Professor Tony J Pitcher Peter Wall Institute of Advanced Studies 6331 Crescent Road Vancouver, BC, Canada, V6T 1Z2

Dear Dr. Pitcher,

Please find attached a manuscript titled "Assessing the knowledge-base for commercially exploited marine fisheries with a new database of global stock assessments", that I wish to submit for review to Fish and Fisheries.

The material contained in the submitted manuscript is original and has not been submitted to other journals. All co-authors have provided me with written approval prior to this submission.

I look forward to hearing from you regarding this manuscript submission.

Sincerely,

Daniel Ricard Dept. of Biological Sciences Dalhousie University Halifax, NS, B3H 4J1 Canada

cc: Cóilín Minto

cc: Olaf Jensen

cc: Julia Baum