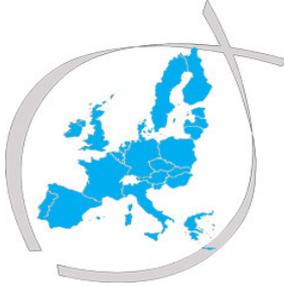


European Association of Fish Producers Organisations
Association Européenne des Organisations de Producteurs dans le secteur de la pêche



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EAPO Re-Elects Sean O Donoghue President at its G.A. in Aalborg, Denmark

The European Association of Fish Producers Organisations held its annual General Assembly in Aalborg on October 7th. At this meeting Sean O Donoghue Chief Executive of the Killybegs Fishermen's Organisation was re-elected as President of this European body.

Sean O Donoghue said after his re-election as President that:

“ I am very honoured and pleased to have been re-elected as President of such a large and prestigious organisation by industry colleagues throughout the European Union. During my second term as President I intend to further strengthen the organisation and to concentrate on a number of key issues such as the reform of the CFP, the revision of the marketing regulations which is very important to producer organisations, the discards issue and to actively promote industry science partnerships”. He added: “Fishermen may have different problems in the different member states but they all have same aims of a sustainable and profitable fishing industry and during my continued tenure as President of EAPO I will actively pursue these aims on behalf of all the members.”

It was also the last meeting of Christian Olesen as treasurer. Sixteen years ago he took up this responsibility in EAPO at a meeting coincidentally also in Aalborg. Christian Olesen of the Danish Pelagic P.O. was congratulated for an excellent job as a good treasurer – the results of the organisation proving this – and thanked for all the other useful work. His fellow countryman Niels Wichmann of the Danske Fiskeres P.O. was subsequently elected as the new treasurer. With the election of Jacques Pichon of the ANOP in Brittany, France, as Secretary, the new EAPO Bureau was formed.

EAPO brings together 29 PO's out of 10 member states of the European Union and represents around 10,000 fishing vessels, 3.5 million tonnes of fish landings and € 3 billion of first sale value. The elections took place after the President had opened the meeting by expressing his gratitude to the hosts (Skagen F.P.O. and the other Danish member P.O.'s) for a perfect organisation of the meeting in the same premises as the DanFish International exhibition.

Some of the main topics that are being addressed by EAPO are the price situation at first sale, the import and its tariff situation and the issues with the reform of the Common Market Organisation being postponed till 2013. In the meantime EAPO emphasizes that interim measures are vital and strongly supports the idea to hold a series of workshops on these topics.

The reform of the CFP and the preparation of EAPO's response obviously took up an important part of the meeting. The initial draft coming out of the successful members meeting in June, in Bénodet, Brittany, was amply discussed and upgraded. A completion of a comprehensive document is targeted for mid December.

The discussions were considerably enhanced by the active participation of an EU Commission official and contributed to a very successful meeting.

Over the last year EAPO was represented at 38 European meetings. Particularly the work of the Northern Pelagic and Western Waters Working Groups, and the EAPO presence in the Advisory Committee for Fisheries and Aquaculture (ACFA) are deemed to have had impact on the European Commission's Fishery Policy.

=== Ends ===

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