

Attn: Mr. Fernando Andresen Guimaraes
Director MARE B
International Ocean Governance & Sustainable Fisheries

Madrid, 7th February 2025

Dear Director,

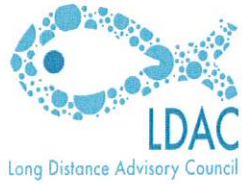
On behalf of the members of the [Long Distance Fisheries Advisory Council](#) (LDAC), I would like to congratulate you for your recent appointment as Director of MARE B on International Ocean Governance and Sustainable Fisheries.

In terms of composition, the LDAC is an EU stakeholder-led fisheries body comprising of 53 member organisations from 11 EU Member States that represent the whole fish value chain including catching, post-harvesting/processing and trading industry, as well as trade unions. We also have representatives of civil society under “other interest groups”, including environmental and development cooperation NGOs.

Regarding policy, the LDAC focuses its efforts mainly on the implementation of the external dimension of the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) of the European Union, providing advice to the European Commission and Member States on matters pertaining to work of RFMOs and international organisations (UNGA, EFCA, FAO), fisheries agreements with third countries, fight against Illegal Unreported and Unregulated fishing or the social dimension of the CFP, including maritime safety and decent labour and social conditions of fishers.

For the topics mentioned above, the overlap with your directorate is clear and the LDAC has worked closely since its creation in 2007 with DG MARE Directorate B, so we look forward to meeting you in person, exchanging views with you on work priorities for the coming months and years and deepening our valuable collaboration which we believe is of mutual benefit.

In view of the above, and as an initial suggestion, we will be glad to meet you in your offices in Brussels at your earliest convenience. Furthermore, we take the opportunity to invite you to attend our working group 5 on Horizontal Topics and/or our Executive Committee which will be held on 12-13 March in Brussels. We believe this will be a good opportunity to present you our main lines of work and discuss together the topics mentioned above. Such an exchange would be extremely timely, as the Evaluation of the CFP is currently ongoing and the External Dimension is an important element of this policy.



We wish you the best success in your role. Do not hesitate to contact the Secretariat team for any queries you may have.

Yours faithfully,


Iván López van der Veen
LDAC Chair




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