

IAN DUNCAN

CONSERVATIVE MEP FOR SCOTLAND



e: ian.duncan@europarl.europa.eu
w: www.ianduncan.org.uk
t: +32 228 47249

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Dear Alain,

Thank you for your letter of 2 March 2017. Unfortunately, I must write to you once more in light of the further proposed additions to the Committee's Brexit Resolution submission.

The insertion to the effect that '*Brexit should under no circumstances lead to an increase in the UK's share of jointly fished stocks*' makes no allowance for quota trades that currently take place between UK and member states. As you will be aware, for several fish species the UK's legal catch is already higher than the quota. Such a declarative statement flies in the face of existing practice.

Further, post-Brexit the UK will manage its own quota, guided by ICES advice and within the rules set out by the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea and any coastal state bilateral agreements it should enter into. The EU's involvement in any future quota determination will extend only so far as its own participation in any bilateral negotiations with the UK. It would be inappropriate for the European Parliament Fisheries Committee to seek to prejudge the outcome of any such negotiation. **The clause should be deleted.**

I need also draw your attention to the clause which, '*highlights also the importance to maintain the same legal requirements for UK-registered vessels*'. I need hardly say that post-Brexit the UK will be responsible for determining any and all the legal requirements of not only UK vessels, but also any third party vessels which would seek to fish in British territorial waters. **The clause should be deleted.**

With regard the clause covering the '*continuation of the UK contribution to the scientific assessment of stocks in line with the EU Data Collection Framework*,' I stress that while I have no doubt that the UK will continue to be an active and constructive member of ICES, this will be for the UK Government.

Finally let me reiterate that there is not a single Free Trade Agreement brokered by the EU which links market access with fishing access to the particular nation's

territorial waters. The two are not 'inseparable' as currently stated in the PECH text.

I trust you will appreciate the reasons for writing to you once again, and accept the contribution in the positive spirit in which it is intended.

With all best wishes,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Ian Duncan MEP', written in a cursive style.

DR IAN DUNCAN MEP