



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR MARITIME AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES

Director General

Brussels,
MARE D3 ARES(2017)

Markets Advisory Council
Mr Guus Pastoor, Chairperson
rue de la Science, 10
B-1000 Brussels

Subject: Harmonized system and how it affects international trade

Your reference: Your letter of 20 November 2017

Dear Mr. Pastoor,

Thank you for your letter dated 20 November regarding the scientific names of certain fish species and the impact the changes in scientific names may have in the Harmonised System (HS). Your letter refers to the Alaska Pollock case, and more generally to any other species which might be affected by a change in name (such as redfish).

As you know, as far as the names of the fish species to be integrated in the Combined Nomenclature (CN) for international trade and statistical purposes are concerned, the Commission relies on the FAO – ASFIS nomenclatures, a link to which is enclosed (<http://www.fao.org/fishery/collection/asfis/en>). We take note of your support for the EU's position on this in discussions going on and will transmit this to our colleagues in DG TAXUD, who are responsible for the Harmonised System (HS) at the World Customs Organization.

I wish to thank you for your cooperation and constructive input, and invite you to take contact with Ms Pascale Colson, coordinator of the Advisory Councils (pascale.colson@ec.europa.eu; +32 2 29 56273) should you have any question on this reply.

Yours sincerely,

João AGUIAR MACHADO