



Chrissie Sieben  
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**Sent by email**

Date: 14/07/2017

**Subject: Request for variation to the MSC Certification Requirement v2.1 GCR-7.5.6 for Compagnie des Pêches Saint Malo and Euronor cod and haddock**

Dear Chrissie Sieben,

I write with reference to your submission on 10/07/2017 of a request for variation to the MSC Certification Requirement (CR) to allow:

The current certificates MEP-F-008 & MEP-F-009 are due to expire on the 16th July 2017. MEC are requesting that the current expiry dates be extended by 3 months until the 16th October 2017 to allow enough time for the recertification process to be completed without a lapse in certification for the clients of this fishery. The original expiry date of this certificate was 16th April 2017, so this request would amount to a total extension of 6 months.

As you are aware, the CR procedures relating to v2.1 GCR-7.5.6 state:

The CAB shall issue fisheries certificates with a maximum validity period of 5 years from the issue date

These are integral to ensuring all MSC accredited Conformity Assessment Bodies operate in a consistent and transparent manner. The MSC intends that these requirements be met across all fisheries and CoC certificate holders, except in exceptional, well-justified circumstances, as part of the MSC programme.

**MSC notes the factors presented supporting your request, including:**

- Coordination of the Client Action Plans after the harmonisation meeting took a considerable amount of time however the CAPs have been agreed and the CAB has received peer review comments.
- The final meeting between the client groups to streamline their approach to the CAP only took place in London on the 20th June.
- MEC anticipates that the PCDR will be published soon after the expiry of the 'Invitation to Stakeholders for Submission of New Information' consultation period on the 25th July 2017.

**Given the rationale provided, the MSC is willing to grant a variation to the CR in this case subject to the following conditions:**

- The CAB can confirm that it is not aware at this time of any factor (related to either fishery status, or performance against conditions) that could result in the fishery no longer being in compliance with the MSC Fisheries Standard.
- Stakeholders are informed.
- ECert is updated to reflect changes, including providing a new certificate covering the period from the end of the current certificate to the 16th of October 2017.

If you have any questions regarding this response, please do not hesitate to contact the relevant Fisheries Assessment Manager for this fishery.

Marine Stewardship Council  
cc: Accreditation Services International

