

Director General João Aguiar Machado
The European Commission, DG Maritime Affairs & Fisheries
Rue Joseph II, 99
B-1000 Brussels
Belgium

Brussels, 28 November 2015

Subject: Market Advisory Council signatories request support from DG MARE to promote the MAC towards Member States

Dear Director General Aguiar Machado,

On 6 May 2015, 18 associations representing all relevant stakeholders of the fishery and aquaculture products market submitted officially to DG MARE an application to set up a Market Advisory Council (MAC) under the provisions of Common Fisheries Policy Regulation 1380/2013 (Article 43 and Annex III) and Commission Delegated Regulation 2015/242. During the process of preparation of this official application, more than 60 associations from a large majority of 28 Member States have signaled their interest to join the MAC.

Your services informed that this application has been sent to Member States end of October for approval. In the absence of comments from their side by 4th December, the necessary administrative steps to declare the MAC operational can be taken by the European Commission.

A key feature of the new MAC is its horizontal nature, addressing supply chain issues across all 28 Member States in the Single Market, not just those with active primary producer industries (whether wild capture fisheries or aquaculture). This is a major challenge which will require appropriate financial support in addition to the funding already provided for through EMFF (and contributions from stakeholder organisations). We believe Member States have a vital role in this.

In this context, we will welcome an active promotion by the European Commission of the MAC towards Member States, so that the latter become aware of its importance and contribute to it. In view of the Fisheries Ministers Council of 16th December, upon your request, we may address an open letter to all Ministers encouraging their support to the MAC. We will appreciate advice from you in this respect.

We thank you for your attention and look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

EAPO
EUROPECHE
COPA-COGECA
EUFISHMEAL
Danish Society for a Living Sea
TEST ACHATS / TEST AANKOOP
CLCV
EBCD
FRUCOM
Fundacion Oceana
WWF

EUROCOMMERCE
CFFA
Federation of European Aquaculture Producer
EMPA
AIPCE
CEP
ETF