

Mr. Emiel Brouckaert  
North Western Waters Advisory Council  
c/o Bord Iascaigh Mhara  
Crofton Road Dun Laoghaire  
Ireland

Subject: EFCA / NWWAC Cooperation

Dear Mr.Brouckaert,

Thanks very much for your interest in the cooperation with EFCA.

As you are surely aware, one of EFCA's key priorities has always been to maintain close contact and excellent cooperation with industry and NGOs, by participating in relevant meetings of the ACs and through the work with the EFCA advisory board.

Unfortunately, during your horizontal group meeting on 3rd July in Ghent, the team that normally covers most AC meetings was not available due to other commitments and summer holiday season. Similarly, the month of September is quite busy for EFCA, critical for preparing our Joint Deployment Plans and thus it is difficult for us to find availability. As you also indicate, EFCA already made a presentation to the NWWAC Executive Committee following a request from your representatives in March in Santiago de Compostela, during which EFCA answered the questions raised by the NWWAC members.

With regards to your proposal for a joint workshop between NWWAC, EFCA, DG MARE, and the NWW Member States Control Experts Group (NWW CEG) in the beginning of October, we will make all efforts to satisfy this request as this is included in the work plan of the NWW CEG in 2023. We will liaise with the NWW CEG to organise this joint workshop. After discussing this proposal with the NWW CEG, EFCA will contact the NWWAC Secretariat to agree on a concrete date and on the detailed joint organisation of the meeting.

Regarding your additional comment regarding the "Weighing project" currently being undertaken by EFCA on request of the European Commission under a specific grant agreement, EFCA is already in the final stages of the project and preparing the final report to be submitted to DG MARE.

We are looking forward for continuing the good cooperation between EFCA and the NWWAC.

Kind regards,

*(e-signed)*  
Dr. Susan Steele  
EFCA Executive Director