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15 May 2020

Victoria Prentis MP
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State
Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
Seacole Block
2 Marsham Street
London, SW1P 4DF

Dear Victoria,

EM 13389/19: RECOMMENDATION FOR A COUNCIL DECISION AUTHORISING THE OPENING OF NEGOTIATIONS ON BEHALF OF THE EUROPEAN UNION FOR THE CONCLUSION OF A SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT AND A PROTOCOL WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF DENMARK AND THE HOME RULE GOVERNMENT OF GREENLAND

EM 13389/19 ADD 1: ANNEX TO THE RECOMMENDATION FOR A COUNCIL DECISION

EM 13389/19 ADD 2: COMMISSION STAFF WORKING DOCUMENT: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF THE EVALUATION ACCOMPANYING THE RECOMMENDATION FOR A COUNCIL DECISION

EM 13389/19 ADD 3: COMMISSION STAFF WORKING DOCUMENT: EVALUATION ACCOMPANYING THE RECOMMENDATION FOR A COUNCIL DECISION

Thank you for your letter dated 16 March on the above Recommendation, which was considered by our Environment Sub-Committee on 13 May 2020.

In our original letter we asked whether you intend to seek an equivalent UK-Greenland Sustainable Fisheries Partnership Agreement (SPFA), and if so, when you anticipate those negotiations beginning. You did not answer those questions. Please do so.

We note your statement that the 2020 quota to which the UK gained access through the current EU-Greenland SFPA has a value of approximately £1.2m. Given that value, if you do not intend to seek an equivalent agreement, please explain the rationale behind that decision.

The Committee continues to take an active interest in this matter and we would therefore welcome being kept updated on developments. We look forward to a response within ten working days.

I am copying this letter to Sir William Cash, the Chair of the Commons European Scrutiny Committee; Jessica Mulley, Clerk to the Commons Committee; Les Saunders, Cabinet Office; and John Leach, Departmental Scrutiny Coordinator.

Yours sincerely,



Lord Kinnoull
Chair of the European Union Committee