



EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR MARITIME AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES

The Director-General

Brussels,  
MARE/A4/ACS/HP

**Subject: Update of economic fleet data of the Annual Economic Report (AER) on the EU fishing fleet to reflect current commodity price crisis.**

Dear Mr. Brouckaert,

Thank you for your letter<sup>1</sup> regarding the economic fleet data and analysis of the Scientific Technical and Economic Committee for Fisheries (STECF) of Annual Economic Report (AER) on the EU fishing fleet. You noted that the AER provides a comprehensive overview of the structure and economic performance of the EU fishing fleets. This report is indeed the main source of socio-economic intelligence and data to support scientific advice on the EU fishing fleet.

The 2022 AER will continue efforts made in previous years to streamline the content while providing more in-depth look at the different factors driving the economic performance of the EU fleets in 2022, particularly the rising fuel prices. This will mainly be achieved, as you suggested, through the analysis of the most recent available data (including first sale prices and fuel prices up to May 2022), as well as economic modelling to nowcast the performance of fishing fleets in 2022.

Furthermore, in the context of the 2022 AER, STECF experts have been requested to provide an indication of the main socio-economic impacts of the fuel prices on the national fishing fleets, such as fishing activity and employment. These indications should help to fine-tune the nowcasting exercise to estimate the performance of the fishing fleet in 2022. This nowcasting will be undertaken by region and fishing fleet category in a specialised section of the 2022 report.

During the planning for the next 2023 AER, my team will discuss with STECF a general prioritization of the sections and topics to be included in the terms of reference. This planning will again consider your request, as well as requests from other Advisory Councils and stakeholders, taking into account the available resources and policy needs. We hope that this clarifies the current situation.

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<sup>1</sup> our ref. Ares(2022)3652305

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I am looking forward to our continued fruitful cooperation. Should you have any further questions on this reply, please contact Ms Pascale COLSON, coordinator of the Advisory Councils ([Pascale.COLSON@ec.europa.eu](mailto:Pascale.COLSON@ec.europa.eu); +32.2.295.62.73), who will forward them to relevant colleagues.

Yours sincerely,

(e-Signed)  
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