





AGREED RECORD

**OF CONCLUSIONS OF FISHERIES CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN
THE FAROE ISLANDS, THE EUROPEAN UNION, ICELAND AND NORWAY
ON THE MANAGEMENT OF BLUE WHITING IN THE NORTH-EAST ATLANTIC IN 2019**

LONDON, 6 NOVEMBER 2018

1. A delegation from the Faroe Islands, headed by Mr Herluf SIGVALDSSON, a delegation from the European Union, headed by Mr Fabrizio DONATELLA, a delegation from Iceland, headed by Mr Sigurgeir THORGEIRSSON and a delegation from Norway, headed by Ms Sigrun M. HOLST, met in London on 9 to 10 October and 6 November 2018 to consult on the management of the blue whiting stock in the North-East Atlantic in 2019.
2. A delegation from Greenland, headed by Mr Emanuel ROSING, attended as observer. Mr Jákup Emil HANSEN headed the Delegation from Greenland at the November meeting as observer.
3. The delegations noted that the agreed long-term management strategy for blue whiting dated 27 October 2016 is regarded by ICES as consistent with the precautionary approach (Annex I).
4. The delegations agreed that the level of total catches of blue whiting in the North-East Atlantic for 2019 should be no more than 1,143,629 tonnes, based on the long-term management strategy for blue whiting and corresponding to F_{MSY} as advised by ICES. The delegations agreed that establishing unilateral quotas for 2019 does not in any way imply acceptance of the level of these quotas by any Party.
5. The delegations recommended that the NEAFC allowable catches for 2019 would be 91,020 tonnes. These catches should not be considered as additional to the level set in Paragraph 4.
6. The delegations encouraged the Parties to develop and coordinate their scientific research activities in order to improve the information available for the assessment and the management of this stock.
7. The delegations exchanged quota and catch information for 2016, 2017 (final) as well as preliminary information for 2018 (Annex II). The delegations also exchanged information with regard to their fishing activities including exchanges and access arrangements (Annex III).    

8. The delegations agreed to continue to provide information in the same format as set out in Annex II and Annex III to this Agreed Record. Each Party shall, by 1 May 2019, provide updated information in this regard to Iceland as host of the consultations on management measures for 2020. Iceland shall forward this information as soon as possible to all Parties to this Agreed Record.

9. The delegations agreed that the Parties may fish blue whiting within their quotas in their respective zones of fisheries jurisdiction and in international waters.

10. The delegations agreed that further arrangements by the Parties, including arrangements for access, quota transfers and other conditions for fishing in the respective zones of fisheries jurisdiction, are regulated by bilateral arrangements.

London, 6 November 2018



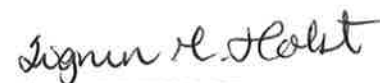
Herluf SIGVALDSSON
For the Delegation of the Faroe Islands



Fabrizio DONATELLA
For the Delegation of the European Union



Sigurgeir THORGEIRSSON
For the Delegation of Iceland



Sigrun M. HOLST
For the Delegation of Norway

**ARRANGEMENT FOR THE
LONG-TERM MANAGEMENT
OF THE BLUE WHITING STOCK**

1. The Parties agree to implement a long-term management strategy for the fisheries on the Blue Whiting stock, which is consistent with the precautionary approach and the MSY approach, aiming at ensuring harvest rates within safe biological limits.
2. For the purpose of this long-term management strategy, in the following text, "TAC" means the sum of the agreed Coastal State quotas and the NEAFC allowable catches.
3. As a priority, the long-term strategy shall ensure with high probability that the size of the stock is maintained above B_{lim} .
4. In the case that the spawning biomass is forecast to be above or equal to $B_{trigger}$ ($=B_{pa}$) on 1 January of the year for which the TAC is to be set, the TAC shall be fixed to a fishing mortality of F_{MSY} .
5. Where the rules in paragraph 4 would lead to a TAC, which deviates by more than 20% below or 25% above the TAC of the preceding year, the Parties shall fix a TAC that is respectively no more than 20% less or 25% more than the TAC of the preceding year.
6. The TAC constraint described in paragraph 5 shall not apply if:
 - a. The spawning biomass at 1 January in the year preceding the year for which the TAC is to be set is less than $B_{trigger}$; or
 - b. The rules in paragraph 4 would lead to a TAC that deviates by more than 40% from the TAC of the preceding year.
7. In the case that the spawning biomass (SSB) is forecast to be less than the precautionary biomass ($B_{trigger}$) on 1 January of the year for which the TAC is to be set, the TAC shall be fixed at a level that is consistent with a fishing mortality given by:

$$\text{Target } F = 0.05 + [(SSB - B_{lim}) * (F_{MSY} - 0.05) I(B_{trigger} - B_{lim})]$$
8. In the case that the spawning biomass is forecast to be less than B_{lim} on 1 January of the year for which the TAC is to be set, the TAC will be fixed corresponding to a fishing mortality $F=0.05$.
9. Each Party may transfer to the following year unutilised quantities of up to 10% of the quota allocated to it. The quantity transferred shall be in addition to the quota allocated to the Party concerned in the following year.
10. Each Party may authorise fishing by its vessels of up to 10% beyond the quota allocated. All quantities fished beyond the allocated quota for one year shall be deducted from the Party's quota allocated for the following year.

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11. The inter-annual quota flexibility scheme in paragraphs 9 and 10 should be suspended in the year following the TAC year, if the stock is forecast to be under B_{trigger} at the end of the TAC year.
12. The Parties, on the basis of ICES advice, shall review this long-term management strategy at intervals not exceeding five years. The first such review shall take place no later than by December 2021.

