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MARE/B3/SR

## **Call for Applications for membership of the Joint Scientific Committee (JSC) in support of the EU - Morocco Fisheries Partnership Agreement**

### **Background**

By Council decision 2013/785/EU<sup>1</sup>, the European Union has adopted a Protocol setting out the fishing opportunities and financial contribution provided for in the Fisheries Partnership Agreement (FPA) between the European Union and the Kingdom of Morocco for a period of four years.

In accordance with Article 4(1) of the FPA dated 28 February 2007<sup>2</sup>, the parties undertake to organise, on a regular basis and when needed, scientific meetings to discuss scientific questions raised by the Joint Committee for the management and technical monitoring of the aforementioned Protocol. The mandate, composition and running of these scientific meetings are to be established by the Joint Committee referred to in Article 10 of the FPA.

Therefore, a Scientific Committee of highly qualified scientific experts needs to be established in order to advise the FPA Joint Committee on matters pertaining to the conservation and management of living aquatic resources, including biological, economic, environmental, social and technical considerations raised by the Joint Committee. The JSC is attended by scientists nominated by each party to the FPA.

The European Commission is therefore calling for applications with a view to appoint experts from the EU side in support of the EU - Morocco Fisheries Partnership Agreement for the Joint Scientific Committee (JSC) membership.

EU Members of this JSC are required to contribute to the overall work of the JSC participating in the relevant Expert Working Groups providing paper contributions and analysis as appropriate.

The European Commission may also request EU JSC members to attend stakeholder meetings, such as meetings of the Advisory Councils, Regional Member State fora, working groups and workshops of the Regional Fisheries Management Organizations and of Sea Conventions relevant for this FPA, and, where relevant, any other scientific working group organised by the EU or Morocco on matters linked to the FPA.

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<sup>1</sup> OJ L349 of 21.12.2013, p. 1

<sup>2</sup> Council Decision 2006/764/CE OJ L141 of 29.5.2006, p. 4

The Committee shall consist of 5 EU members appointed on a personal capacity. A JSC reserve list will be also established.

The European Commission shall select the EU JSC members in a personal capacity for a mandate on period according to the duration of the enforced Protocol to the EU - Morocco Fisheries Partnership Agreement. EU and Moroccan Members of the JSC shall give the FPA Joint Committee an independent opinion free from outside influence and shall respect the conditions of confidentiality. EU and Moroccan Members shall commit to act independently and in the public interest.

### **Selection criteria**

The European Commission will take the following criteria into account when assessing applications:

1. Proven competence and experience in the following areas:
  - a. Main areas of competence and experience
    - i. dynamics of Western African coast fish populations and more particularly on
      - cephalopods (octopus and squids),
      - demersal finfish (hakes and associated species),
      - small-pelagic species (anchovies, sardinellas, sardines, mackerels and horse-mackerels)
    - ii. dynamics of Western African coastal and marine ecosystems
    - iii. dynamics of domestic and international fishing fleets in Western African fisheries
    - iv. fishing gear technology
    - v. conservation and technical conservation measures
    - vi. assessment of fish stock and fisheries
    - vii. scientific data collection in support of EU-CFP and CECAF
  - b. Other possible areas of competence and experience
    - i. International, EU and Western African domestic fisheries management frameworks (including control and enforcement measures)
    - ii. Ecosystem based approach to fisheries management
    - iii. fishery economics and economic analysis of the fishing sector in the EU and in Western African States
2. Candidates should possess either:
  - a. at least a university degree, followed by a research degree and at least 5 additional years relevant professional work experience in fisheries scientific research and expertise.
  - b. at least a university degree and at least ten years relevant professional work experience in fisheries scientific research and expertise.
3. The need to strike a balance within the group of experts in terms of expertise, gender and geographical origin:
  - a. The European Commission will assess applications by taking into account the need for a broad coverage of the scientific issues concerning the FPA between the European Union and the Kingdom of Morocco.
  - b. In addition, the European Commission will strive for a membership comprising experts from disciplines that reflect the diversity of scientific issues and approaches related to fisheries

science within the scientific issues concerning the FPA between the European Union and the Kingdom of Morocco together with a balanced gender and geographical origin from among the proposals received.

4. Proficiency in French:

- a. which is customary in the sphere of fisheries within the French speaking EU – Western African partner States' FPAs, to a level that allows the selected candidates to participate in discussions and draft reports in that language.
- b. Knowledge of a second language or more languages is considered as an asset.

**Expenses**

Travel and subsistence expenses incurred by EU participants in the activities of the JSC shall be reimbursed by the European Commission. EU JSC members shall be entitled to compensation in accordance with the provisions in force at the European Commission within the limits of the available budgetary appropriations.

**Application procedure**

Applications must be completed in English/French, clearly indicating the applicant's nationality and including the necessary documentation. All applicants must document their professional experience and expertise in full by means of:

- a. a curriculum vitae summarizing the academic and publication record as well as professional experience (All curricula vitae should be submitted in the European format);
- b. any additional information to assist the European Commission in assessing the suitability of the candidate;
- c. a letter of motivation in support of their application; and
- d. matrix filled in for the expert's fields of expertise and geographical coverage of the field

The duly signed applications must be sent by 30 January 2015 at the latest to the following e-mail address: [MARE-JSC-MOROCCO@ec.europa.eu](mailto:MARE-JSC-MOROCCO@ec.europa.eu)

The date of the application will be the date of sending the e-mail. For any further information please contact the address above.

The list of EU members of the JSC as well as the reserve list shall be published in the Register of expert groups. (Members who do not wish to have their names disclosed may apply for derogation from this rule. The request not to disclose the name of a member of an expert group shall be considered justified whenever publication could endanger his or her security or integrity or unduly prejudice his or her privacy.) It will be also published on the Fisheries website.

Personal data will be collected, processed and published in accordance with the provisions of Regulation (EC) No 45/2001.