



The Director-General

Brussels,
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Mr Yordan Gospodinov
Chairman of the Black Sea
Advisory Council
yordan.gospodinov@blsaceu.eu

Subject: BISAC recommendation on the management of turbot stock in 2020 and 2021

Your ref.: 053/17.07.2019

Dear Mr Gospodinov,

Many thanks for your letter dated 17 July 2019 regarding the management of turbot stocks in 2020 and 2021. We have well noted your comments and suggestions.

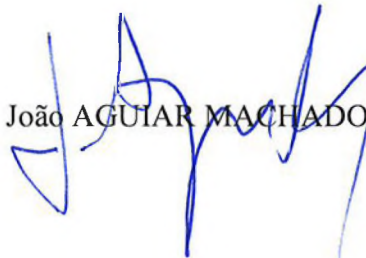
The GFCM Recommendation 41/2017/6 establishing a multiannual management plan (MAP) for turbot fisheries frames the management and control measures of turbot fisheries in the Black Sea at multilateral level to be implemented by all the GFCM (General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean) Contracting Parties and Cooperating non-Contracting Parties (CPCs), including the EU. The equal implementation of the GFCM turbot MAP is an overarching principle for the effectiveness of the MAP and the improvement of the state of the stock. Thus, I fully share your views on this specific issue.

As BISAC and the fishing sectors of both EU Member States are aware, the GFCM Recommendation provides that the turbot MAP will enter into its permanent phase after the first transitional period of 2-year, in 2019. Therefore, the EU is currently preparing the upcoming negotiations and is discussing with CPCs at the level of the GFCM with regard to the level of TAC for the next years and the allocation key of quotas among CPCs, in line with the scientific advice.

Based thereon and in the context of the GFCM Working Group on the Black Sea meeting that will be held mid-September and of the GFCM annual session in early-November, the EU will be discussing with CPCs on turbot significant measures to improve further the conservation, the control and enforcement and the fight against IUU fishing in the Black Sea, in line with the objectives set out in the 2018 Sofia Ministerial Declaration.

I invite you to contact Ms Pascale Colson, coordinator of the Advisory Councils (pascale.colson@ec.europa.eu; +32 2 29 56273), should you have any questions on this response.

Yours sincerely,


João AGUIAR MACHADO

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