

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR MARITIME AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES

The Director-General

Brussels, MARE/A4/GH

Dear Ms Bermúdez, Dear Mr Thomsen,

Thank you for the recommendations on consumer information for fishery and aquaculture products in the HORECA sector, which you submitted on 24 October 2024 on behalf of the Market Advisory Council and the Aquaculture Advisory Council. I appreciate the feedback you provided. We place great importance on consumer information for fishery and aquaculture products. Reliable traceability is essential for providing accurate information to consumers, and we are confident that the revised control regulation will lead to significant progress in this area.

Thus, consumer information and traceability are instrumental for achieving the objectives of the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) and the Common Market Organisation (CMO) Regulation. As you know, an evaluation of the CFP Regulation, including the CMO provisions, is currently underway. This evaluation will assess the effectiveness of the current regulatory framework, considering aspects covered in your advice, such as the products and operators subject to mandatory consumer information. We will take your advice into account as part of this evaluation process.

As regards the first recommendation of the MAC advice on consumer information in the HORECA sector, we have contacted our colleagues in DG SANTE, who are currently verifying the notifications received under Article 44 of Regulation (EU) No 1169/2011 on the provision of food information to consumers. We hope to be able to share their feedback with the MAC in January 2025.

The other recommendations in your advice are addressed to both the Member States and the Commission. Therefore, we are planning to discuss the subject of consumer information in the HORECA sector during the next meeting of the expert group for markets and trade in fishery and aquaculture products (MTFAP) in February 2025.

I am looking forward to our continued fruitful cooperation. Should you have any further questions on this reply, please contact Ms Julia Rubeck, our Advisory Councils coordinator, via the functional mailbox MARE-AC@ec.europa.eu.

Yours sincerely,

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