

**Javier Ojeda**  
Chair  
Aquaculture Advisory Council  
Rue Montoyer, 31 - 1000 Brussels

**Member States of the European Union**

Brussels, 08 September 2022

## **Subject: Call for Action on raising costs of aquaculture production**

Dear Madam, Sir,

In April this year, the Aquaculture Advisory Council (AAC) has communicated to your administration and to the European Commission a recommendation in relation to rising production costs for European Union (EU) aquaculture producers<sup>1</sup>.

In this recommendation, the EU aquaculture stakeholders suggested short and medium-term actions to be taken in relation to the rise – in particular - of feed and energy prices to ensure the survival of the aquaculture sector. The recommendation concludes by a call for preemptive action rather than emergency measures to be taken amidst a possible future crisis for a sector that should be considered as an essential activity to provide nutritious and healthy food to the EU.

A response<sup>2</sup> to this recommendation was received from the European Commission last month, outlining the different measures approved at the EU level to limit the war in Ukraine fallout on the EU aquaculture sector:

- A temporary state aid framework
- The crisis mechanism of the European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund (EMFAF)
- A legislative proposal to amend the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF) to introduce crisis measures

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<sup>1</sup> Recommendation in relation to rising production costs for EU aquaculture producers, 25 April 2022, available in 7 languages on the AAC website: <https://aac-europe.org/en/recommendations/position-papers/404-aac-recommendation-in-relation-to-rising-production-costs>

<sup>2</sup> European Commission Reply to the AAC recommendation on the rising production costs in aquaculture, 29 July 2022: <https://aac-europe.org/en/recommendations/eu-documents/433-european-commission-reply-to-the-aac-recommendation-on-the-rising-production-costs-in-aquaculture>





Additionally, the Commission calls on Member States to ensure a swift implementation of the measures.

The AAC is pleased with the swift and prudent actions taken by the EC but its members are concerned about the subsequent actions to be taken by the Member States. On this, the AAC kindly asks the Member States administrations to inform whether and to what extent they have or plan to use the measures made available by the EC<sup>3</sup>.

To be able to develop a strong and sustainable aquaculture in the EU we need to maintain and consolidate the existing activities and we count on your support to implement all possible solutions. The AAC members thank you very much in advance for your help in these difficult times.

We remain at your services should you need any further information on this matter.

With my best regards,

Javier Ojeda  
Chair  
**Aquaculture Advisory Council**

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<sup>3</sup> This information can be sent to the AAC secretariat: [secretariat@aac-europe.org](mailto:secretariat@aac-europe.org). For any questions, you can reach the secretariat by phone: +32 (0)2 720 00 73

