



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR MARITIME AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES

The Director-General

Brussels,
MARE/C1/js/Ares(2020)

Mr Emiel Brouckaert
NWWAC Chairman
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Subject: NWWAC advice on management measures for seabass in 2021

Dear Mr Brouckaert,

Thank you for your letter from 30 November 2020, concerning your members' advice for the December AGRIFISH Council on the subject of northern Seabass.

Please let me again thank you and your members for your valued input during these difficult times. As you are aware, this stock is shared with the United Kingdom and thus subject to ongoing consultations with the UK.

I hope your members have had a chance to examine the outcome of the Council. This was an unusual year, in that the Council had to agree provisional fishing opportunities before a general agreement was concluded with the United Kingdom. In the case of northern Seabass, like many other stocks, a rollover of the 2020 measures was agreed for the first quarter of 2021, pending finalisation of measures for the remainder of 2021 with the United Kingdom.

It is therefore too soon for me to comment upon the level of the final fishing opportunities for northern seabass. We note the observer status of several of your members in the ongoing EU-UK consultations and my services will endeavour to keep all of your members up to date with the progress on this matter.

Thank you once again for your correspondence. Should you have any further questions on this reply, please kindly contact my colleague Ms Pascale Colson (pascale.colson@ec.europa.eu).

Yours sincerely,

Charlina VITCHEVA
Director-General