



Att.: MARE-AC Team
DG MARE - Maritime Affairs and Fisheries
JII99, B-1000 BRUSSELS

Madrid, 10th February 2025

Subject: DG MARE participation in LDAC's meetings

Dear Mare-AC Team,

We would like to re-emphasise how important it is for LDAC to provide its members with the means and opportunities to exchange views directly with the institutions, and above all with the services of the European Commission, to which it mainly provides advice.

In the last working group meetings (October 2024, in Brussels), many members were surprised and disappointed to see that expected participants – with the notable exception of some - from DG MARE did not attend our meetings in person (e.g.: discussion on ICCAT and WCPFC-WG1 & update on SPRFMO and NPFC-WG2).

We have been informed that one of the reasons for this shift is that some RFMO exchanges will now be managed directly by MARE B2 Unit through regular stakeholders' meetings hosted by MARE, which will be open to stakeholders beyond the LDAC. We would appreciate more details on this plan so that we can adjust our work planning and consultations accordingly. In this regard, we would like to emphasize the high value of exchanges of views between LDAC members, observers and the European Commission services in developing common and joint work streams as well as valuable advices.

The next LDAC meetings will be held from 11th to 13th March in Brussels. We are confident that DG MARE attaches great importance to the contribution of Advisory Councils in meeting the objectives of the CFP, particularly through their involvement from conception to implementation of EU policies. Given this, we trust you recognize the critical importance of keeping the LDAC and its members well-informed, fostering debate, and enabling the exchange of views among all members and institutions. This is especially vital when addressing matters closely linked to one of our main goals.

We remain at your disposal,
Yours faithfully,

Anne-France Mattlet
Chair of the Working Group 1
Long Distance Advisory Council

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