

Mr. P. Sandberg

Minister of fisheries of the Kingdom
of Norway

Ministry of industry and fisheries
of the Kingdom of Norway

Dear Mr. Sandberg,

First of all please allow to express You the gratitude for constructive and productive work in the frames of 21-st North Atlantic Fisheries Ministers Conference. The Russian-Norwegian discussions during the Conference gave us an opportunity not only consider the key aspects of our bilateral interactions but also outline the main directions of our joint work in the future.

It should be pointed out that both Russia and Norway consistently and surely are developing the cooperation on wide range of fishery questions, including conservation and rational use of aquatic bioresources, management of fishery, holding of scientific research.

However we still have some problem moments, which require our special attention.

The Russian Federation and the Kingdom of Norway, following the provisions of Article 77 of the UN Convention from 10 December 1982, have made coordinated statement concerning their exclusive rights to carry out fishery of snow crab in the Regulatory Area of NEAFC in the Barents sea, which was forwarded to the flag states and announced at the 34-th session of NEAFC.

However, the vessels of some member states of the European Union continue fishery of this kind of aquatic bioresources on the Russian part of continental shelf in the open part of the Barents sea without the consent of the Russian Federation.

Taking into consideration the common interest of our countries on conservation and rational using of this stock we kindly request to give further consideration to the possibility of a ban of discharge of snow crab by vessels of

member states of the European Union, carrying out fishery in the mentioned region, at the ports of Norway.

I am confident that by the joint efforts and basing on accumulated good practice we could find the effective way to resolve this situation.

Yours sincerely,

Deputy Minister of the agriculture
of the Russian Federation – head
of the Federal agency for fisheries

I.V. Shestakov