

Director General of DG Mare, Ms. Lowri Evans
D.G. Mare
Rue de la Loi 200
B-1049 Brussels
Belgium

Date: 16th May 2011

Dear Lowri Evans,

Subject: Impact assessment on the possible utilisation by the EU of trade-related measures against non-cooperating States for the purpose of conservation of fish resources.

The Commission has invited stakeholders to comment on the above consultation document.

On behalf of the BSRAC we are very grateful to have the chance to take part. It was discussed at our Executive Committee meeting on 5th May 2011. We do not provide detailed answers to every question in the consultation.

We are conscious of the fact that in the Baltic we share our fisheries with a non-EU state. In our work, we adhere to the obligation under the Common fisheries Policy to ensure the sustainable exploitation of resources. And we see it as a matter of principle that there should be cooperation by contracting parties around shared stocks.

We would like to give our full support to the Commission in seeking to find a solution in dealing with third countries that do not live up to management issues, or which do not assume their responsibility in connection with long-term management plans for shared stocks. Such a solution should not be in contravention of international agreements or obligations, but should be consistent with the legal framework in place.

Kind regards,



Reine J. Johansson
Chairman of the BS RAC



Ewa Milewska
Vice-chair of the BS RAC