



Rome, 8th February 2019

TO THE ATTENTION OF MR. SIMION NICOLAEV

Dear Mr. Nicolaev,

As you know, at its 40th session, the GFCM acknowledged the importance of cooperation and sharing knowledge on aquaculture in the region. It equally acknowledged the importance of establishment of the ADC, and implementation of a pilot unit in Constanta at the National Institute for Marine Research and Development (NIMRD) "Grigore Antipa". The Government of Romania (National Agency for Fishery and Aquaculture) and its involvement in the GFCM activities made this initiative possible.

Moreover, at the Meeting on the Establishment of a Demonstrative Center for the Promotion of Sustainable Aquaculture in the Black Sea, September 27-28, 2017, Constanta, Romania, it was decided that NIMRD will host a demonstration production module for the cultivation of mussels (*Mytilus galloprovincialis*) under the direct coordination of GFCM.

The S-ADC is a part of the well-established research facilities of NIMRD (semi-pilot scale production installations, with potential for expansion in the future) and takes advantage of existing infrastructures and expertise to share knowledge and to improve cooperation. The S-ADC working methods are: training modules to provide hands-on practical experience & facilitate technology transfer; training programs, seminars, & ad hoc visits, based on end-user needs; production demonstrative/didactic material.

In this respect, I have the pleasure to confirm that the GFCM will support the implementation of the activities of shellfish ADC units at NIMRD. A Letter of Agreement (LoA), under preparation, will be submitted for your consideration.

Best regards,

Abdellah Srour
Executive Secretary

General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean

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