



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

The Director-General

DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR FISHERIES AND MARITIME AFFAIRS

Brussels,
D(2006)

Mr Iain MacSween
Chairman
Pelagic RAC
Treubstraat 17
PO Box 72
2280 AB Rijswijk
The Netherlands

**Subject: Pelagic RAC position on dioxin and dioxin-like PCB legislation
(Commission Directive 2006/13/EC) (your reference PRACO6.05/IH
of 6 April 2006)**

Dear Mr MacSween,

I refer to your letter of 6 April which we have registered as an own initiative opinion issued by the Pelagic RAC. I regret to inform you due to the very limited budget available to us under the studies heading and to the fact that the programme for the year was set some time ago that we are unable to carry out the three pronged study which you propose.

The Commission did carefully consider the economic consequences for the blue whiting fishery before deciding on Directive 2006/13 and the maximum values to apply from 4 November 2006 would be lower had this not been the case. Under your point 2, it should be stated that all food and feed categories will be subject to the two separate levels and a total level for an interim period and not just fishmeal and fish oil.

In an ideal world a study such as proposed would have been carried out as part of an impact assessment prior to the adoption of the legislation, but this was not the case. Notwithstanding this, if you have evidence as time goes on that the legislation is not reasonably achievable, despite determined efforts by the sector, please come back to us and we will look at the evidence you submit.

Yours sincerely,

Jörgen Holmquist