



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR MARITIME AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES

THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL

Brussels,
MARE C2 Ares (2011)

Mr. Sam Lambourn
Chairman
NWWRAC
Bord Iascaigh Mhara
Crofton Road, Dun Laoghaire
Co Dublin, Ireland

Re: Implementation of Reg. 1342/2008 – Cod recovery plan in North Western Waters

Dear Mr. Lambourn,


I thank the North Western Waters Regional Advisory Council for the letter of 8 November 2010 referring to that stated practical problems arose from the implementation of Regulation (EC) No. 1342/2008, regarding the cod recovery plan, in North Western Waters.

On 14 December 2010, at the end of two days of negotiations at the Fisheries Council of Ministers, political agreement was reached on TACs and quotas for the Baltic, Atlantic and the North Sea. The Commission has taken into account your concerns on the multiple difficulties in the implementation of the cod recovery plan, and your advice on the situation in the North Western Waters. Which will be very relevant in the context of the review of the cod recovery plan.

The Commission is concerned about the continued poor state of stocks of cod concerned by Council Regulation (EC) 1342/2008 and the lack of evidence of a reduction in fishing mortality rates and will undertake a review of all pertinent factors concerning the fisheries catching the relevant cod stocks. The review will include the measures fixed according to the aforementioned regulation, their implementation and their effects, including discard reduction measures and measures affecting cod management decided by Member States as well as the application of the fishing effort limits.

The review will cover scientific and control aspects and will require the submission of relevant data by Member States. The Commission will request the advice of STECF concerning the review and will consult stakeholders through the Regional Advisory Councils. In which context the active participation of the NWWRAC would be very much appreciated.

Yours sincerely,



Lowri Evans