



Long Distance Fleet Regional Advisory Council

**Ms. Lowry Evans**

**General Director**

**DG Mare**

**Rue Joseph II**

**1049 – Brussels**

Lisbon, August 25<sup>th</sup> 2011

*Dear Lowry*  
Dear Ms. Evans,

I am writing you regarding the next NAFO annual meeting, to be held in Halifax from 19<sup>th</sup> till 23<sup>rd</sup> September, as well as the preparatory meeting with the European Commission in Brussels, on September 1<sup>st</sup>, for which kind invitation to the LDRAC I would like to thank you.

The LDRAC has held on 27<sup>th</sup> July, in Brussels, an internal focus group looking for the elaboration of a Recommendation on the above mentioned matter.

Based on the discussions held during that meeting, a draft recommendation was prepared and few days later, on August 16<sup>th</sup>, sent to the Executive Committee members for its approval. Eight days later only one comment was received in the Secretariat. The comment, from WWF, arrived, at the last minute, on 24<sup>th</sup> and agrees most of the recommendation but not everything. For that reason I am very pleased to send to your consideration a LDRAC recommendation, approved by consensus by the Executive Committee, as well as a letter with the different views from WWF regarding the initial draft, which has been approved by the other 23 Executive Committee members (since you said that sometimes could be useful for the EC to have all the positions and not only the consensus one).

We truly hope that we will have the chance to set a meaningful cooperation between the LDRAC representatives and the EC delegation for the NAFO Annual Meeting and I personally commit myself to make my best to reinforce the bonds between the LDRAC and the EC, looking for the best possible outcome for the EU in the NAFO Fisheries Commission, taking into account that the EU is really the major player within this RFMO, as its represents a relevant number of Member States.

With my best regards,

Antonio Cabral

President