

EUROPEAN COMMISSION DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR MARITIME AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES

The Director General

Brussels, MARE D3 Ares(2017)

Ms Marjolijn SONNEMA Director-General Agro and Nature Department of European Agricultural and Fisheries Policies and Food Security

The Netherlands

Subject: Acceptance of invitation for working visit Pulse Fishing – south of the Netherlands

Dear Ms Sonnema.

Thank you for your letter sent on 1st of March 2017 regarding information on the developments of pulse fishing and the invitation for a working visit to the south of the Netherlands.

We note that, on the basis of recent information received from your administration, the management of Dutch pulse permits has been further restricted as from 1 January 2017 onwards. The Commission encourages the Netherlands to send a request to ICES for an assessment on the latest developments regarding pulse fishing.

The Commission is indeed following the outcomes of these pilot projects closely. I hereby accept the invitation for a working visit so that we can further discuss this particular fishing technique and better understand its impact. I am convinced that it will also be beneficial to grasp the recent developments within the innovation of pulse fishing.

I am looking forward to visit the south of the Netherlands. My current commitments mean that the earliest opportunity would be during autumn this year.

Yours sincerely,