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Answer given by Mr Kadis
on behalf of the European Commission
(22.5.2026)

The data used to assess the impact of recent oil price increases on the viability of the European fishing fleet are the scientific economic data formally submitted by Member States under the Data Collection Framework, analysed by the Scientific, Technical and Economic Committee for Fisheries (STECF). These data are also complemented by real-time marine diesel prices and market evidence collected by the European Market Observatory for Fisheries and Aquaculture products (EUMOFA).

The Commission is aware that the situation in the Middle East has dire implications for the EU, including the EU fisheries and aquaculture sector. The Commission is closely monitoring the market situation of the sector since the inception of the crisis. Noting that a demonstrated and substantiated causal link between the exceptional situation in the Middle East and the significant disruption has been established, the Commission triggered the compensation mechanism provided under Article 26(2) of the European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund (EMFAF) Regulation with the adoption of the Commission Implementing Decision on 16 April 2026¹. Member States will be able to make this support immediately available to the sectors under their national EMFAF programmes, in line with the established EU rules.

This exceptional EU support at EU level can reinforce national initiatives, including the use of State aid under the temporary crisis framework, adopted on 29 April 2026².

¹ https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/dec_impl/2026/889/oj/eng.

² https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_26_894.