

EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR MARITIME AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES

The Director-General

Brussels,
MARE/ (2015)

Mr Niels Wichmann
Chairman
NSAC Secretariat
Office 17,
Aberdeen Business Centre
Willowbank Road
Aberdeen, UK
AB11 6YG

Subject: Advice on the Brown Shrimp roadmap provided by ICES

Your ref: 8-1415

Dear Mr. Wichmann,

Thank you for the NSAC advice on the brown shrimp roadmap provided by ICES. I share your view that the advice can be useful input for the management of the brown shrimp fishery. I take note of your recommendation to manage, at this stage, this fishery through a form of self-regulation rather than at a State or EU level. We will have to look into concerns about likely over-exploitation of the brown shrimp in the North Sea.

As you well know, the Commission is in the preparatory process for a proposal for a multi-annual management plan for the North Sea. This proposal will most likely contain provisions regarding regionalization, as envisaged in the new CFP.

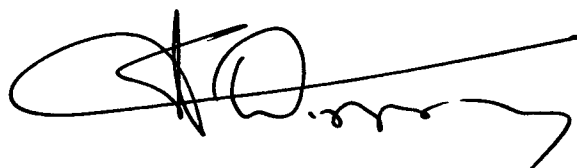
Once adopted and in force, under such a plan the brown shrimp fishery could be a candidate for regionalized initiatives and joint recommendations, given the limited geographical area of the fishery and the various monitoring studies that have been carried out by individual Member States thus far. As you know, Member States would have an obligation to consult the NSAC prior to the submission of any such joint recommendation.

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Thank you again for your continuous interest and constructive input. If you have any questions on this reply, you may contact Ms Evangelia Georgitsi, coordinator of the Advisory Councils (evangelia.georgitsi@ec.europa.eu; +32.2.295.04.43).

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'João Aguiar Machado', written in a cursive style.

João João AGUIAR MACHADO *about*

S. DEYPERE