



EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR MARITIME AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES

The Director-General

Brussels  
MARE.D.3/AMB

**Subject: Reply to NWWAC-NSAC joint advice on the study supporting the evaluation of the landing obligation**

Dear Ms Philippe, dear Mr Ronelöv Olsson,

I would like to thank the North Western Waters (NWWAC) and North Sea (NSAC) Advisory Councils for the jointly prepared advice 02-2526 of 18 December 2025 in relation to the study supporting the evaluation of the landing obligation.

I much appreciate your comprehensive and detailed analysis of the study and the related NWWAC/NSAC's views and recommendations. With the publication of the study, my services want to explore further the reasons behind the challenges identified and to explore what are the feasible implementation pathways. Your advice fits perfectly with this goal, and it comes at a very opportune moment considering the ongoing evaluation of the CFP Regulation which we aim to complete in Spring 2026.

In this context, I would like to reassure you that this evaluation will look at the landing obligation using the supporting study in addition to other sources of evidence and stakeholders' views that were not covered by that study, including your advice and other contributions mentioned in your background.

I cannot prejudge the outcome of the CFP Regulation evaluation and, hence, I cannot foresee decisions that could be taken concerning the future of the landing obligation before the evaluation is finished. At the same time, one of the main messages from the study, from your advice and from other stakeholders' views, is that to address the challenges associated with the landing obligation, increased cooperation between stakeholders and shared ownership of the solutions is required.

I look forward to our continued fruitful cooperation on this important issue. Should you have any further questions on this reply, please contact Ms Julia Rubeck, our Advisory Councils coordinator, via the functional mailbox [MARE-AC@ec.europa.eu](mailto:MARE-AC@ec.europa.eu).

Yours sincerely,

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