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EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR MARITIME AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES

FISHERIES POLICY MEDITERRANEAN AND BLACK SEA
CFP AND STRUCTURAL SUPPORT POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND COORDINATION

Brussels,
MARE D3 Ares(2017)

Advisory Council for the
Mediterranean Sea
Ms Rosa Caggiano
Via Nazionale 243 scala1 int.3
I-00184 ROMA
ITALY

Subject: **Request for modifications in the accounting of interpretation and translation costs – Item E in the Advisory Council financial budget.**
Ref.: **Your letter 104/2017 dd 15/03/2017.**

Dear Ms Caggiano,

Thank you for your letter dated 15 March 2017 by which you enquire about additional funding for interpretation and translation costs that could be accounted separately in the annual budget of those Advisory Councils that have to deal with more than 4 working languages.

In 2016, the Commission increased its annual contribution to the operational costs of the Advisory Councils from a maximum amount of EUR 250.000 to a maximum amount of EUR 300.000 covering up to 90% of their annual operational costs. The maximum amount of the Commission's contribution, which is the same for all the Advisory Councils, covers also translation and interpretation costs.

We fully appreciate MEDAC's efforts to improve the quality of its advice to the Commission and Member States. However, in light also of current budgetary constraints, it is too early to consider a further increase of Commission financial contribution to the Advisory Councils.

Against this background, we would suggest that you also inquire with Member States whether they would consider increasing their contribution to MEDAC so that you have sufficient means to pursue effectively your advisory role within the CFP.

Yours sincerely,

(signed)
Elisa ROLLER
Head of Unit

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Electronically signed on 25/04/2017 17:57 (UTC+02) in accordance with article 4.2 (Validity of electronic documents) of Commission Decision 2004/563