



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR MARITIME AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES

The Director-General

Brussels
MARE.C.5/NG/vr

Dear Mr Brouckaert,
Dear Mr O'Donoghue,

Thank you for your letter dated 21 May 2024 regarding the NWWAC and PelAC position on the setting of fishing opportunities for sprat in the Channel and for your comments on wider ecosystem considerations regarding forage fish species such as sprat.

I am pleased to inform you that the outcome of the EU-UK consultations has been aligned with the NWWAV/PelAC position to follow the ICES advice in full.

I welcome your initiative to develop a management strategy for sprat in the Celtic Sea ecoregion and the incorporation of ecosystem considerations. My services would be interested in discussing this with you. I note that Channel sprat is a jointly managed stock with the United Kingdom and therefore multi-year strategies need to be coordinated and agreed with the United Kingdom in order for these to be the basis of the ICES advice and the TAC setting.

Once more, I would like to thank you and the members of the NWWAC and the PelAC for your active involvement and views regarding the consultations. I am looking forward to our continued fruitful cooperation. Should you have any further questions on this reply, please contact Norman Graham, desk officer in MARE C5 (Norman.GRAHAM@ec.europa.eu), or Julia Rubeck, coordinator for the Advisory Councils (Julia.RUBECK@ec.europa.eu).

Yours faithfully,

Charlina VITCHEVA

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