

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

THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL

Brussels, EG/A2 D(2014)

Mr Ian Gatt Chairman Pelagic AC Louis Braillelaan 80 2719 EK Zoetermeer The Netherlands

Subject: EMFF

Your reference: 1415/PAC 56

Dear Mr. Gatt,

Thank you for your recent letter regarding the funding possibilities for the Advisory Councils (ACs) under the new European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF).

In line with Article 86(2) of the EMFF Regulation, Advisory Councils may indeed apply for funding to carry out studies and pilot projects needed for the implementation and development of the CFP, whenever a relevant call is published by the services of the Commission and provided that the specific eligibility conditions set by each call are met. The EMFF Regulation further enables Advisory Councils to obtain funding for some actions included in the national Operational Programmes, such as actions related to the protection and restoration of marine biodiversity and ecosystems in the framework of sustainable fishing activities. The selections of these actions/projects are done by Managing Authorities in each Member State.

During the last Inter-AC coordination meeting, a short overview was provided of all the additional funding possibilities for the Advisory Councils under the new EMFF, other than Commission's annual contribution to their operational costs. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact Ms Evangelia Georgitsi, coordinator of the Advisory Councils (evangelia.georgitsi@ec.europa.eu; +32.2.295.04.43).

Yours sincerely,

Lowri Evans

Copies: E. Roller, G. Igloi, E. Bianchi, E. Georgitsi, M. Aussems (DG MARE)