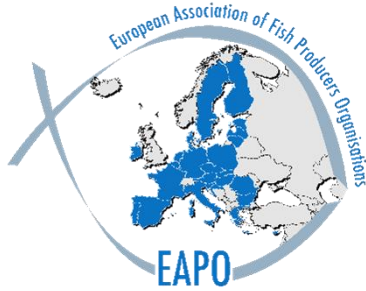


**European Association of fish Producers Organisations**  
**Association Européenne des Organisations de Producteurs dans le secteur de la pêche**



**EAPO / AEOP**  
**H. Baelskaai 20 – 8400 OOSTENDE (Belgium)**  
☎ +32 59 43 20 05  
**e-mail:** [info@eapo.com](mailto:info@eapo.com)  
**website :** [www.eapo.com](http://www.eapo.com)

EAPO24-63FD

Oostende, 8 November 2024

**PRESS RELEASE**

***EAPO ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING IN HAMBURG***

**Useful discussions on POs addressing the many challenges for the fisheries sector**

The European Association of Fish Producers Organisations (EAPO) held its 2024 Annual General Meeting (AGM) in Hamburg. This was a great opportunity for our members to get together around a program carefully organized by our German Producers Organizations.

Our hosts prepared a series of expert presentations to expose some of the industry's burning issues through a German prism. First, we could get general insights on the actual developments and evaluations of fleet decarbonization in German shipping, followed by a concrete example of practical application with the pilot project of a decarbonised brown shrimp vessel of the University Emden-Leer. Secondly, the Federal Association of the German Fish Industry and Wholesale Fish Trade gave us a global overview of the German fish market, its actual situation, trends and perspectives. We concluded these very interesting talks with a presentation of the current marine spatial planning in the German EEZ from the Federal Maritime and Hydrographic Agency.

Traditionally attending the EAPO AGM, a DG MARE delegation made its way to Hamburg, providing us useful insights on several relevant topics, while remaining attentive to our concerns. The coming survey on the Fisheries and Aquaculture Common Market Organisation (CMO), the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) evaluation, the importation of fish and its impact on the market prices, the general and fisheries aspects of the EU-UK Trade and Cooperation Agreement (TCA), and the bi- and trilateral consultations with the UK and Norway on the fishing opportunities 2025 were up for discussion. The thorny question of the spatial pressure through the implementation of the Offshore Renewable Energy (ORE) exclusion zones and Marine Protected Areas (MPA) echoed the morning's presentation on the German EEZ. Other topics as the Fishers of the Future initiative were also mentioned, completing the general picture of our shared subjects of interest. The fruitful exchanges enabled the Commission to reiterate EAPO's role as a privileged interlocutor, as well as the importance of POs, in achieving the objectives of the CFP and the CMO.

During the AGM, members approved the Annual Report for 2023 and the Budget for 2024, as well as the composition of the Executive Committee for the coming year. Following the sum up of achieved Action Points defined at the previous AGM, the President, Esben Sverdrup Jensen, reported on the activities of the Association, and the different chairs of the EAPO working groups shared their work done through the year.

We are already looking forward to next year's Annual General Meeting, to be held in Ireland this time, which is always a valuable opportunity for our members to meet, discuss and get to know each other better, in order to pursue their commitments for a more sustainable fisheries industry.

===== Ends =====

**Information not for publication**

*The European Association of fish Producers Organisations (EAPO) represents 30 recognised Producers Organisations (POs) from 11 EU Member States.*

Contacts :

Esben Sverdrup Jensen (EAPO President) – E-mail : [es@pelagisk.dk](mailto:es@pelagisk.dk)  
Mobile: +45 61 66 09 78

EAPO Secretariat – E-mail : [info@eapo.com](mailto:info@eapo.com)  
Tel: +32 59 43 20 05

Jules Danto (EAPO Policy Officer) – Email: [jules.danto@eapo.com](mailto:jules.danto@eapo.com)  
Mobile: +32 470 41 78 38