



17 January 2019
N2018/04753/FJR

Ministry of Enterprise and Innovation

BSAC Executive Committee Chair
Esben Sverdrup-Jensen
Axelborg, Axeltorv 3
1609 Copenhagen
Denmark

Dear Mr Sverdrup-Jensen,

Thank you for your letter of 16 August 2018 regarding the exchange of letters between the BSAC and the Commission regarding the BSAC proposal to amend Regulation (EC) 1007/2009 on trade in seal products.

The letter from the BSAC to the Swedish BALTFISH Presidency was distributed to the Member States and was also included on the agenda for the BALTFISH HLG meeting on 6 September 2018 in Stockholm. At the HLG meeting on 6 September the Commission informed the HLG that the regulation will be evaluated in 2019 based on reports from Member States. The HLG took note of the letter from the BSAC, reactions from Member States and from the Commission.

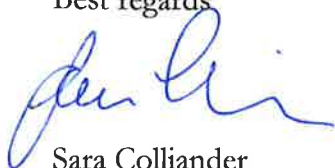
BALTFISH is aware that Member States according to Regulation (EC) 1007/2009 by the 31 December 2018 and every four years thereafter, shall submit to the Commission a report outlining the actions taken to implement this Regulation. The Commission shall then submit to the European Parliament and to the Council a report on the implementation of the Regulation within 12 months at the end of each reporting period.

On 12 December 2018 the Commission sent out a note informing Member States that the Commission currently is defining the reporting format to be submitted to the Member States' competent authorities. Depending on the date the reporting format will be made available, the Commission will be able to inform Member States about the new deadline for completion of the report.

The Swedish BALTFISH Presidency has reminded the BALTFISH HLG of the obligation to report to the Commission with regard to the implementation of the regulation and also urged Member States to submit the report according to the reporting format within the deadline.

BALTFISH will also continue to reflect on how to proceed and will consider whether it is appropriate to further discuss a possible way forward regarding the issues brought up and proposal made by the BSAC.

Best regards



Sara Colliander

Fisheries Director and current Chair for BALTFISH