



Working Group I meeting

4 February 2014, The Hague, The Netherlands

Agenda

- 1) Opening of the meeting
- 2) Approval of the agenda
- 3) Follow-up on action items
- 4) Evaluation of efforts and results in 2013
 - Western Baltic spring spawning herring
 - North Sea autumn spawning herring
 - West of Scotland herring
 - VIa South, VIIb,c herring
 - Celtic Sea herring
 - Irish Sea herring
 - Atlanto-Scandian herring
 - Northeast Atlantic mackerel
- 5) Initiatives in 2014
- 6) AOB
- 7) End of meeting

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Follow-up on action items

- Present Working Group recommendations to ExCom for approval (Christian Olesen) ✓
- Arrange mapping meeting with HAWG (Christian Olesen, secretariat)
- Encourage scientists to produce quality maps on stock distributions (Esben Sverdrup-Jensen)

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WBBS herring (IIIa and 22-24)



C: 18.848 D: 0.905 F: 19.754
(MSY transition, ICES recommended to develop a LTMP)



In agreement with the ICES advice



- Welcomed the efforts undertaken by the Commission and Norway to establish a TAC setting method
- Did not advise a specific TAC number, but emphasized the importance for including both the C and D fleet in the arrangement



C: D: F: 19.754
(C: 55.000 D: 6.659 F: 25.800 in 2013)

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North Sea autumn spawning herring



Catches of no more than 482.477 t based on the EU-Norway LTMP (470.037 t for the A-fleet)



In agreement with the ICES advice



- 2014 TAC should be set at 470.000 t in accordance with the management plan
- Amendment of the current plan is needed with target $F = 0.25$, $B_{trigger} = 1.1$ Mio t, inter-annual flexibility of +/-10%, FIAV stability mechanism
- Continued stakeholder involvement



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Herring West of Scotland (VIa North)



- Landings should be no more than 28.067 t based on the West of Scotland herring MP
- All catches are assumed to be landed



In agreement with the ICES advice



- Set the TAC according to the MP to 28.067 t
- Request ICES to undertake necessary work to establish SSB reference points before the benchmark in 2015



28.067 t (27.480 t in 2013)

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Herring in VIaSouth and VIIbc



No catches unless a rebuilding plan is implemented



- In agreement with the ICES advice
- PRAC revised rebuilding plan has been evaluated (next slide)
- Revised rebuilding plan is sent to STECF for scrutiny
- If it meets the criteria of the precautionary approach use it for TAC setting in 2014



3.676 t (1.500 t in 2013)



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Herring in VIaSouth and VIIbc

44th STECF plenary meeting report, 4-8 November 2013, Brussels:

- PRAC rebuilding plan could deliver recovery of the stock to above B_{lim} within a few years and above B_{pa} within a decade if total catches do not exceed the TAC based on the HCR
- Lower catches than given by the HCR would likely contribute to a more rapid recovery
- High level of transboundary catches (VIaS fish caught/reported against VIaN quota) remains a concern
- Clause 6 (interim temporary exclusion zone) of the rebuilding plan alone might not be sufficient to eliminate the problem
- STECF recommends that additional measures are considered, either by explicitly accounting for these catches as part of the harvest control rule, and/or by more restrictive area management



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Celtic Sea herring (VIIghjk and VIIAs)



Catches of no more than 35.942 t based on MSY



- In agreement with the ICES advice, but also notes that the communication from the commission to ICES to provide management advice following the MSY framework is not consistent with its rules for proposing TACs outlined in COM(2013) 319 Final
- Following the LTMP would imply catches of 22.360 t
- LTMP should be followed and the TAC should be 22.360 t accordingly
- Requested clarification why the Commission asked ICES to provide advice based on MSY



22.360 t (17.200 t in 2013)



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Irish Sea herring (VIIaNorth)



Catches of no more than 5.251 t based on MSY



In agreement with the ICES advice



- Work is underway to develop a LTMP, but the model did not deliver expected results and reference points have to be re-evaluated
- TAC of 5.251 t based on MSY

5.251 t (4.993 t in 2013)



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Atlanto-Scandian herring



Landings of no more than 418.487 t based on the LTMP



In agreement with the ICES advice



- PRAC recommended that:
- Commission seeks a return to the international agreement by all parties
 - Follow the LTMP and set the TAC at 418.000 t
 - International inspection team



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Northeast Atlantic mackerel



Landings should be no more than 889.886 t based on the recent three years' landings



- In agreement with the ICES advice
- Furthermore STECF suggests that managers reassess whether the advised landings for 2014 are still appropriate once the results of the benchmark assessment scheduled for February 2014 are available.



- No advice on a specific TAC
- Commission should seek an international agreement that is acceptable to all parties – including and not least the EU industry.



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Initiatives in 2014

- Integration of landing obligation into long-term management plans
- WKPELA benchmark (mackerel, Celtic Sea herring)
- Western Baltic herring management plan
- Finish work on Vla South herring management plan
- Long-term management plan on Irish Sea herring
- Collaboration with HAWG on mapping herring spawning grounds



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AOB



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Thank you