



6 March 2019
N2018/04753/FJR

Ministry of Enterprise and Innovation

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

October Council Decision on TAC and quotas

Dear Mr. Sverdrup-Jensen,

Thank you for your letter of 12 December 2018 regarding Council Regulation (EU) 2018/1628 of 30 October 2018 fixing for 2019 the fishing opportunities for certain fish stocks and groups of fish stocks applicable in the Baltic Sea and amending Regulation (EU) 2018/120 as regards certain fishing opportunities in other waters.

BALTFISH takes note of the letter and would like to underline that the concerned Regulation is a Council decision, and that it is as such not appropriate for a regional forum as BALTFISH to reply to comments and questions regarding eastern cod in a decision taken by the Council.

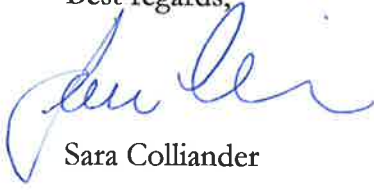
I would however take this opportunity to assure you that the advice from the Baltic Sea Advisory Council, BSAC, regarding fishing opportunities in the Baltic Sea for 2019 was considered when the issue was discussed between the Baltic Sea Member States, including the views expressed by representatives of the BSAC during the BALTFISH Forum meeting on 5 September 2018.

As far as the eastern Baltic cod stock is concerned, BALTFISH would welcome concrete ideas from the BSAC on how to address the difficult situation of this stock in a more comprehensive way.

BALTFISH also notes your concerns with regard to the negotiations between the EU and the Russian Federation in the context of the Joint

Baltic Sea Fisheries Committee (JBSFC). This matter is beyond the scope of regionalisation and therefore also beyond the competence of BALTFISH.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Sara Colliander', written in a cursive style.

Sara Colliander

Fisheries Director and current BALTFISH Chair