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Reporting of quotas and catches of blue whiting in the North-East Atlantic - 2016 to 2018

2016	QUOTAS (tonnes)					CATCHES (tonnes)									
	Quota established	Balance from 2015	Quota exchange	Quotas after transfers and flexibility	NEAFC Regulatory Area	European Union Zone	Faroese Fishing Zone	Greenland fishing zone	Icelandic Exclusive Economic Zone	Norwegian Economic Zone	Fishery Zone around Jan Mayen	Fishery Protection Zone around Svalbard	Russian Economic Zone	TOTAL CATCH	Balance
European Union	321.570	34.709	-81.500	274.779	3.805	176.918	9.627	0	0	63	3	0	0	190.416	84.363
Faroe Islands	275.832	71.475	-82.500	264.807	14.730	29.790	236.663	0	0	0	0	0	0	281.183	-16.376
Iceland	163.570	1.788	-1.500	163.858	1.591	0	167.707	0	13.881	0	0	0	0	183.179	-19.321
Norway	243.495	-28.473	57.455	272.477	64.026	214.531	739	0	0	31.116	0	0	0	310.412	-37.935
Total CS	1.004.467	79.499	-108.045	975.921	84.152	421.239	414.736	0	13.881	31.179	3	0	0	965.190	10.731
Russian Federation	70.714	9.346	100.045	180.105	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	180.105
Greenland	4.565	682	8.000	13.247	3.212	0	9.505	146	0	0	0	0	0	12.863	384
Total all Parties	1.079.746	89.527	0	1.169.273	87.364	421.239	424.241	146	13.881	31.179	3	0	0	978.053	191.220

2017	QUOTAS (tonnes)					CATCHES (tonnes)									
	Quota established	Balance from 2016	Quota exchange	Quotas after transfers and flexibility	NEAFC Regulatory Area	European Union Zone	Faroese Fishing Zone	Greenland fishing zone	Icelandic Exclusive Economic Zone	Norwegian Economic Zone	Fishery Zone around Jan Mayen	Fishery Protection Zone around Svalbard	Russian Economic Zone	TOTAL CATCH	Balance
European Union	555.973	32.157	-116.500	471.630	6.930	337.934	18.945	0	0	17	0	0	0	363.825	107.805
Faroe Islands	476.901	-16.376	-87.500	373.025	45.731	29.604	281.741	0	350	0	0	0	0	357.426	15.599
Iceland	264.000	-19.321	-1.500	243.179	7.965	0	191.592	0	24.799	0	0	0	0	224.356	18.823
Norway	324.256	-37.935	86.636	372.957	77.714	287.558	3.034	0	0	31.057	0	0	0	399.363	-26.406
Total CS	1.621.130	-41.475	-118.864	1.460.791	138.340	655.096	495.312	0	20.764	31.074	0	0	0	1.344.970	115.821
Russian Federation	99.566	1.949	105.864	207.379	84.873	0	102.608	0	0	968	0	0	0	188.449	18.930
Greenland	7.268	384	13.000	20.652	1	0	20.471	27	0	0	0	0	0	20.499	153
Total all Parties	1.727.964	-39.142	0	1.688.822	223.214	655.096	618.391	27	20.764	32.042	0	0	0	1.553.918	134.904

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2018 Provisional Party	QUOTAS (tonnes)					CATCHES (tonnes)									
	Quota established	Balance from 2017	Quota exchange	Quotas after transfers and flexibility	NEAFC Regulatory Area	European Union Zone	Faroese Fishing Zone	Greenland fishing zone	Icelandic Exclusive Economic Zone	Norwegian Economic Zone	Fishery Zone around Jan Mayen	Fishery Protection Zone around Svalbard	Russian Economic Zone	TOTAL CATCH	Balance
European Union	574.836	55.597	-117.500	512.933	4.706	394.014	5.314	0	0	20	0	0	0	404.054	108.879
Faroe Islands	493.081	15.599	-99.500	409.180	53.026	25.919	233.071	0	0	0	0	0	0	312.016	97.164
Iceland	293.000	18.823	-1.500	310.323	28.171	0	191.064	0	26.839	0	0	0	0	246.074	64.249
Norway	335.257	-26.406	85.843	394.694	61.629	345.203	8.726	0	0	17.167	0	0	0	432.725	-38.031
Total CS	1.696.174	63.613	-132.657	1.627.130	147.532	765.136	438.174	0	26.839	17.188	0	0	0	1.394.869	232.261
Russian Federation	102.945	8.779	106.657	218.381	47.893	0	102.829	0	0	65	0	0	0	150.787	67.594
Greenland	7.514	153	16.000	23.667	30	0	14.696	0	0	0	0	0	0	14.726	8.941
Total all Parties	1.806.633	72.545	-10.000	1.869.178	195.455	765.136	555.699	0	26.839	17.253	0	0	0	1.560.382	308.796





Transfers and access arrangements for blue whiting in the North-East Atlantic in 2018

Transfers in 2018¹

Party	Quotas	Balance from 2017	Total available	European Union	Faroe Islands	Iceland	Norway	Russian Federation	Greenland
European Union	574.836	55.597	630.433	---	10.000		110.000		
Faroe Islands	493.081	15.599	508.680	2.500	---			81.000	16.000
Iceland	293.000	18.823	311.823			---		1.500	
Norway	335.257	-26.406	308.851				---	24.157	
Russian Federation								---	
Greenland	7.514	153	7.667						---

¹ Transfers imply full access

Access arrangements for 2018

Party	European Union	Faroe Islands	Iceland	Norway	Russian Federation	Greenland
European Union	---	21.500		227.975		
Faroe Islands	21.500	---	100%			
Iceland		100%	---			
Norway	227.975	32.640		---		
Russian Federation					---	
Greenland		7.514				---

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