

NSAC Transparency Register ID: 91682404018-74

Ms Charlina Vitcheva
Director-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries
European Commission Rue Josef II 99
1000 Brussels
Belgium

NSAC Advice Ref. 15-2021

NSAC letter of support to NWWAC feedback on the public initiative "CO2 emissions of engines - methodology for their reduction"

This paper was approved by the NSAC Executive Committee on 31st August 2021 via written procedure. The position is not supported by WWF, Oceana and the Dutch Elasmobranch Society.

The NSAC members would like to express their support to the North Western Waters AC feedback to public consultation on CO2 emissions of engines - methodology for their reduction, approved and published on 6th August 2021, and supported by the Mediterranean AC, Outermost regions AC and South Western Waters AC.

The NSAC generally supports the statements in the said feedback and would like to stress that many new technologies are being presented as an ultimate remedy, whilst being in the embryonic stages of development. The promotional campaigns of these projects are sometimes much further advanced than their technological development or their economic assessment. There is substantial risk that policy makers and politicians embrace existing press releases as a confirmation of a ready-for-uptake technology. The NSAC agrees that environmental impact must be reduced, however economic and impact assessments must be realistic.

Finally, the NSAC is of the opinion that adaptation of fishing techniques to reduce the dragging of gear will have an immediate result in fuel consumption and hence on the CO2 emissions. EMFAF should therefore specifically focus on the development of less-drag gear, both in demersal and in pelagic fisheries.



NSAC is supported by The European Commission