



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR MARITIME AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES

The Director-General

Brussels,
MARE.A.2/EGG

Subject: AAC Recommendation on Integrating Aquaculture into the EU Taxonomy for Sustainable Investment

Dear Mr Thomsen,

I would like to thank you for the AAC Recommendation on “*Integrating Aquaculture into the EU Taxonomy for Sustainable Investment*”, received on 26 May 2026.

The EU Taxonomy establishes criteria for economic activities that are aligned with the EU’s climate and environmental objectives. It is not a list of sustainable economic activities for investors to invest in, nor does it establish mandatory environmental performance requirements for companies or financial products.

Consequently, the absence of a specific sector from the current Taxonomy framework should not be interpreted as an indication that the sector is environmentally harmful or unsustainable. Nor does such absence prevent operators from accessing finance.

The Commission fully recognises the important contribution of sustainable aquaculture to food security, climate resilience, rural and coastal development, and the objectives of the European Ocean Pact. More broadly, sustainable aquaculture plays a key role in supporting the transition towards resilient and sustainable food systems in the European Union.

Work on the EU Taxonomy is ongoing and is currently focused on those sectors where the development of sustainability criteria can have the greatest impact in supporting the achievement of the Union’s climate and environmental objectives. The Commission will continue to monitor developments related to the implementation of the Taxonomy framework and will keep stakeholders informed of relevant future developments.

Last but not least, in parallel, the Commission is advancing work on initiatives aimed at further demonstrating and promoting the environmental performance and investment potential of the aquaculture sector. These include a forthcoming Commission Staff Working Document on the environmental performance of EU aquaculture, as well as

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guidance being developed through the Aquaculture Assistance Mechanism to support aquaculture producers in attracting investment. The Commission appreciates the valuable contributions provided by the AAC to both documents.

I am looking forward to our continued fruitful cooperation. Should you have 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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