



The Director-General

Brussels,
MARE.A4/ D3

Mr. Guus Pastoor,
Chairman
Market Advisory Council
rue de la Science, 10
B-1000 Brussels

Subject: Scientific Denomination Changes to Certain Fish and Cephalopods Species

Ref: Your letter of 03/10/2019

Dear Mr. Pastoor,

Thank you for your letter on the recent modifications to the scientific names used by the authorities of some third countries for some particular species, following updates by the scientific community which have not yet been incorporated to the EU Combined Nomenclature. We are aware that such situation brings difficulties to EU operators, causing constraints in trade operations and confusion along the supply change.

In your letter, you enquire the Commission's services about the state of play of the modifications to the above mentioned commercial designations at the level of both the World Customs Organisation (the Harmonized System) and the Union Customs Code. As you rightly suggest, modifications to the EU Combined Nomenclature follow and depend upon prior modifications of the Harmonized System.

In this regard, I would like to inform you that the next amendment of the Harmonized System will enter into force in 2022. This being said, the work on these upcoming amendments was concluded in March 2019 and the request made to update the Latin name of Alaska Pollock (*Gadus Chalcogramma*) was rejected by the Contracting Parties of the World Customs Organisation.

The preparation for the next revision cycle (2027) is about to start. We will inform our colleagues coordinating the EU position about the proposed changes in due time.

Should you have any further questions on this reply, I invite you to contact Ms. Pascale Colson (pascale.colson@ec.europa.eu; +32 2 29 56273).

Yours sincerely,



Bernhard FRIESS
Acting Director-General