



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR MARITIME AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES

The Director-General

Brussels,
MARE/C1/CB (2020)

Mr. Jesper Raakjær
Pelagic Advisory Council
Louis Braillelaan 80 2719 EK
Zoetermeer
The Netherlands

Subject: Rebuilding plan for Western Horse Mackerel
Your reference: 1920/PAC86

Dear Mr Raakjær,

I would like to thank you for your letter of 28 July 2020 and for submitting a rebuilding plan for Western horse mackerel.

The Commission shares your concerns regarding the current state of the stock, and we are determined to bring it back to safe biomass levels. We have taken the time to analyse this rebuilding plan and I am pleased to inform you that we have submitted your proposal to ICES for scientific review. Furthermore, following your follow-up letter of 14 August 2020 (reference 1920PAC90) on harvest control rules for Western horse mackerel, we have also forwarded the report to ICES to complement the rebuilding plan.

We will keep you informed once the final assessment has been published by ICES. Please note that according to ICES due to the COVID-19 situation the ICES delivery times for such requests may take longer.

Thank you again for your efforts in producing this rebuilding plan and for your hard work in the Pelagic Advisory Council this year despite the current sanitary circumstances. We encourage you to continue your valuable work and look forward to our continued fruitful cooperation. Please contact Ms Pascale Colson, coordinator of the ACs (Pascale.Colson@ec.europa.eu; + 32 2 29 56273), should you have any further question on this reply.

Yours sincerely,

Charlina VITCHEVA