

EUROPEAN COMMISSION DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR MARITIME AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES

International Ocean Governance and Sustainable Fisheries Regional Fisheries Management Organisations

> Brussels Mare.B2/AP

Mr Serge Doucet NASCO President NASCO 11 Rutland Square, Edinburgh EH1 2AS Scotland, UK

Subject: Reply to the letter from the NASCO President following the review of the European Union's Implementation Plans (IPs)

Dear Mr Doucet,

Thank you for your letter (your ref. CNL40.2175) requesting information on how the European Union (EU) jurisdictions intend to address the deficiencies identified by the NASCO Review Group in their Implementation Plans. The European Union considers that the IP/APRs process is crucially important for the effective implementation of the NASCO's Resolutions, Agreements and Guidelines.

Your request was transmitted to the EU Member States concerned, along with the report from the Review Group, and each Member State was asked to address the specific concerns of the Review Group and revise its Implementation Plan accordingly.

I am pleased to report that following this request, 8 out of 12 of the EU jurisdictions have already been able to submit revised IPs. After several successive reviews, it should be noted that in many cases the remaining issues are also some of the most challenging ones for the jurisdictions concerned, and that in turn the amendment of the IPs require substantial consultations. While the revision of the remaining four IPs is still underway, the EU's fully expect to be able to submit all the revised IPs in time for the next review.

The European Union is looking forward to the upcoming special session of the Council and the opportunity to engage with the other Parties and with the NGOs to discuss its Implementation Plans.

Sincerely yours,

