



CONSEIL CONSULTATIF POUR  
LES EAUX OCCIDENTALES  
SEPTENTRIONALES

NORTH WESTERN  
WATERS  
ADVISORY COUNCIL

CONSEJO CONSULTIVO PARA  
LAS AGUAS  
NOROCCIDENTALES

Mr Maarten A. Wegen  
Directorate-General Agro and Nature  
P.O. Box 2041  
2500 EK Den Haag  
THE NETHERLANDS

Dublin, 19<sup>th</sup> October 2018

Subject: Response to your letter on Skates and Rays roadmap (ref.: DGAN-ELVV / 18259584)

Dear Mr Wegen,

Thank you for your letter of the 24 September 2018. The North Western Waters Advisory Council welcomes the opportunity for further cooperation with the Member States Group on this important issue.

The NWWAC confirms its commitment to participate fully in this process.

We will aim to organise a Focus Group early 2019, with scientific experts in attendance. The objectives of this Focus Group will include the requested drafting of a programme of measures for best practices for skates and rays that can be implemented at fleet level. The NWWAC will also aim to submit its advice well in advance of the deadline for the Member States' joint recommendations on the 31<sup>st</sup> of May 2019.

The NWWAC looks forward to working with the Member States Group and the stakeholders to find the best possible contribution to achieve completion the Skates and Rays Roadmap.

Yours sincerely,

Emiel Brouckaert  
Chairman  
Executive Committee