



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

*Brussels, 14.10.2016
C(2016) 6565 final*

Dear Chair,

The Commission would like to thank the Assembleia da República for its Opinion concerning the Commission proposal for a Regulation defining characteristics for fishing vessels - recast {COM (2016) 273 final}.

The Commission welcomes the Assembleia da República's positive assessment of the proposal regarding its compliance with the principles of subsidiarity and proportionality.

The purpose of this proposal is to undertake a codification of Council Regulation (EEC) No 2930/86 of 22 September 1986 defining characteristics for fishing vessels as amended by Council Regulation (EC) No 3259/94. As a result, it would not bring about any modifications to the current state of the law, with the exception of the provision conferring delegated powers on the Commission to adapt the requirements for the determination of continuous engine power to technical progress.

The points made above are based on the initial proposal presented by the Commission which is currently in the legislative process involving both the European Parliament and the Council in which the Portuguese government is represented.

The Commission hopes that these clarifications address the issues raised by the Assembleia da República and looks forward to continuing our political dialogue in the future. Yours faithfully,

*Frans Timmermans
First Vice-President*

*Karmenu Vella
Member of the Commission*

*Ms Regina Bastos
Chair of the European affairs committee
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*cc. Mr Eduardo Ferro Rodrigues
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