European Association of Fish Producers Organisations

Association Européenne des Organisations de Producteurs dans le secteur de la pêche



EAPO / AEOP

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To the attention of: Mr. Costas Kadis

EU Commissioner for Fisheries and Oceans

Rue de la Loi 200, 1049 Brussels

<u>Subj:</u> EAPO welcomes your appointment as Commissioner for Fisheries and Oceans

Dear Mr. Kadis,

On behalf of the European Association of Fish Producers Organisations (EAPO), I wish to congratulate you on your appointment as Commissioner for Fisheries and Oceans. EAPO and its members look forward to working with you on the numerous challenges facing the EU fishing sector.

EAPO was founded in 1980, its headquarters are located in Ostend on the Belgian coast, and we unify 30 Producers Organisations among 11 EU Member states. As an association of European recognised Producers Organisations, our key role is to assists our members and the people onboard the 4.000 fishing vessels they represent in achieving the objectives of the Common Fishery Policy (CFP) and the Common Market Organisation (CMO) for fishery and aquaculture products.

EAPO aims to strengthen the cooperation between European POs by looking for common grounds in addressing the challenges for European fisheries, such as securing

sustainable food production through socio-economic viability, with respect for the environment.

As the main European representative body for the fisheries sector, EAPO is particularly committed to supporting DG MARE at all levels and in all areas of work. EAPO has recently taken on the role as support group coordinator for the large-scale fisheries segment under the Energy Transition Partnership assistance mechanism.

Considering the strategic role of our organisation and the many topics we will have to tackle hand in hand, we would be delighted to have the opportunity to meet with you and remain available to organize discussions with an EAPO-delegation, at your earliest convenience.

We are looking forward to a fruitful cooperation and are at your disposal to provide relevant information and to discuss the sectors views on how to achieve more sustainable fisheries, a thriving fishing sector and an ambitious Pact for the Oceans.

Yours faithfully,

Esben Sverdrup-Jensen

President of EAPO