



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR MARITIME AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES

Director General

Brussels,
ADV/D3 (2017)

Mr Niels Wichmann
NSAC Chairman
Office 17, Aberdeen Business
Centre
Willowbank Road
Aberdeen, AB116YG Scotland
The United Kingdom

**Subject: Implementation of the Landing Obligation in the North Sea
Demersal Fisheries - Joint Recommendation for a Delegated Act for
2019**

Your reference: Advice Ref.01-1718

Dear Mr Wichmann,

Thank you for your email of 26 April 2018 forwarding to us the recent NSAC advice on the Implementation of the Landing obligation in the North Sea.

I have read this advice with great interest. A thorough analysis of concrete choke risks, like you have undertaken in your advice, is not only an important basis for the work of the Scheveningen group but also for the Commission and the Council when it comes to possible residual cases of choke species, that is those cases of choke species that cannot be resolved through the discard plans or other elements of the existing CFP toolbox. We will examine the potential measures you are proposing to mitigate choke problems and discuss it with Member States and stakeholders in the context of fishing opportunities for 2019.

You announce that further advices will be adopted by the NSAC on this matter in the coming months. I am very much looking forward to receiving those additional advices, which will be of major interest for the Commission and Member States.

Let me thank you again for your cooperation and constructive input. I invite you to take contact with Ms Pascale Colson, coordinator of the Advisory Councils (pascale.colson@ec.europa.eu; +32 2 29 56273) should you have any question on this reply.

Yours Sincerely,

João AGUIAR MACHADO