



**EUROPEAN COMMISSION**  
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR MARITIME AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES

**The Director-General**

Brussels,  
MARE A2/ EG (20165)

Mr. Guus Pastoor  
Chairman of the Markets AC

**Subject: Reply: Funding of the Markets Advisory Council**

*Your reference: Email from Sandra Sanmartin dated 17 October*

Dear Mr. Pastoor,

Thank you for your message and for your efforts to ensure the effective start of the Markets Advisory Council. We are fully aware of the efforts all stakeholders are making to put this body into motion and we sincerely thank you for this.

Commission Communication 2016/C74/01 declared the Advisory Councils for Markets, for Aquaculture and for the Black Sea operational and thus eligible for Commission annual contribution to their operational costs. However, in order to effectively benefit from Commission funding, it is necessary to submit a grant application (including an operational programme and a draft budget approved by the General Assembly) in compliance with EU rules in place. My services have not received such an application to date.

Under these circumstances, we cannot commit on the date of the availability of Commission funding. My services remain available to assist you throughout this process.

Thank you again for your letter and for your constructive approach. Should you have any further question, you may contact Ms Evangelia Georgitsi, coordinator of the Advisory Councils ([evangelia.georgitsi@ec.europa.eu](mailto:evangelia.georgitsi@ec.europa.eu); +32.2.295.04.43).

Yours sincerely,

João AGUIAR MACHADO