



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

*Brussels, 8.10.2018
C(2018) 6538 final*

Dear Presidents,

The Commission would like to thank the Cortes Generales for their Opinion on the proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund {COM(2018) 390 final}.

This proposal forms part of the proposed multiannual financial framework 2021-2027, the new European Union long-term budget that should enter into force on 1 January 2021. The new European Maritime and Fisheries Fund should continue to support the European fisheries sector towards more sustainable fishing practices, with a particular focus on supporting small-scale fishermen. It should also help unleash the growth potential of a sustainable blue economy towards a more prosperous future for coastal communities. For the first time, it should contribute to strengthening international ocean governance for safer, cleaner, more secure, and sustainably managed seas and oceans.

The Commission welcomes the Cortes Generales' support for the proposal, which is currently in the legislative process involving both the European Parliament and the Council.

The Commission looks forward to continuing the political dialogue with the Cortes Generales in the future.

Yours faithfully,

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First Vice-President*

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