Ref. Ares(2015)5562731 - 03/12/2015

EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR MARITIME AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES

POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND CO-ORDINATION

Brussels,
MARE A2/DR/D(2015)

Mr. Bertie Armstrong
BIM, PO Box 12
Crofton Road,
Dun Laoghaire
Co. Dublin
Ireland

Subject: Annual report on the implementation of the landing obligation (Regulation (EU) 2015/812 amending Regulation (EU) 1380/2013, Article 15.14)

Dear Mr Armstrong,

Regulation (EU) No 2015/812 (the so-called Omnibus Regulation), introduced an obligation for the Commission to report on the implementation of the landing obligation. The Commission has to submit its first report to the European Parliament and the Council before 31 May 2016, covering implementation in 2015

According to Article 9 of the Omnibus Regulation, which introduces a new paragraph 14 to Article 15 of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013 on the CFP, this report should include the following elements:

- steps taken by Member States and producer organisations to comply with the landing obligation;
- steps taken by Member States regarding control of compliance with the landing obligation;
- information on the socioeconomic impact of the landing obligation;
- information on the effect of the landing obligation on safety on board fishing vessels;
- information on the use and outlets of catches below the minimum conservation reference size of a species subject to the landing obligation;
- information on port infrastructures and of vessels' fitting with regard to the landing obligation;
- for each fishery concerned, information on the difficulties encountered in the implementation of the landing obligation and recommendations to address them.

Article 9 of the Omnibus Regulation clarifies that the report shall be based on information by, among others, the Member States and the Advisory Councils concerned.

In this regard we would like to request submission of any relevant information and where relevant supporting data, listed above. To allow us time to analyse and collate the information and draft the report, I would appreciate receiving your contribution by 1 February 2016.

Yours sincerely,

Ernesto PENAS LADO
Director

Electronically signed on 03/12/2015 16:30 (UTC+01) in accordance with article 4.2 (Validity of electronic documents) of Commission Decision 2004/563