



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR MARITIME AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES

The Director-General

Brussels,
MARE/D1/AB

Dear Mr Antonio Marzoa Notlevsen,

I would like to thank you for the advice of the MEDAC on the socioeconomic aspects related to the management of Red Coral (Ref.:78/2023) and for your valuable presentation during the GFCM Working Group on Red Coral (Rome, May 2023).

The Scientific Advisory Committee of the GFCM recently met in Rome (20-23 June 2023) and advised to extend the current transitional management measures for another year, allowing enough time for the research programme to carry out all its activities. I am very pleased with this result, which will allow to discuss and identify further management measures next year for the long-term based on a sound scientific advice. In this context, the advice you produced will be very helpful. I would also like to mention that a dedicated SSF forum for engaging with stakeholders on red coral may be organized by the GFCM next year.

In addition, I agree with you that special attention should be paid to data collection and traceability in the entire value chain. For these reasons, the SAC advised to strengthen the collection of effort data and endorsed, with the Compliance Committee, the EU intention to present to the next GFCM session a Catch Documentation Scheme (CDS) on red coral.

I am looking forward to our continued fruitful cooperation. Should you have any further questions on this reply, please contact Ms Julia RUBECK via the functional mailbox of the Advisory Councils MARE-AC@ec.europa.eu.

Yours sincerely,

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