**MAC QUESTIONNAIRE ON**

**ECOLABELS/CERTIFICATION SCHEMES AS A CONDITION TO ACCESS THE MARKET**

**Disclaimer:**

1. The aim of the questionnaire is to get information on whether ecolabels, certification schemes or voluntary information represent a condition to access the market in general. We are not seeking information on specific certification schemes or ecolabels
2. The answers should focus on how this affects the supply chain in general
3. The aim is not to produce a MAC Advice or Opinion at this stage: the questionnaire aims at gathering information that can be useful for the Commission in assessing the situation
4. All answers will be collected anonymously and sent anonymously to the Commission unless you explicitly say otherwise
5. Answers will be sent unedited to the Commission so as to ensure a transparent flow of information
6. Should you not be able to respond to these specific questions, please feel free to draft your response under “other comments”

**Questions:**

* Information on the share of buyers that require products to be certified – if possible, also with which certification (i.e. how many business partners have asked for certified products? How many supply contracts have been lost due to lack of certification? Have new business relations had to be sought to counter this requirement?
* Information on the share of fisheries being certified for market reasons, including planned certifications (e.g. to access new markets, to maintain a market/supply contract)
* Information on B2B practices regarding certifications (e.g. are certification a requirement in supply contracts or are they options in contracts to obtain better prices?)
* Information as to the availability of alternatives to certification (e.g. joint commitments, cross-chain cooperation)
* Information on the economic impact of buyers' purchasing strategies (e.g. are certification costs shared? Are non-certified products able to find alternative market outlets?).

Other comments: