report, supporting data for spatial stock assessment model	Release call for respective data, analysis in WGEEL or WKs; results depend on response rate and data quality	2022	No	0		Jan-Dag Pohlmann, Cedric Briand, Hilaire Droineau
3.2 Improvement of landings data collection to facilitate its use for eel stock assessment	Progress report	Release call for respective data, organization of workshop	2023	No	0		Jan-Dag Pohlmann, Cedric Briand, Hilaire Droineau
3.3 Collection of WFD time series, habitat and dam data to create a global database	Progress reports, database	Release of data calls, organization of respective workshops, provision of database	2023–2025	No	0		Jan-Dag Pohlmann, Cedric Briand, Hilaire Droineau
3.4 Development of a spatial stock assessment model for the European eel (project exceeds time frame of this workplan)	Spatial assessment model for the whole stock of European eel; Progress reports	Provision of a model concept (and ultimately a working model, but earliest in 2026)	2023–2026	No	Approx. 1 Million Euro	NA - Members need to contribute time for a project proposal, will largely depend on successful applications for budget	Jan-Dag Pohlmann, Cedric Briand, Hilaire Droineau Ciara O'leary
3.5 Response to the 2019 EFAAC request to WGEEL on fishing effort data	Report on current status of commercial and recreational fisheries on eel	Release call for respective data, organisation of a Workshop for analysis; results depend on response rate and data quality	2023–24	Yes, in 2024	?	The EIFAAC request of May 2019 to the WGEEL Chair has not been addressed so far.	Jan-Dag Pohlmann, Ciara O'leary

3.6 Collection and analysis of data on the relative impact of recreational and commercial fisheries, hydropower/pumping stations, water pollution, and other anthropogenic causes of eel mortality	Report presenting the relative impact of various anthropogenic causes of mortality of eel	Release call for respective data, organisation of workshops for analysis; results depend on response rate and data quality	2023	Yes, in 2024	5 000 (for report)	EIFAAC 31 request for inclusion in the WGEEL TORs	Jan-Dag Pohlmann, Ciara O'leary

Activities	**Outputs**	**Key performance indicator**	**Timeframe**	**EIFAAC Commission endorsement required**	**Total budget required (Euros)**	**Budget sources and status**	**Lead & Partners**
EIFAAC Project "Downstream Passage of Fish at Hydropower Dams" - Manager: Teppo Vehanen (Finland)							
4.1 Writing the draft report on the basis of collected data	Draft report	Report text	2023–2024	No, only TSC and MC endorsement	0	NA	2022: Teppo Vehanen 2023- new project manager Partners: countries that have expressed their interest to join.

Activities	Outputs	Key performance indicator	Timeframe	EIFAAC Commission endorsement required	Total budget required (Euros)	Budget sources and status	Lead & Partners
EIFAAC Project "Determination of economic, cultural and social values of inland fisheries and freshwater aquaculture in Europe" - Facilitators: Teppo Vehanen/ Petri Heinimaa (Finland)							
5.1 Developing the plan for the project	Template for the project		2022	No, only TSC and MC endorsement	NA	NA	2022: Teppo Vehanen/ Petri Heinimaa

5.2 Prepare a concept note for a study on the social and economic value of eel fisheries and aquaculture	Concept note of 3 pages with background, work plan, outputs and budget	Concept note	2022	No	0	NA	Teppo Vehanen/ Petri Heinimaa
5.3 Prepare a report on the social and economic value of eel fisheries and aquaculture	Report on the social and economic value of eel fisheries and aquaculture in Europe	Table of contents Study methodology agreed among experts Draft report	2023	No, for information only	30 000 to 40 000	Various EIFAAC members have indicated to be interested to support this study	Teppo Vehanen/ Petri Heinimaa/ FAO Officers

Activities	Outputs	Key performance indicator	Timeframe	EIFAAC Commission endorsement required	Total budget required (Euros)	Budget sources and status	Lead & Partners
EIFAAC Project "Citizen Science Workshop" - Facilitator: Ciara O'Leary (Ireland)							
6.1 Developing the plan for the project	Template for the project		2022	No, only TSC and MC endorsement	NA	NA	2022: Ciara O'Leary

