



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR MARITIME AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES

The Director-General

Brussels,
MARE/C2.NG

Subject: Your request for an extended mandate of the European Fisheries Control Agency (EFCA) to the Outermost Regions

Dear Mr Pavón,

I write to you in reply to your letter of 3 June 2021 (ref.ARES(2021)3648683) in which you request to extend the mandate of the European Fisheries Control Agency (EFCA) to the European waters of the Outermost Regions.

Let me firstly clarify that, in accordance with Article 19 of EFCA's codified Founding Regulation (EU) 2019/473 in force, the officials of the Agency are allowed to operate as Union inspectors *only* in international waters.

However, as you may be aware, the ongoing Commission legislative proposal for the revision of the Fisheries Control system provides for an extension of the EFCA mandate in view of allowing its Union inspectors to operate beyond international waters.

Consequently, the EFCA mandate may be extended and its officials empowered as Union Inspectors in the waters under the Member States sovereignty and jurisdiction – including the European waters in the Outermost Regions once the Commission legislative proposal will be adopted by the co-legislators.

Let me thank you for your efforts and commitment. 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 it to relevant colleagues.

Yours sincerely,

Charlina VITCHEVA

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