



EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR MARITIME AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES

The Director-General

Brussels,  
MARE.D3/LB

Dear Mr Marzoa Notlevsen,

Thank you for your letter from 6 May 2025 regarding the Commission's Communication 'The Road to the next Multiannual Financial Framework' where you outline your priorities for the next financial period starting in January 2028.

The Communication 'The Road to the next MFF' indicates the growing expectation for the EU to act. The EU must maximise the impact of every euro it spends, focusing on EU priorities and objectives where EU action is most needed. This has been highlighted by President von der Leyen and she further stated in her speech at the Annual EU Budget Conference 2025 that: *"The new Budget must be simple. Simple to understand, and simple to use for people, businesses and public authorities alike. Today, many of our companies simply do not bother to apply for European funds. Because it is too complex, too slow and too costly."* The design of the new budget will need to ensure greater coherence in funding our priorities, by avoiding diluting the spending power across too many instruments, a key recommendation stemming from the Draghi report.

The preparation of the next long-term budget is an ongoing process opportunity to develop a new modern and reinforced EU budget. The Commission intends to present the next financial framework on 16 July 2025.

While the Common Fisheries Policy is one of the five exclusive competence policies of the EU, we are strongly advocating that EU ocean action is critical – we must have healthy ocean to support competitive fisheries and blue economy in our coastal areas. Public support remains essential to promote and enable the various ocean related policies, including the sustainable competitiveness of the blue economy with a thriving fisheries and aquaculture sector.

Mr Marzoa Notlevsen  
Chairman Mediterranean Advisory Council - MEDAC  
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c/o Ministero delle Politiche Agricole, Alimentari, Forestali e del Turismo Via XX Settembre, 20 00187 Roma ITALY

Notwithstanding the above, we invite Member States to continue working on effectively implementing all the existing funding opportunities as set out in the current financial period 2021 – 2027.

The Commission values the active engagement of the MEDAC on this critical matter and looks forward to your continued support and contribution. 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,

Charlina VITCHEVA

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