



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR MARITIME AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES

The Director-General

Brussels, 25 March 2022
MARE/A2/BVT(2022)

Subject: AAC recommendation on fish welfare in live fish transport

Dear Mr. Ojeda,

I would like to thank you for your mail of 11th March 2022 including the “*Recommendation on fish welfare in live fish transport.*”

Your recommendation rightly points out that the current Council Regulation (EC) No 1/2005 on the protection of animals during transport¹ covers fish within its scope and general principles.

The ongoing impact assessment on the revision of the EU animal welfare legislation on transport does not address the protection of farmed fish during transport as a separate issue.

However, the study in support to the impact assessment will look at the transport of farmed fish and in light of the findings of this study, the Commission will explore whether, to what extent and in which way the revision of the EU animal welfare legislation will address concrete measures for the protection of farmed fish during transport.

It should be noted however that a scientific opinion of the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) on the transport of farmed fish would not be available by the time of drafting the legislative proposal. Therefore, the issue cannot be addressed in a comprehensive and detailed manner in the revision of the transport regulation, and may require foreseeing certain empowerments for the Commission to develop delegated acts at a later stage (once the relevant EFSA opinion is available).

¹ Council Regulation (EC) No 1/2005 on the protection of animals during transport and related operations; OJ L 3, 5.1.2005, p. 1.

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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; +32.2.295.62.73), who will forward it to relevant colleagues.

Yours sincerely,

[e-signed]
Charlina VITCHEVA

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