



Brussels, 23.1.2017
C(2017) 452 final

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 23.1.2017

**on approving the work plan submitted by Bulgaria for data collection in the fisheries
and aquaculture sector for the period 2017-2019**

[Only the Bulgarian text is authentic]

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THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) No 508/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 May 2014 on the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and repealing Council Regulations (EC) No 2328/2003, (EC) No 861/2006, (EC) No 1198/2006 and (EC) No 791/2007 and Regulation (EU) No 1255/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council¹, and in particular Article 21(2) thereof,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 199/2008 of 25 February 2008 concerning the establishment of a Community framework for the collection, management and use of data in the fisheries sector and support for scientific advice regarding the Common Fisheries Policy², and in particular to Article 6(3) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Article 4 of Regulation (EC) No 199/2008 and Article 25 of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council³ lay down that Member States are to collect the biological, environmental, technical and socioeconomic data necessary for fisheries management within the framework of multiannual work plans.
- (2) Article 4 of Regulation (EC) No 199/2008 also specifies the matters to be covered by Member States and requires multiannual work plans to be drawn up in accordance with the relevant multiannual Union programme.
- (3) The multiannual Union programme for the collection, management and use of data in the fisheries and aquaculture sectors for the period 2017-2019 (hereinafter 'multiannual Union programme') has been adopted by Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2016/1251⁴.
- (4) Article 5 of Regulation (EC) No 199/2008 requires Member States to coordinate their work plans with other Member States in the same marine region.

¹ OJ L 149, 20.5.2014, p. 1.

² OJ L 60, 5.3.2008, p.1.

³ Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2013 on the Common Fisheries Policy, amending Council Regulations (EC) No 1954/2003 and (EC) No 1224/2009 and repealing Council Regulations (EC) No 2371/2002 and (EC) No 639/2004 and Council Decision 2004/585/EC (OJ L 354, 28.12.2013, p. 22).

⁴ Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2016/1251 adopting a multiannual Union programme for the collection, management and use of data in the fisheries and aquaculture sectors for the period 2017-2019 (OJ L 207, 1.8.2016, p. 113).

- (5) Pursuant to Article 21(1) of Regulation (EU) No 508/2014, work plans are to be submitted to the Commission by 31 October of the year preceding the year from which they are to apply. The rules on the format for the submission of work plans for data collection in the fisheries and aquaculture sector are set out in Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2016/1701⁵.
- (6) On 31 October 2016, Bulgaria submitted by electronic means to the Commission the work plan for data collection in the fisheries and aquaculture sectors for the period 2017-2019 in accordance with the format laid down by Implementing Decision (EU) 2016/1701.
- (7) The Commission consulted the Scientific, Technical and Economic Committee for Fisheries (STECF) on the work plan submitted by Bulgaria.
- (8) The evaluation carried out by STECF indicated that the work plan did not give sufficient guarantee of the scientific relevance of the data and the quality of the proposed data collection methods and procedures. The Commission informed Bulgaria thereof and requested amendments to the work plan. The Member State submitted a revised work plan to the Commission on 16 December 2016.
- (9) The revised work plan is in accordance with the multiannual Union programme, complies with Articles 4 and 5 of Regulation (EC) No 199/2008 and guarantees both the scientific relevance of the data and the quality of the proposed data collection methods and procedures.
- (10) The revised work plan submitted on 16 December 2016 by Bulgaria should therefore be approved,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

The Work Plan submitted on 16 December 2016 by Bulgaria for data collection in the fisheries and aquaculture sector for the period 2017-2019, as set out in the Annex⁶, is hereby approved.

Article 2

This Decision shall apply from 1 January 2017.

⁵ Commission Implementing Decision (EU)2016/1701 of 19 August 2016, laying down rules on the format for the submission of work plans for data collection in the fisheries and aquaculture sectors (OJ L 260/153, 27.9.2016, p 153).

⁶ In the work plan set out in the Annex, references to “this Decision” are to be construed as references to Implementing Decision (EU) 2016/1701.

Article 3

This Decision is addressed to Republic of Bulgaria.

Done at Brussels, 23.1.2017

For the Commission
João Aguiar Machado
Director-General

