



EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR MARITIME AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES

Director General

Brussels,  
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**Subject: Joint advice of AAC-MAC on Presence of Tetrodotoxin in shellfish**

*Your ref.: mail of 28 June 2018*

Dear Sirs,

I thank you very much for your mail of 28 June 2018 and your efforts in preparing this interesting joint opinion.

As regards your request for conducting a science-based risk assessment, the European Food Safety Agency (EFSA), in its Scientific Opinion of March 2017 “Risks for public health related to the presence of tetrodotoxin (TTX) and TTX analogues in marine bivalves and gastropods”, also mentions the lack of scientific data and need of validated methods.

A risk assessment might be considered should more data become available. The data collected by The Netherlands this summer 2018 will also show the magnitude of the problem in the EU, as the data collected in summer 2017 were quite reassuring.

The EU Reference Laboratory of Vigo is already working on a reference method.

Thank you again for your continued interest and constructive input. If you have any question on this reply, you may contact Ms Pascale COLSON, coordinator of the Advisory Councils ([pascale.colson@ec.europa.eu](mailto:pascale.colson@ec.europa.eu); +32.2.295.62.73).

Yours sincerely,

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