



**EUROPEAN COMMISSION**  
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR MARITIME AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES  
**MEDITERRANEAN AND BLACK SEA**  
Acting Director

Brussels, 07 JUL. 2014  
MARE/D2/SPM (2014) 2246013

**Subject: Implementation of the Common fisheries policy reform in the Mediterranean – MEDAC's role in the development of EU long-term management plans**

Dear Mr Buonfiglio,

I would like first of all to thank the Advisory Council for the Mediterranean (MEDAC) and its bureau in particular, for the important role that it has played towards the preparation of discards plans to implement the landing obligation scheme in the EU Mediterranean countries. The MEDAC advice and the joint recommendations for discard plans already received from some Member States will be reviewed by the Scientific Technical and Economic Committee (STECF) at its July plenary session (7-11 July). Based on the outcome of STECF scientific advice, we will continue to work towards the development of a Commission delegated act to implement the landing obligation in the Mediterranean. We will keep you closely informed of the process.

In the meantime, the application of the obligations set by the new Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) Regulation in the Mediterranean requires as well that the existing national management plans, adopted by the EU Mediterranean countries under the Mediterranean Regulation since 2010, be aligned with the new objectives, such as the Maximum Sustainable Yield (MSY). It is also possible that additional and/or sub-regional plans for fish stocks shared between Member States or third countries need to be adopted in the near future.

The contribution of the MEDAC to this process will be essential. A meeting with Member States is foreseen early September, with the objective of discussing all these practical matters with the Mediterranean administrations. It would be desirable to have MEDAC also present to actively contribute to this process and to continue to act as a catalyst for discussions and agreements amongst the Mediterranean Member States. You will receive shortly additional details on the exact date and timing of the meeting.

Mr Giampaolo Buonfiglio  
President of the Advisory Council for the Mediterranean (MEDAC)  
Via Nazionale 243  
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I am convinced that you will have a key role to play during this process, building on the experience accumulated during MEDAC's years of existence, and especially, throughout the preparation of the joint recommendation on a discard management plan for the Mediterranean pelagic fisheries.

Yours sincerely,



Carla MONTESI