



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR MARITIME AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES

THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL

Brussels, 14.07.2009 D 08247
D(2009)

Mr R. Johansson
Baltic Sea RAC
H.C. Andersens Boulevard 37, III
553 Copenhagen V
Denmark

Subject: Contribution to consultation process on the development of a Baltic Sea salmon management plan

Dear Mr Johansson,

Thank you for the Baltic Sea RAC's valuable contribution to the consultation process for the development of a Baltic salmon management plan. I am also grateful to you for having taken on the task of moderating during the consultation meeting in April in Brussels, when some of the key questions for the future plan were discussed. Furthermore, we recognise the BSRAC's active participation in this process from the very beginning – with the first recommendations arriving at DG MARE back in March 2007.

The Commission has carefully examined the BSRAC's comments, proposals and concerns regarding a future plan and would like to highlight some which have been especially valuable.

- Generally, all objectives and goals expressed by the BSRAC have been taken on board for the proposal for a management plan.
- As for the production targets and timeframes proposed by the BSRAC, the Commission intends to follow these in the proposal.
- The suggested salmon river management plans which would be developed and implemented by Member States will likely be proposed as part of a new management plan. The proposed measures in inland waters to safeguard the genetic diversity of the different stocks and to improve migratory fish ways would also form part of the salmon river management plans.
- Regarding the proposal to include rules on good rearing techniques, the proposal for a plan will likely include guidelines for stocking.
- A new river inventory has already been agreed in the Baltic Sea HELCOM action plan to be undertaken by the HELCOM contracting parties before 2012. The Commission intends to co-finance this inventory.

- Even though the Commission shares the opinion of the BSRAC on the usefulness of having an overall TAC, the resistance to such a step has been strong among Member States.

In addition to the comments received from the BSRAC, 44 other written contributions were submitted to the consultation. All the contributions, together with the environmental, social and economic advice, have been taken on board and have contributed significantly to the analysis of the policy options in the impact assessment report. A summary of all contributions has been prepared and can be found on the DG MARE website at:

http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/governance/consultations/baltic_salmon/overview_results_en.pdf

I would once again like to express my gratitude to you for your active participation throughout this process.

Yours sincerely,



Fokion FOTIADIS