



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR MARITIME AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES

The Director-General

Brussels,
MARE/A2/RGV

Mr Ivan Lopez van der Veen
LDAC Chair
C/ Doctor Fleming 7, _ 2º derecha
ES - 28036 MADRID

Subject: LDAC Proposals to improve observance of and compliance with International Law rules in terms of human, labour and social rights applicable to workers in the fishing sector

Your ref: Your letter dated 8 August 2016

Dear Mr Lopez,

Thank you for the LDAC proposals on the above mentioned topic addressed to me as well as to a number of my colleagues. First of all I would like to apologise for the very late reply. I would like to assure you that, within the framework of the EU's competencies, the Commission promotes a socially and economically sustainable working climate for sea fisheries, which should leave no room for criminal conduct. The EU also cooperates with third countries and international organisations to improve compliance with international measures, including the respect of human rights.

Regular dialogue takes place on all the issues you raise, including with the fisheries sector and relevant authorities and through cooperation between the services that follow these issues. We are already extensively coordinating our efforts, based on the various policies involved.

In the annex attached to this letter you will find detailed replies to your ten recommendations.

Thank you again for your constructive input and support. If you have any questions on this reply, you may contact Ms Evangelia Georgitsi, coordinator of the Advisory Councils (evangelia.georgitsi@ec.europa.eu; +32.2.295.04.43).

Yours sincerely,


João AGUIAR MACHADO