



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

*Brussels, 8.3.2019
C(2019) 1501 final*

*Mr Liviu DRAGNEA
President of the
Camera Deputaților
Palace of the Parliament
Str. Izvor nr. 2-4, sector 5
RO – 050563 BUCHAREST*

Dear President,

The Commission would like to thank the Camera Deputaților for its Opinion on the proposal for a Regulation of the Council fixing for 2019 the fishing opportunities for certain fish stocks and groups of fish stocks in the Black Sea {COM(2018) 710 final}.

The Commission welcomes the support of the Camera Deputaților for the proposal and has taken good note of its comments. In particular, the Commission would like to recall that the objective of achieving the maximum sustainable yield for the fish stocks in the Black Sea is fully in line with the principles and objectives of the Common Fisheries Policy. In the same vein, the implementation of the joint pilot project for inspection and control of turbot fisheries and of the multiannual management plan of turbot will contribute to the sustainability of the Black Sea turbot fisheries.

The Commission would like to note that, in line with the Common Fisheries Policy, the setting of fishing opportunities is based on the best available scientific advice on the state of important fish stocks, such as turbot and sprat, provided by the Scientific, Technical and Economic Committee for Fisheries and the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean Working Group on the Black Sea. The Commission acknowledges the importance of scientific research on fisheries and promotes regional scientific cooperation, in line with the Sofia Ministerial Declaration on the sustainability of Black Sea fisheries and aquaculture.

The Commission is pleased to confirm that the above-mentioned Regulation was adopted unanimously by the Council on 17 December 2018 and published in the Official Journal of the European Union on 27 December 2018¹. It applies from 1 January 2019 and establishes the fishing opportunities for the commercially most important fish stocks for

¹ OJ L329, 27.12.2018, p.8

the Member States in the Black Sea for 2019. For sprat, an autonomous quota will apply. For turbot, the Council Regulation transposes the Total Allowable Catch and quotas as established by the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean in its recommendation on a multiannual management plan for turbot fisheries in the Black Sea².

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

Yours faithfully,

*Frans Timmermans
First Vice-President*

*Karmenu Vella
Member of the Commission*

² GFCM/41/2017/4