



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR MARITIME AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES

The Director-General

Brussels,
MARE/A2/LDCI

Subject: AAC recommendation on aquaculture definitions

Dear Mr. Brian Thomsen,

I would like to thank you for your letter including recommendations on definitions on aquaculture. I really appreciate the effort of the Aquaculture Advisory Council in trying to bring greater coherence among the different definitions available of terms such as “aquaculture”, “sustainable aquaculture” and “intensive” and “extensive” aquaculture.

We take note of your proposals for our work and any relevant initiative in the future. For the moment, the Commission is not planning to review existing or introduce new legal definitions of these terms.

Let me also confirm that, as reflected in the Commission Strategic Guidelines for a more sustainable and competitive EU aquaculture for the period 2021-2030 adopted in 2021, the Commission considers that animal welfare is part of the work on ensuring the sustainability of the aquaculture sector.

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 them to relevant colleagues.

Yours sincerely,

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