



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

*Brussels, 4.9.2020
C(2020) 6125 final*

Dear President,

The Commission would like to thank the Camera dei Deputati for its Opinion on the proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing a multiannual management plan for bluefin tuna in the eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean, amending Regulations (EC) No 1936/2001, (EU) 2017/2107, and (EU) 2019/833 and repealing Regulation (EU) 2016/1627 {COM (2019) 619 final}.

The Commission welcomes the general support of the Camera dei Deputati for the proposal. The proposal is currently being discussed in the European Parliament and the Council. The negotiation between the two institutions should start in the following weeks and the Camera dei Deputati's Opinion has been made available to the Commission's representatives in view of these negotiations between the co-legislators.

The Commission agrees with the Camera dei Deputati on its approach regarding the need to facilitate the access to quotas of bluefin tuna to artisanal vessels in line with the European Union common fisheries policy and the Malta MedFish4Ever Declaration, signed by Italy in 2017. The purpose of this proposal is to implement International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) Recommendation 18-02 into Union law. Therefore, regulatory changes as mentioned in the Opinion, in particular those that require a higher level of flexibility, need to be agreed by ICCAT before being transposed into Union law.

We would like to add that it is necessary to empower the Commission to adopt delegated acts in respect of specific aspects in order to ensure a swift implementation into Union law of future ICCAT recommendations amending or supplementing the current ICCAT Management plan for bluefin tuna. This will also put the EU fleet on a level playing field vis-a-vis third country fleets when implementing the applicable rules.

*Mr Roberto FICO
President of the Camera dei Deputati
Piazza Montecitorio
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Regarding your suggestion under point c), we would note that it should be addressed to the Italian Government.

The Commission hopes that these clarifications address the issues raised by the Camera dei Deputati and looks forward to continuing the political dialogue in the future.

Yours faithfully,

*Maroš Šefčovič
Vice-President*

*Virginijus Sinkevičius
Member of the Commission*