

Ms Charlina Vitcheva

Director General

Directorate General Maritime Affairs
and Fisheries

Rue de la Loi 200

1049 Brussels

BELGIUM

Date: 3 March 2023

PelAC reference: 2223PAC19

Subject: Targeted consultation to the ACs on the Multiannual Plans for the North Sea and the Western Waters

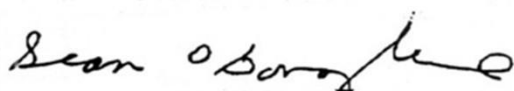
Dear Ms. Charlina Vitcheva,

The Pelagic Advisory Council (PelAC) took careful note of your letter received on January 18 2023 (Ref.Ares(2023)383240) regarding the review of the Multiannual Plans for the North Sea and the Western Waters & adjacent waters, and appreciates the invitation to respond to this targeted Commission consultation.

The consultation survey was circulated to the members of the PelAC and tabled for discussion at the Working Group II meeting held on 22 February in Utrecht. During this meeting, the PelAC members concluded that it was not within the competence of the PelAC to submit a response to this specific consultation, since the pelagic species covered by the MAPs fall outside of the PelAC's remit. Therefore, the PelAC Executive Committee endorsed the decision to not send in a PelAC response to this consultation questionnaire.

We trust that you understand our decision, and we thank the Commission once more for giving the PelAC the opportunity to express its views, which we will gladly take on at the next occasion, as appropriate.

Kind regards,



Sean O'Donoghue
Chairman Pelagic AC