



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR MARITIME AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES

The Director-General

Brussels
MARE.A4/ACS/Ares(2021)

Subject: Request for continuous inclusion of pelagic chapter in future STECF Annual Economic Reports on the EU fishing fleet

Ref: Your letter of 05/07/2021 2021/PAC69

Dear Mr Raakjaer,

Thank you for your letter of 5 July 2021 regarding your request for continuous inclusion of pelagic chapter in future STECF Annual Economic Report (AER) on the EU fishing fleet.

I am also grateful for your offer to cooperate with STECF and support the process of ensuring delivery of required data for continuing improvement of the AER. This report is indeed the main source of socio-economic intelligence and data to support scientific advice on the EU fishing fleet.

Given the increasing number of scientific uses of the AER and its growing complexity, there is a greater need to guarantee robust, precise data and analyses as well as streamline the content of the report. The trimming down of the AER is intended to achieve a more balanced product exercise, concentrating on the core tasks of the AER on the one hand, while freeing up time and resources on the other so that STECF experts can focus on more applied economic analyses.

In this context, the analytical resources for the 2021 AER focused on the key developments affecting the performance of the EU fleets in 2020 and 2021, particularly

Mr Jesper Raakjaer
Chairman Pelagic AC
Louis Braillelaan 80
2719 EK Zoetermeer
The Netherlands
info@pelagic-ac.or

Commission européenne/Europese Commissie, 1049 Bruxelles/Brussel, BELGIQUE/BELGIË - Tel. +32 22991111
Office: J-99 05/014 - Tel. direct line +32 229-50483

charlina.vitcheva@ec.europa.eu

the impacts of Brexit and the Covid-19 crisis on the performance and employment of the different EU fleets.

This meant that, after discussion with STECF when preparing the term of reference for this year's report, a number of specialized sections which were produced in previous years, such as the pelagic fleets section, could not be undertaken. Nevertheless the full datasets and analytical trends for the pelagic fleets are included in the data annexes and relevant national chapters.

During the planning for the 2022 AER, my team will again discuss with STECF a general prioritization of the sections and topics to be included in the terms of reference. This planning will consider your request as well as requests from other ACs and stakeholders taking account the available resources and policy needs for the 2022 AER.

We hope that this clarifies the current situation. Should you have any further questions on this reply, please contact Ms Pascale COLSON, coordinator of the Advisory Councils (Pascale.COLSON@ec.europa.eu), who will forward it to relevant colleagues.

Yours faithfully,

Charlina Vitcheva