



Paris, the 26th of May,

Mr Hugo Andersson
Chairman of the Executive
Committee

NSRAC Secretariat
Woodhill House
Westburn Road
Aberdeen AB16 5GB
SCOTLAND

Ref.: PGD/LT/181/2010

Object: Concerns of Brown crab vivier producers on further development of a brown crab fishery in the German Bight

Dear Mr Andersson,

The brown crab fishing fleets of the European Union have met important economic difficulties in the past two to three years ; many vessels have ceased to be economically viable, this led to a Transnational group of all the nations in the UK and the Republic of Ireland being set up to try and develop a way forward for the industry. The main causes of the problem were identified as: overproduction (especially during the summer months), competition from other often cheaper imported species, currency fluctuation and global recession.

In order to address one part of the problem, delegates of brown crab vivier producers from Ireland, England, Scotland and France have met four times since the beginning of the year (28th of January in Paris, 8th of February in Edinburgh, 18th of March in Paris and 16th of April in London).

In order to reverse this situation, brown crab fishery representatives proposed several actions including: controlling the supply by voluntarily reducing crab landings during summer months, putting in place collective promotion actions and driving an awareness campaign of the brown crab producers' situation to the entire industry. Even if these actions reach this year's objectives, we know that the situation will be rather precariously balanced.

During the last meetings, the brown crab vivier producers' group felt that there was a possibility that other European states bordering the North Sea might start to develop their crab fisheries, especially if the brown crab market was to become viable again following the current actions being proposed by brown crab producers. The group expressed its concern from the fact that a potential increase in brown crab landings from any new fisheries could negate any introduction of management measures.

Hereby, the brown crab vivier producers group would like to draw your attention on its concerns about a potential rise in fishing effort on brown crab in the German Bight, so that you are aware of the industry's desire to introduce management measures, that will be equally

applied across the whole of the brown crab fisheries to try and avoid the fishery being non-viable, seeking your support in this endeavor.

Yours faithfully,

For Delegates of brown crab vivier producers from Ireland, England, Scotland and France:

National Federation of Fishermen's Organizations
South Devon and Channel Shellfishermen Ltd
Scottish Fishermen's Federation
Killybegs Fishermen's Organization
Jersey Fishermen's Association
Comité National des Pêches Maritimes et des Elevages Marins

The President of CNPMMEM,



Pierre-Georges DACHICOURT