



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR MARITIME AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES

The Director-General

Brussels
MARE D3/PCO/mb/Ares (2020)

Mr. G. Pastoor
Market Advisory Council
rue de la Science, 10
B-1000 Brussels
Secretary@marketac.eu

Subject: Data Collection by the Scientific, Technical and Economic Committee for Fisheries (STECF)

Dear Mr. Pastoor,

Thank you for your letter of 23 of September regarding data collection by the Scientific, Technical and Economic Committee for Fisheries (STECF).

Let me first thank you for your nice and supportive words as regards the economic reports produced by STEFC and jointly coordinated by economists from DG MARE and the Commission's Joint Research Centre. As you indicate, these economic reports are a crucial source of reliable economic data and information for the Commission and stakeholders. I wish also to thank you for your continued representation at these economic meetings as observers.

In relation to your specific suggestions on the fleet economic report, I am pleased to inform you that the 2020 fleet economic report, which will be released by end of November, already takes into account most of your suggestions, in particular the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the EU fleets and recent trends in fuel and fish prices. As you also suggest, these factors will be included in a modeling exercise to forecast the performance of the EU fleets using a wide range of scientific and market data from Member States, EUMOFA, experts, and stakeholders.

In relation to the aquaculture and fish processing reports, we are exploring the possibility of developing forecasting tools, as those already applied in the fishing fleet report, jointly with STECF and JRC experts. As for your suggestion to produce these two reports annually instead of bi-annually, our available resources limit that possibility for the time being. However, we already include a section with the main indicators on aquaculture and fish processing in the Blue Economy report, which is produced annually.

Finally, I appreciate the readiness of the MAC to increase cooperation and to submit analysis and advice as stated. In this regard, I also acknowledge the attempts of the MAC in encouraging its members to provide economic and price data in order to facilitate the

production of these economic reports. Indeed, these economic reports constitute a prime example of collaboration between stakeholders, scientists, DG MARE and the JRC to feed our economic analysis as regards the Common Fisheries Policy.

Let me thank you for your valid input and for your commitment. Should you have any further question on this reply, I invite you to contact Ms. Pascale Colson, coordinator of the Advisory Councils (pascale.colson@ec.europa.eu; +32 2 29 56273).

Yours sincerely,

Charlina VITCHEVA