

EN
E-003361/2022
Answer given by Ms Kyriakides
on behalf of the European Commission
(17.11.2022)

The Commission confirms that, as stated in the inception impact assessment on the revision of the EU animal welfare legislation¹, published in 2021, it envisages to add species-specific provisions for the killing of certain farmed fish species². For that purpose, the Commission will consider the available scientific opinions, the international applicable standards³ as well as the results of the ongoing impact assessment. Scientific opinions as well as international standards recommend the use of procedures that induce unconsciousness until death. The Commission plans to adopt proposals to update the current animal welfare legislation by the 3rd quarter of 2023 and to consider the elements such as handling of fish and the killing methods in doing so.

¹ https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/12950-Animal-welfare-revision-of-EU-legislation_en

² Atlantic salmon, rainbow trout, common carp, seabass and seabream.

³ The Aquatic Animal Health Code of the World Organisation for Animal Health.