Activities	Outputs	Key performance indicator	Timeframe	EIFAAC Commission endorsement required	Total budget required (Euros)	Budget sources and status	Lead & Partners
EIFAAC Project "Environmental DNA in freshwater fisheries, current status and future possibilities" – Facilitator: Reinhold Hanel (Germany)							
7.1 Developing the plan for the project	Template for the project		2022	No, only TSC and MC endorsement	NA	NA	2022: Reinhold Hanel

Activities	Outputs	Key performance indicator	Timeframe	EIFAAC Commission endorsement required	Total budget required (Euros)	Budget sources and status	Lead & Partners
EIFAAC Project "Interactions of inland fisheries and aquaculture with other freshwater uses: conflict identification and potential benefits". – Facilitator: Guðni Magnús Eiríksson (Iceland)							
8.1 Developing the plan for the project	Template for the project		2022	No, only TSC and MC endorsement	NA	NA	2022: Guðni Magnús Eiríksson (searching for a project manager)

Activities	Outputs	Key performance indicator	Timeframe	EIFAAC Commission endorsement required	Total budget required (Euros)	Budget sources and status	Lead & Partners
EIFAAC Project "The problems and challenges of climate change and its impact on inland aquatic resources and fisheries of Europe" Facilitator: –Cathal Gallagher (Ireland)							
9.1 Developing the plan for the project	Template for the project		2022	No, only TSC and MC endorsement	NA	NA	2022: Cathal Gallagher. To be handed over within IFI.
9.2 Submit a proposal for the Horizon Europe Framework Programme call "Transformation of regional economic systems for climate resilience and sustainability"	Aquaculture adaptation to climate change proposal/ application timely submitted through the European Union system, including institutions from at least 5 EIFAAC countries	Proposal submitted before the deadline of 27 September 2022	2022	No	NA	If the application is approved, then EU Horizon grant funds will be made available	Inland Fisheries Ireland will coordinate this proposal

Activities	Outputs	Key performance indicator	Timeframe	EIFAAC Commission endorsement required	Total budget required (Euros)	Budget sources and status	Lead & Partners
EIFAAC Project "Fish stocking guidelines, including general principles, best practices, economic aspects, interaction with natural stocks and safeguarding biodiversity" Facilitators: –Marina Piria (Croatia) & Ruta Medne (Latvia)							
10.1 Developing the plan for the project	Template for the project		2022	No, only TSC and MC endorsement	NA	NA	2022: Marina Piria & Ruta Medne
10.2 Developing general guidelines for fish stocking	General fish stocking guidelines (for Europe and Central Asia)	Table of contents agreed. Best practices compiled. Draft guidelines prepared Validation workshop organized Final draft guidelines prepared.	2023–2024	Yes, by CACFish and EIFAAC	40 000	15 000 (FAO) for drafting the guidelines Workshop host to be found	Marina Piria, Ruta Medne, Robert Arlinghaus, Ian Cowx, Kai Lorenzen, FAO officers

Work Area 2: Management and Operational services: Create an enabling environment for EIFAAC to support achieving its objectives**.**

Goals:

1) To deliver high-quality administrative, technical, logistical and scientific support to the Commission, Management Committee, Technical and Scientific Committee and Projects.
2) To facilitate communication and collaboration among Members and other stakeholders through effective dissemination of information, education, outreach and capacity building.

Main responsible persons: EIFAAC Chairpersons and members of the MC and TSC, FAO Secretariat, EIFAAC Operational Focal Points

	Outputs	**Key performance indicator**	**Timeframe**	**Commission endorsement required**	**Total budget required**	**Budget sources and status**	**Partners**
11.1 Organize EIFAAC 31 in 2022	Recommendations and advice to EIFAAC members on inland fisheries and aquaculture in the region	Approved work programme Report of the session	22–24 June 2022 Report published by September 2022	yes	15 000	FAO Regular budget Host country contribution to the session organization	Government of Ireland

