

EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR MARITIME AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES

THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL

Brussels,
MARE.A2/ D(2015)

Baltic Sea AC
Mr Reine Johansson (Chairperson)
H.C. Andersens Boulevard 37, 3rd floor
DK-1553 Copenhagen
Denmark

Subject: BSAC comments to the Baltic Multi-annual Plan (COM(2014)614 of 6th October 2014)

Your reference: Letter from R. Johansson and E. Milewska dated 5 February 2015

Dear Mr Johansson, Dear Ms Milewska,


Thank you for the BSAC comments on our proposal for a Regulation establishing a multiannual plan for the stocks of cod, herring and sprat in the Baltic Sea (the Baltic multiannual plan). We take note of the fact that you welcome the proposal as a management instrument for fisheries in the Baltic with sufficient elements of adaptability. We are sure that future adaptations will be undertaken in consultation with the BSAC.

We would like to also thank you for your detailed comments and drafting suggestions on the provisions of the plan. As you know, the proposal is now under examination in the Council and the European Parliament. Negotiations between these institutions will start shortly with a view to reaching an agreement that is satisfactory for all institutions involved. Your suggestions may be considered during these negotiations.

As regards the sole question in your letter (i.e. on minimum conservation reference sizes), it is clear that the change in the cod size will be nullified after the expiration of the Baltic Sea discard plan. We have taken good note of your comments, and we are however confident that a solution can be found in due time, either under the plan or the future technical measures framework.

Thank you again for your continued interest and constructive input. If you have any question on this reply, you can contact Ms Evangelia Georgitsi, coordinator of the Advisory Councils (evangelia.georgitsi@ec.europa.eu; +32.2.295.04.43).

Yours sincerely,



Lowri Evans