



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR MARITIME AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES

The Director-General

Brussels

MARE.A.3-D.3/IV-PCO/Ares (2020)

Advisory Councils

Subject: Multi-AC advice on the “Maritime sector – a green post-COVID future”

Dear members of the Advisory Councils,

I would like to thank all of you for this joint advice in reply to the consultation launched by the European Commission on a new approach for a sustainable blue economy.

I am also pleased to see that, on top of the Advisory Councils, several organisations representing the seafood sector participated in the different consultation events and send written contributions on their vision for a sustainable blue economy. As highlighted every year by the Blue Economy Report, the seafood sector represents an important element of the EU blue economy and it has to be part of this new approach for a sustainable blue economy.

While the different sectors of the blue economy have their own specificities that justify specific policies, they face common challenges like the increasing competition for space, the cumulative impact of activities at sea or the impact of climate change. More than ever, there is a need for cross-sectoral approaches and collective efforts to ensure a sustainable future for blue economy activities and coastal communities.

My services are currently analysing all the contributions received before finalising the Communication that will set the Commission vision for a transformation of the blue economy under the different European Green Deal axes. This Communication will be further debated with the Member States, the European Parliament and all stakeholders in 2021. I am looking forward to the opportunity to further exchange with your members about this important collective responsibility.

Let me congratulate you for your efforts in producing a valuable joint-advice. I invite you to take contact with Ms Pascale Colson, coordinator of the Advisory Councils (pascale.colson@ec.europa.eu; +32 2 29 56273) should you have any question on this reply.

I would also like to use the opportunity to thank you for the continuous fruitful cooperation and wish you Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year!

Yours faithfully,

Charlina VITCHEVA