

Espagne, les priorités de CEPESCA pour 2014

The Spanish Fisheries Confederation (Cepesca) emphasized among its priorities for the coming months: the elections at the European Parliament (EP), the need to provide benefits to the special register for the non-community water fleet and fishing in the Mediterranean.

The entity informed the head of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Environment (Magrama), Miguel Arias Cañete, about the importance of including qualified people having interest in defending the Spanish fishing activity among the candidates nominated by the political parties for the PE's elections in May.

Besides, he noted the importance of advancing as to discard issues in order to promote:

- The proper adjustment of the fleet to the new community policy;
- The impact of weather conditions in the fisheries sector, especially in the Northwest Bay of Biscay;
- The strengthening of the Mediterranean Working Group to alleviate the problems arising from the implementation of the European Union (EU) legislation.

In addition, Cepesca requested the officer to defend the fisheries agreements with third countries and for the working groups to continue operating in the national fishery ground.

Furthermore, he considers it necessary to defend the non-disappearance of the Social Marine Institute and to make every effort for Russia to once more allow imports of Spanish fish.

The meeting was attended by Cepesca President, Amador Suarez; two members of the Board, José María Gallart and José Ramón Fuertes; and Secretary General, Javier Garat.

The Confederation also asked Arias Cañete to avoid, insofar as possible, the Commissioner of Fisheries of the EU from being led by someone like Maria Damanaki and to choose someone who defends the principles of sustainable fisheries, 'based on the balance between economic, social and environmental aspects,' reads the press release.

Cepesca also reiterated the need to provide the tax and labour benefits authorized by the European Commission (EC) to the Special Register of Companies with Spanish vessels fishing in non-EU waters, created by Magrama recently.

Furthermore, the Confederacy expressed to the Spanish minister the importance of working together with scientists from the country to design discard plans.

The main objective is to be ready for the challenges involved in the implementation of the new Common Fisheries Policy (CFP), which requires the progressive landing of all

the fish subjected to total allowable catch (TAC) and those having a minimum conservation size.

Regarding the national fishery, Cepesca asked the officer to help the industry to solve in Spain and Brussels the problems arising from the implementation of the European standard in the Mediterranean.

Finally, the entity requested that in Mixed Commission the following should be improved:

- Some technical terms of the agreement with Morocco, mainly category 4 (deep demersal trawling), and the clarification of others (crew, landings);
- The inclusion of the cephalopod vessels and the improvement of the conditions for shellfish vessels, bottom longliners and tuna boats in the agreement with Mauritania;
- The effective entry into force, renewal or renegotiation of the agreements with Bissau, Cape Verde, Senegal, Tanzania and Kenya.

Source : <http://fis.com/fis/worldnews/worldnews.asp?l=e&ndb=1&id=66971> (06/03/2014)