

Traductions of the note 1730859 of the 2015/04/24 of the European Commission.

Brussels, 23/04/2015
MARE A2/EG 1730859

CC SUD
Mr Jean-Marie Robert
6, rue Alphonse Rio
56100 Lorient
France

Subject: New market intervention mechanisms

Your ref: SWW AC Opinion 94

Dear Mr Robert,

Thank you for the SWW AC opinion on the new market intervention mechanisms. I take note of your recommendation to maintain storage aid beyond 2018, to place at the disposal of producer organisations (OPs) a significantly larger financial allocation than is stipulated in the EMFF regulation and to increase the quantity and value of the products covered.

These changes would require the amendment of the legislative framework, namely the EMFF regulation, which is not currently on the agenda. The desire of co-legislators to simplify and, in the medium term, eliminate market intervention mechanisms must be considered in line with the ramp-up of production and marketing plans (PMPs) that POs have been obliged to develop and implement since 2014. In this context, the storage aid mechanism is a temporary measure that can be maintained over the few years required for the PMPs to become effective management tools that can contribute to increasing OP market power and profitability.

The PMPs can cover a very wide field of action. Indeed, the expected benefits of storage aid listed in your opinion (minimum profitability, market stability, reduction of discards and contributions to the objectives of the CFP) should also be generated by PMPs. It is useful to recall in this regard that the Commission has adopted recommendations on the development and implementation of PMPs (Commission Recommendation No. 2014/11 / EU of March 2014). These recommendations include proposing a wide range of measures that can be implemented by POs through their PMPs, contributing to the achievement of the objectives set by the COM regulation.

Regarding the financing of the plans, the Member State which is responsible for approving the content must also plan to allocate a share of EMFF resources to them. This support can be as much as 3% of the annual average value of the production marketed by POs (Article 66.3 of the EMFF), which is potentially substantial. The

regulation also provides for the possibility for the Member State to pay an advance of 50% of annual expenditure for the development and implementation of a PMP upon its adoption. Representatives of PO members of your Advisory Council, are therefore strongly encouraged to mobilise the appropriate national authorities to ensure the ramp-up of PMPs and facilitate the transition to a COM without intervention.

Regarding your comment with respect to the pricing policy for fisheries products, you should know that the Commission will soon be putting forward a new regulation to the Council setting the autonomous quotas for the period 2016-2018. On the occasion of this exercise, the Commission will take account of the different elements resulting from the study carried out and the consultation of all stakeholders and Member States concerned.

If you have any additional questions I invite you to contact Mrs Evangelia Georgitsi, the coordinator of the Regional Advisory Councils (evangelia.georgitsi@ec.europa.eu; +32.2.295.04.43).

Yours sincerely,



Lowri EVANS

CC. C. Rambaud, B. Focquet, E. Bianchi, E. Georgitsi (DG MARE)