



EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY

The Director General

Brussels,  
SANTE/G3/ER/iv(2025) 7125928

**Subject: Update on EFSA mandates**

Dear Mr Thomsen,

Thank you for your letter of 26 May 2025, in which you ask if I can provide more clarity on the planned Commission mandates to EFSA regarding the welfare of farmed finfish and invertebrates.

As announced in the Vision on Agriculture and Food, the Commission intends to present a targeted revision of the legislation on the welfare of animals on farm, including with the objective to follow-up on the European Citizens' Initiative "End the Cage Age".

Concerning farmed aquatic animals, the Commission is focusing on improved implementation of the existing rules. The recently established EU Reference Centre for Animal Welfare on aquatic animals will amongst others support EU Member States in carrying out official controls. It will furthermore increase scientific and technical knowledge on aquatic animal welfare needs. Work is also ongoing on the issue of welfare indicators for farmed fish, through the EU Reference Centre as well as an ongoing study on animal welfare indicators.

Considering the ongoing work as mentioned above, there is no intention to send a mandate to EFSA on the welfare of farmed fish in the short term.

I would like to express my appreciation for your interest in the welfare of aquatic animals and look forward to continuing our fruitful cooperation.

Yours sincerely,

*[e-signed]*

Sandra GALLINA

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