	Outputs	Key performance indicator	Timeframe	Commission endorsement required	Total budget required	Budget sources and status	Partners
11.2 Organize the EIFAAC Symposium in 2022	Scientific information shared between scientists and fishery/ aquaculture managers of EIFAAC members	List of participants of the symposium main findings and recommendations from the EIFAAC International Symposium presented to the session Proceedings of the symposium	20–21 June 2022	No, findings are for information only	--	Host country contribution to the symposium organization	Government of Ireland, Inland Fisheries Ireland and the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications
11.3 Organize monthly Management Committee (MC) meetings	Report of MC activities timely prepared for EIFAAC 32	Report of MC activities Meeting minutes of MC meetings	2022–2024	No, for information and discussion by EIFAAC 32 in 2024 No	-- 500	Virtual meetings. 1 MC meeting per year in person in Rome (coffee breaks and lunches). Members cover their own travel costs.	Meetings organized by the chairperson of the MC Meeting minutes are prepared by the secretariat
11.4 Organize quarterly Technical and Scientific Committee (TSC) meetings	Technical and scientific advice drafted in the form of recommendations and resolutions for EIFAAC 32. Advisory Notes reviewed timely. Report of TSC activities timely prepared for EIFAAC 32	Draft recommendations and resolutions. Advisory Notes distributed and published. Meeting minutes of TSC meetings	2022–2024	Yes, by EIFAAC 32 in 2024 No, only MC clearance of advisory notes No	--	TSC member time commitment	Meetings organized and minutes prepared by the chairperson of the TSC
11.5 Prepare for the organization EIFAAC 32 in 2024	Timely organized session which will discuss interesting subjects that meet the needs of the members of the Commission	Working papers timely placed online Host country timely confirmed	2024 2023	Endorsement in 2024 by the MC	25 000	FAO Regular budget Host and Member countries contribution	Secretariat staff travel & publications Host country contribution

	Outputs	Key performance indicator	Timeframe	Commission endorsement required	Total budget required	Budget sources and status	Partners
11.6 Prepare for the organization of the EIFAAC symposium in 2024	Timely organized symposium	Symposium prospectus List of participants Recommendations from the symposium to EIFAAC 32	2023 2024 2024	Endorsement in 2023 by the MC	--	Host and Member countries contribution	Host country contribution
11.7 Facilitate the organization of project workshops and meetings	Successfully organized workshops, meetings and other events in which EIFAAC is partner	Reports of the meetings and workshops	2022–2024	No, for information only	--	Relevant projects	All stakeholders supported by the Secretariat
11.8 Facilitate the communication and collaboration among EIFAAC Operational Focal Points	EIFAAC Operational Focal Point mailing list EIFAAC list of operational focal points up-to-date	Monthly messages from the Secretariat and chairpersons Every 6 months updated	2022–2024	No	--	Operational Focal Points, Chairpersons and Secretariat	Project managers
11.9 Develop projects and seek funding for long-term effective functioning of the Commission, implementation of its work programme and projects	At least 2 Trust Fund projects prepared and submitted to potential resource partners for funding	Draft project documents in the required format	2022–2024	No, for information only	--	EIFAAC members	All relevant stakeholders

	Outputs	Key performance indicator	Timeframe	Commission endorsement required	Total budget required	Budget sources and status	Partners
11.10 Implement the EIFAAC communication plan	Report of EIFAAC 31 timely published At least 1 circular or technical paper prepared based on an EIFAAC project EIFAAC brochure 2022 Website news items	Published report Published circular/technical paper Published brochure Every 2 months at least 1 item	2022 2023 2022 2022–2024	No, for information only	10 000	EIFAAC members	All relevant stakeholders

The thirty-first Session of the European Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture Advisory Commission (EIFAAC) was held in Killarney, Ireland, from 22 to 24 June 2022. The Session presented and discussed the results achieved by EIFAAC, its Management Committee and its Technical and Scientific Committee since the thirty Session of EIFAAC in 2019. The Commission adopted four Resolutions and one Recommendation: 1) on EIFAAC Resolutions, Recommendations and Advisory Notes; 2) on the Code of Conduct for Recreational Fisheries and Invasive Alien Species; 3) on the protection of vulnerable and endangered fish species from unsustainable predation from cormorants; 4) on small-scale fisheries and aquaculture; and 5) on the Code of Practice for Recreational Fisheries.

The Commission also reviewed the endorsed the recommendations from the well-attended EIFAAC International Symposium on "Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture - Advances in Technology, Stock Assessment and Citizen Science in an Era of Climate Change", held in Killarney, Ireland, from 20 to 21 June 2022.

The Commission also reviewed and endorsed the updated EIFAAC Rules of Procedure and the work programme 2022–2024 and elected new officers. The Session and Symposium received generous support from the host organizations, Inland Fisheries Ireland and the Irish Department of Environment, Climate and Communications.

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