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**Director General for Regulation**

Kevin Williamson  
Head of Statistics & Fisheries Management  
Marine Management Organisation  
9 Millbank, c/o 17 Smith Square  
London SW1P 3JR

17 November 2015

Dear Kevin

**ASSESSMENT OF STATISTICS ON MONTHLY UK SEA FISHERIES REPORTED LANDINGS**

Thank you for the correspondence outlining the actions that have been taken to address the requirements for the statistics in Assessment Report number 292 on *Monthly UK Sea Fisheries Reported Landings*.

On behalf of the Board of the Statistics Authority, I have reviewed these on the advice of the Assessment team and I am pleased to confirm the designation of *Monthly UK Sea Fisheries Reported Landings* as National Statistics. The Authority welcomes the programme of continuous improvement that Marine Management Organisation (MMO) is adopting in respect of these statistics, and in particular the improvements in the data made available for users and the strengthened information published about quality assurance arrangements. The Authority also appreciates the proportionate approach that MMO has taken to presenting the monthly statistics within the context of the more detailed annual picture provided by *UK Sea Fisheries Statistics*. I understand that when lags associated with the transition to electronic data recording have stabilised, MMO will be able to further analyse the patterns and trends in monthly data, and I would encourage this development.

It is a requirement of the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007 that compliance with the Code of Practice must be maintained. We would invite you to incorporate the attached text in publications containing the statistics. This text may only be used where National Statistics designation has been awarded following an Assessment Report. It is intended to convey a strong and independent endorsement for the statistical publication.

Please feel free to discuss any aspect of this with us at any time. I am copying this letter to John Pullinger, the National Statistician, and Peter Helm at the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, and John Tuckett.

Yours sincerely



Ed Humpherson

**Text that may only be used in publications that carry the National Statistics logo following assessment and designation:**

## **NATIONAL STATISTICS STATUS**

National Statistics status means that official statistics meet the highest standards of trustworthiness, quality and public value.

All official statistics should comply with all aspects of the *Code of Practice for Official Statistics*. They are awarded National Statistics status following an assessment by the Authority's regulatory arm.

The Authority considers whether the statistics meet the highest standards of Code compliance, including the value they add to public decisions and debate.

It is a producer's responsibility to maintain compliance with the standards expected of National Statistics, and to improve its statistics on a continuous basis. If a producer becomes concerned about whether its statistics are still meeting the appropriate standards, it should discuss its concerns with the Authority promptly. National Statistics status can be removed at any point when the highest standards are not maintained, and reinstated when standards are restored.

