



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR MARITIME AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES

THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL

Brussels,
A2/EG D(2014)

MEDAC
Mr Giampaolo Buonfiglio
Chairperson
Via Nazionale 243
I - 00184 Rome
Italy

Subject: Review of the definition of fishing days

Yr reference: 133/COM

Dear Mr Buonfiglio,

Thank you for the MEDAC letter requesting a revision of the definition of fishing days.

The management plan for small pelagics in the Adriatic Sea adopted by the GFCM in 2013 defines "fishing day" as a "continuous period of 24 hours, or part thereof, during which a vessel is present within the GSA 17 and/or GSA 18 and is absent from port". Member States requested a re-definition of fishing day, in order to avoid that a vessel absent from port for reasons other than fishing may be considered as effectively fishing.

We took this argument into consideration and agreed with Member States to propose a new definition for "fishing day", to make clear that it refers to effective fishing activity of a vessel, as defined in Regulation 1380/2013, Art 4(28). I am pleased to inform you that this new definition was adopted by the GFCM at its last annual session.

If you have any question on this reply, you can contact Ms Evangelia Georgitsi, coordinator of the Advisory Councils (evangelia.georgitsi@ec.europa.eu; +32.2.295.04.43).

Yours sincerely,

Lowri Evans

Copies: F. Donatella, E. Bianchi, A. Manoussopoulou, E. Georgitsi (DG MARE)