



ICES Secretariat
H. C. Andersens Boulevard 44-46
DK 1553 Copenhagen V, Denmark

Paris, 07 June 2018

Subject: Access request to the technical minutes of the advice drafting group (ADGPulse) and ACOM web-conference (WCPulse, to approve the advice) relative to the ICES advisory process answering Dutch special request "Comparison of the ecological and environmental effects of pulse trawls and traditional beam trawls when exploiting the North Sea sole TAC"

Dear Madam or Sir,

BLOOM is a non-profit organization founded in 2005 that works to preserve the marine environment and species from unnecessary destruction and to increase social benefits in the fishing sector. BLOOM wages awareness and advocacy campaigns in order to accelerate the adoption of concrete solutions for the oceans, humans and the climate. BLOOM carries out scientific research projects, independent studies and evaluations that highlight crucial and unaddressed issues such as the financing mechanisms of the fishing sector or ecosystem impacts of destructive fishing gears.

Within this frame, BLOOM currently runs a campaign with other NGOs and artisanal fishermen to prohibit electric fishing in Europe. We undertake a rigorous scientific watch to gather all knowledge on the impacts of electric currents on marine life and fishing activities. We always welcome with great interest scientific advices and reviews produced by a renown independent scientific institution as ICES. We have thus been shocked by the conclusions and political use of a recent ICES scientific advice answering a special request by the Netherlands on a "Comparison of the ecological and environmental effects of pulse trawls and traditional beam trawls when exploiting the North Sea sole TAC".

We addressed on the 4th of June 2018 an information request relative to this ICES advisory process to Mr. Cornelius Hammer. The answer provided by Dr. Lotte A. Worsøe Clausen (reference C.24.b/LWC/mo, 5th of June 2018), Head of Advisory Support at ICES, indicates that "the technical minutes from both the ADG [ADGPulse] and the Web-Conference [WCPulse] are available upon request to the ICES Secretariat." We thus formally request access in a timely manner to the technical minutes from both ADGPulse and WCPulse meetings. As stated in our previous letter, we remain at your disposal to further discuss the scientific conclusions of this advice.

I look forward to receiving your reply at your earliest convenience. Please accept the assurances of my highest consideration.

Dr. Mathieu Colléter
BLOOM, 'Science & Policy' officer