



Dublin, 15th of March 2013

Subject: CFP Reform – Role of Advisory Councils and regional cooperation

Dear Fisheries Ministers of France, Spain, United Kingdom, Ireland, Belgium and The Netherlands,
Dear Secretaries of State and Permanent Representatives,
Dear Members of the European Parliament Fisheries Committee,

At a recent coordination meeting between the Regional Advisory Councils and the Commission held on the 1st of March 2013, the future role, composition and functioning of the Advisory Councils was discussed together with a regional approach to fisheries management.

As future Advisory Councils (ACs) are expected to play an enhanced advisory role in the reformed CFP reform, please find below links to the latest opinions of the North Western Waters RAC to inform your forthcoming discussions in relation to this subject matter:

- NWWRAC Response to Commission's Consultation on the Advisory Councils in the CFP reform (November 2012):
http://www.nwwrac.org/admin/publication/upload/NWWRAC_Response_EC_Consultation_Role_ACs_9Nov2012_EN.pdf
- NWWRAC Proposal of Amendments to EC Proposal of Regulation on CFP (September 2012)
http://www.nwwrac.org/admin/publication/upload/Proposal_NWWRAC_Amendments_CFP_Regulations_ACs_September2012_EN.pdf

Given that regional cooperation between ACs and Member States is expected to be strengthened, particularly on issues such as the development and implementation of technical measures and multi annual management plans at sea basin level, the NWWRAC would like to express a willingness to exchange views on how to increase collaborative work in these areas.

Yours sincerely,

Bertie Armstrong
NWWRAC Chairman

In copy – NWWRAC Vice-Chairs:

Jacques Pichon (1st Vicechair - Fishing Industry)
Hugo González (2nd Vice Chair - Fishing Industry)
Iwan Ball (3rd Vice Chair - eNGO)