

Good morning Ms. Cann,

I thank you for your email.

Please find below a set of answers to your questions :

1. What specific tasks does your new work as Global Managing Director for Oceans at The Nature Conservancy involve?

The job is exactly what the title describes : If I'll take it, I'll be supervising all the The Nature Conservancy (TNC) marine projects around the world. TNC is a non profitable organization focused on action . They implement projects and policies to achieve good results instead of lobbying governments.

The projects are (as you can see on TNC's official website ,nature.org), the following :

Restoring coastal habitats : Gulf of Mexico, Recovery act restorations projects,NOOA partnerships, Florida Keys coral reefs, Palau coral reefs.

Helping people and marine life adapt to climate change : Coral Triangle, Solomon Islands, Raja Ampat, Papua New Guinea, Micronesia Challenge, Palau, Long Island Sound, Florida Keys coral reefs.

Developing better approaches to fisheries : Humboldt Current Peru, California's Central Coast, Gulf of Maine, Pedro Bank, Jamaica, Dominican Republic.

Expanding ocean protection and improving management : Coral Triangle, Solomon Islands, Raja Ampat, Papua New Guinea, Costa Rica, Caribbean Challenge.

TNC is not running any conservation projects in Europe . It is present in Berlin and London for communication purposes only.

2. When did/ will this role start and is it a paid position?

I'm waiting for the decision of the Commission, which I informed in late November about my intentions, before I assume the final description of role . Yes, there will be remuneration for the job, if I take it.

3. When did you apply for authorisation to the European Commission to undertake this role, as required under the commissioners' code of conduct, and what was the response?

Late November. The relevant decision of the Commission is still pending.

4. What overlaps do you perceive in your work for TNC and your previous work as commissioner for maritime affairs and fisheries?

I do not perceive any overlaps.

5. What contacts, if any, did you have with TNC while you were commissioner?

I met them twice in Washington. Once while attending US Secretary Kerry's Ocean Conference at the State Department.. Second time, in early August in the context of / after an event organised by Environmental Defence Fund with other NGOs .

6. Did you discuss and / or agree your new role whilst in office as commissioner?

TNC floated the idea of a possible cooperation after the end of my mandate during our meeting in early August. I answered that I could discuss this only in November. This is what happened. We held a discussion and reached a preliminary understanding with no specific details of course , over the phone in November after the end of my mandate.

7. Is there any conflict between you accepting this role and the requirement in the commissioners' code of conduct to not undertake any lobby activities vis a vis the Commission in the 18 months after leaving office?

No conflict.

8. How do you respond to concerns that your move from being maritime and fisheries commissioner to becoming global managing director for oceans at The Nature Conservancy could provoke the risk, perception or actuality of conflicts of interest?

There is absolutely no basis for any concerns of this kind.

9. Are there other professional activities for which you have also applied to the Commission for authorisation? If so, what are they and what was the response?

No.

10. Have you claimed the transitional allowance for commissioners since leaving the Commission? If so, how much does this amount to per month?

Yes . This is an allowance provided to all former commissioners as long as they don't have any other paid engagement. This allowance will be cut if I accept this job. I will inform the PMO, the relevant office, as soon as I have a working permission in the States or in the UK and a remuneration agreement . Furthermore, all my income is going to be declared to the Greek Authorities in a statement I am obliged to submit in accordance with the Greek Law. All my declarations for previous years are published , upon my initiative , on my web site page:
www.damanaki.gr

11. Do you have any other comments to make about these issues?

No additional comment.

