



EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR MARITIME AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES

DIRECTOR GENERAL

Brussels,  
ADV D3 (2018)

Baltic Sea AC  
Mr Reine J. Johansson  
(Chairperson)  
Mr Andrzej Bialas (Vice chair)  
Axeltorv 3, 6<sup>th</sup> floor  
DK-1609 Copenhagen V

**Subject: The Baltic Sea Advisory Council's recommendations on the Commission's proposal to amend the Baltic multiannual management plan**

*Your reference: Letter BSAC/2017-2018/14 from R. Johansson and A. Bialas of 15 January 2018*

Dear Mr Johansson, Dear Mr Bialas,

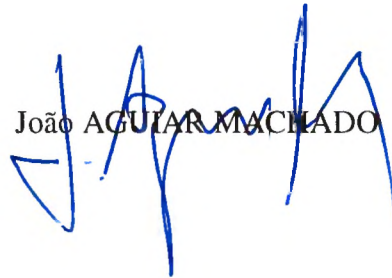
Thank you for your letter providing the positive BSAC's recommendation on the Commission's proposal for an amendment to the Baltic multiannual management plan with respect to herring in the Bothnian Sea and the Bothnian Bay (COM (2017)774 Final).

We understand the importance and the urgent need to adopt the new Regulation as this would provide the legal grounds for the Commission to propose the respective amendment to the Regulation which sets the fishing opportunities in the Baltic Sea for 2018. Therefore, we have already started the internal work in order to be able to propose the amendment without any further delay, immediately after the amendment of the Baltic multiannual management plan enters into force. I am confident that such work will be finalised in time.

I would like to assure you that the Commission is doing its utmost to amend the Baltic fishing opportunities urgently and thank you for your continued interest and constructive input.

I look forward to our continued cooperation and invite you to take contact with Ms Pascale Colson (pascale.colson@ec.europa.eu; +32 2 29 56273) should you have any question on this reply.

Yours sincerely,

  
João AGUIAR MACHADO

C.c.: Ms. Veits, Roller, Kirchner, Georgitsi, Colson, de Diego de la Vega