



Mr Costas Kadis  
Commissioner for Fisheries and Oceans  
Rue de la Loi 200, 1049 Brussels

CC:  
Ms Charlina Vitcheva  
Director-General, DG MARE  
Rue Joseph II 99, 1049 Brussels

Brussels, 9 December 2024

**Subject: Congratulatory letter from the Market Advisory Council on the parliamentary approval of the Commissioner for Fisheries and Oceans**

*Dear Commissioner Kadis,*

On behalf of the Market Advisory Council (MAC), I would like to congratulate you on your recent parliamentary approval as Commissioner for Fisheries and Oceans.

As foreseen in Article 43 of the Common Fisheries Policy Regulation, the MAC is a stakeholder-led organisation composed of representatives of the fisheries and aquaculture value chain (e.g., primary producers, processors, retailers, trade unions) and Other Interest Groups (e.g., environmental and development NGOs) providing advice on market matters to the European Commission and to the Member States. At present, the MAC is composed of 72 member organisations from across 13 Member States.

Since our founding in 2016, following requests from the EU institutions or proposals from the members, our three Working Groups (“EU Production”, “EU Markets”, and “EU Control and Sanitary Issues, Consumer Rules”) have prepared consensus advice on a wide range of topics relevant to fishery and aquaculture products, such as the economic situation of the sectors, marketing standards, IUU fishing, fisheries control and traceability, level-playing-field, trade with third countries, and consumer safety and information. Our work programme for the 2024-2025 period, which was prepared in cooperation with the Commission services, includes the evaluation of the Common Fisheries Policy and of the Common Market Organisation, trade agreements and trade policy instruments, the fights against IUU fishing and against forced labour, EUMOFA, the landing obligation, the STECF economic reports, and the implementation of the new provisions of the Fisheries Control Regulation as priorities.

Your mission letter and parliamentary hearing showed a strong focus on market-related topics, such as effective implementation of the Common Fisheries Policy to support the fisheries and aquaculture sectors and their competitiveness, the comprehensive evaluation of this policy, job

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creation and long-term competitiveness and sustainability, upholding a level-playing-field and protecting the chain from unfair global competition, and a zero-tolerance approach to IUU fishing, which are topics that the MAC will continuously address. Our membership is also eager to assist you and your Cabinet in the development of the various initiatives that you committed to, such as the European Oceans Pact, the Fisheries and Oceans Dialogues, and the 2040 Vision for Fisheries and Aquaculture and their markets.

In the aim of a close collaboration, the MAC welcomes the efforts to continue the practice of annual roundtable discussions with the Advisory Councils established by your predecessor, while remaining available for individual exchanges. Our upcoming General Assembly meeting, which will take place on Thursday, 30 January 2025, afternoon, in Brussels, could provide such an opportunity, helping ensure a clear alignment of our priorities in the forthcoming years.

The MAC looks forward to working you on the EU's fisheries and aquaculture market policies. If you would like any further information about our work, I would encourage you to contact our Secretary General, Pedro Reis Santos ([secretary@marketac.eu](mailto:secretary@marketac.eu)).

Yours sincerely,



Yobana Bermúdez  
Chair of the Market Advisory Council

Annexes: Brochure about the work and bodies of the Market Advisory Council (MAC), Annual Work Programme for Year 9 (2024-2025)