



**EUROPEAN COMMISSION**  
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR MARITIME AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES

Director General

Brussels,  
MARE D3 EG/ADV ARES(2017)

Mr Jesper Raakjaer  
Chairman of the Pelagic AC  
Louis Braillelaan 80  
2719 EK Zoetermeer  
The Netherlands

**Subject: Commission response to PELAC stock recommendations**

*Your ref.: 1718/PAC 49*

Dear Mr. Raakjær,

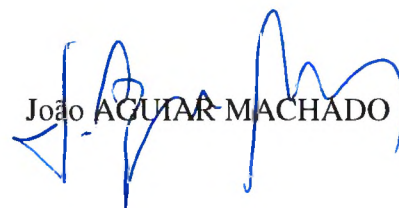
Thank you for your letter regarding the follow up to the PELAC recommendations on fishing opportunities. Indeed, since a couple of years now, DG MARE decided to treat the recommendations of the Advisory Councils on TACs and Quotas in the same way as all the other replies to the public consultation on Fishing Opportunities and thus not reply to them to ensure a level-playing-field. It goes without saying that the input of PELAC and of the other Advisory Councils is very valuable and duly taken into account when shaping Commission proposals on fishing opportunities.

Regarding the attendance to your meetings, please be assured that we are doing our best to be present and explain the proposals and the outcome of the Council to the extent possible. I sincerely regret that this is not always possible. With regionalisation, the number of meetings has increased considerably.

Please be assured that we greatly value your work and that your input is extremely important to assist the Commission in the implementation and development of the Common Fisheries Policy.

I look forward to our continued cooperation and invite you to take contact with Ms Pascale Colson, coordinator of the Advisory Councils ([pascale.colson@ec.europa.eu](mailto:pascale.colson@ec.europa.eu); +32 2 29 56273) should you have any further questions on this reply.

Yours sincerely,

  
João AGUIAR MACHADO