MEDAC - Registered Office Via XX Settembre, 20 - c/o MIPAAF - 00187 Rome (Italy) - Tax identification number 97534810581 - Association registered with the Prefecture of Rome as a legal entity n.1224/2017

Ref.:236/2020

Rome, 13 October 2020

To Valerie Lainé
D1- Fisheries Management
Mediterranean and Black Sea
DG MARE

Subject: GFCM Strategy 2021-2025-Integration of the previous MEDAC contribution (ref.217/2020)

Dear Valeire Lainé,

During the last online MEDAC meetings held on 29 and 30 September two relevant topics have been raised up as priority to be considered in the discussion about the GFCM Strategy 2021-2025:

- the Focus Group on equal opportunities agreed on the need of further data to be collected about the women's work in the fishery sector at the Mediterranean level, both in fishery and in the processing sector. The related priority action should take into consideration how the women's work can provide an added value towards the sustainable growth. First of all, the higher consideration of the women's role and level of their involvement in the strategic decision in the fishery sector have been suggested as the first steps in this direction.

- the Working Group 1 highlighted that the forthcoming Multiannual Plans should take into consideration the following environmental variables as additional factors, other than fishing mortality, influencing the stocks patterns in an ecological perspective:

- ✓ climate change and its consequences on salinity, nutrients, waters stratification, plankton availability, recruitment success etc.
- ✓ plastics impact on the food web and on the growth of the assessed stocks
- ✓ alien species and their competition with the assessed stock

In view of a MAP particular attention should be dedicated to the impact assessment of environmental factors that can be mitigated through direct intervention (i.e. pollution).
Furthermore, the WG1 suggested to take into consideration the above-mentioned factors at the EU level in the next EMFF in order to support the fishing sector through risk management in case of quantifiable loss due to environmental causes, as for the agricultural sector (EAFRD – European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development).

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Therefore, because the members addressed these topics for the first time in the last meetings, the MEDAC points out these priorities in the consultation process towards the GFCM strategy in addition to the contribution already sent to DG MARE (Ref.217, 17 September 2020).

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Chair

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