



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR MARITIME AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES

The Director-General

Brussels,
MARE.D.3/MLD

Dear Mr Sverdrup-Jensen,

Thank you for your letter from 23 April on stakeholders' participation in future fisheries management and governance structure post-Brexit.

The Commission fully acknowledges the importance of comprehensive stakeholders' consultation in the context of the implementation of the CFP. The Advisory Councils were set up in 2002 with the very idea to benefit from the knowledge and experience of the sector and other stakeholders impacted by the CFP and to take into account the diverse conditions throughout EU waters. It is with the same goal and ambition that we will strive to set up appropriate structures involving to the best extent possible the Advisory Councils in the implementation of the EU-UK Trade and Cooperation Agreement (TCA) and within the Specialised Committee on Fisheries (SCF). As indicated during the inter-AC meeting of 5 May 2021, my services will come back to you in due time to bring this discussion forward in full transparency.

Let me also reassure you that we are fully committed to ensuring a smooth and strong implementation of the CFP in all sea basins, despite the undoubtable additional pressure that Brexit has put on our shoulders. We will keep on closely monitoring the developments in ecosystems trends in the Baltic Sea and North Sea and make sure fishing effort stays in line with our objective to maintain populations of harvested species above levels that can produce the maximum sustainable yield, as highlighted in our recently adopted Annual Communication for 2022 fishing opportunities¹.

I am looking forward to our continued fruitful cooperation. Should you have any further questions on this reply, please contact Ms Pascale COLSON, coordinator of the Advisory Councils (Pascale.COLSON@ec.europa.eu; +32.2.295.62.73), who will forward it to the relevant colleagues.

Yours sincerely,

Charlina VITCHEVA

¹ COM/2021/279 final.

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