



COMMONWEALTH OF  
PUERTO RICO  
GOVERNOR

ALEJANDRO J. GARCÍA-PADILLA

March 10, 2014

Dr. Samuel D. Rauch, III  
Deputy Assistant Administrator  
for Regulatory Programs  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
National Marine Fisheries Service  
1315 East-West Highway  
Room 14636  
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

**Attention: Mr. William Chappell**

Dear doctor Rauch:

I am pleased to submit my recommendations for the Caribbean Fishery Management Council (CFMC) seat that will become vacant on August 10, 2014. In accordance to the requirements listed in Section 302 (b)(2)(A) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, the recommendation of candidates to be submitted for the consideration of the Secretary of Commerce are the following:

1. Marcos Hanke
2. Nelson Crespo
3. Carlos Velázquez

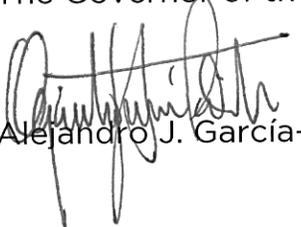
The first candidate owns a charter business for recreational fishing, while the other two have extensive experience as commercial fishermen in Puerto Rico. The final selection of the three candidates was made after consulting the Fishery Advisory Board of the Department of Natural and Environmental Resources of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and the local commercial and recreational fishing organizations. Moreover, the top three candidates were selected in accordance to their fishing experience and their commitment to work effectively towards the management and conservation of the fishery resources in the Caribbean. All of them have completed the initial background evaluation, and are willing to devote their time and effort in performing the Council's duties and activities.

From this pool of nominees, I endorse the nomination of Mr. Marcos Hanke. This candidate was a member of the CFMC from 2003 to 2012, and during this time he performed his responsibilities with excellence and diligence. As mentioned before, Mr. Hanke owns a charter business for recreational fishermen and has a commercial permit to perform this activity. In addition, he is a current member of the Fishery Advisory Panel, a group that provides *pro bono* advice to the Secretary of the Department of Natural and Environmental Resources. Taking into consideration the experience and knowledge of Mr. Hanke, I am confident he will make significant contributions to the implementation of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act and the conservation and management of the fishery resources.

I appreciate the opportunity to continue working with the management of our fishing resources in collaborative partnership with your agency.

Cordially,

The Governor of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico,



Alejandro J. García-Padilla