



EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR MARITIME AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES

The Director-General

Brussels,  
MARE/D3/RM (2021)

**Subject:** *Recommendation 20 on the Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2013, as regards restrictions to the access to Union waters.*

Dear Mr Pavón,

Thank you for transmitting the recommendation mentioned in subject of this letter.

I would like to underline that the proposal by the Commission to which the recommendation refers, does not change the current regime as already set out in the Common Fisheries Policy Regulation but merely aims to extend it with another ten years. The proposal thus also does not modify the possibility offered to Member States to restrict fishing within 100 nautical miles from the baselines of the outermost regions to vessels registered in the ports of those territories. It remains the responsibility of the concerned Member States to decide whether they apply this derogation to the general access to waters regime, including as regards the outermost regions.

The issues raised by the recommendation concern the application of Article 5 of the Common Fisheries Policy Regulation in substance and therefore go beyond the purpose of the aforementioned Commission proposal. Nevertheless, we will duly take account of the recommendation when preparing the report on the functioning of the Common Fisheries Policy, to be presented in 2022.

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I am looking forward to our continued fruitful cooperation. Should you have any further questions on this reply, please contact Ms Pascale COLSON, coordinator of the Advisory Councils ([Pascale.COLSON@ec.europa.eu](mailto:Pascale.COLSON@ec.europa.eu); +32.2.295.62.73), who will forward it to relevant colleagues.

Yours sincerely,

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