

EN

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Answer given by Mr Kadis
on behalf of the European Commission
(2.9.2026)

The Commission is aware of the socio-economic importance of the transparent goby fishery for Manfredonia's community and maritime economy. However, the Commission may grant a derogation from the prohibition to use towed gears set out in Article 13(1) of Regulation (EC) No 1967/2006 only if a number of the conditions set out in Article 13(5) and (9) are fulfilled.

Based on the latest Scientific, Technical and Economic Committee for Fisheries (STECF) scientific evaluation¹ of 2025, the Commission considers it necessary that a revised management plan addresses the concerns of STECF communicated through previous evaluations. The ongoing experimental fishery, notified by Italy and aimed at collecting more information, could help address the outstanding technical points raised by STECF. In addition, the revised management plan should provide sufficient monitoring, control and surveillance to ensure that the fishing operations concerned are conducted exclusively with boat seines, as defined in Article 2.1(ii) of Regulation (EC) No 1967/2006.

The Commission may ask STECF to carry out a further evaluation of an updated management plan containing the main missing elements and management measures identified above.

¹ STECF 25-02 https://stecf.ec.europa.eu/meetings-calendar/meetings-past-future/plen-25-02-summer-plenary-2025-2025-07-07_en.