

**AGREED RECORD OF FISHERIES CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN
THE EUROPEAN UNION AND NORWAY FOR 2014**

LONDON, 12 MARCH 2014

- 1 A European Union Delegation, headed by Mr John SPENCER, and a Norwegian Delegation, headed by Ms Ann Kristin WESTBERG, met in London on 12 March 2014 to consult on mutual fisheries relations for 2014. The meeting was a continuation of previous meetings held in Bergen and Edinburgh.
- 2 The Heads of Delegation agreed to recommend to their respective authorities the fishery arrangements for 2014 as outlined in this Agreed Record, including Annexes I to XV and Tables 1 to 4.
- 3 The Delegations stated that the implementation of this Agreed Record of Conclusions is contingent on a parallel and simultaneous implementation of the provisions of the Agreed Record of Conclusions of Fisheries Consultations between the European Union and Norway on the Management of Mackerel in the North-East Atlantic signed in Brussels on 26 January 2010.
- 4 The Delegations reiterated their determination to cooperate, in their mutual interest, in securing continued responsible fisheries and ensuring the long-term conservation and sustainable exploitation of the marine living resources for which they are responsible.
- 5 **JOINTLY MANAGED STOCKS**
 - 5.1 The Delegations agreed to continue to work to improve the exploitation pattern and reduce discards through the use of technical measures to improve the selectivity of fishing gear, closed seasons and areas as well as any other appropriate measures. They acknowledged the usefulness of harmonised technical measures, noting that the aim of such measures should be to have compatibility of fishing gear, leading to the best possible selectivity achieved by the best possible means.
 - 5.2 Demersal fisheries in the North Sea include mixed fisheries that, to a large extent, exploit jointly managed stocks. The Delegations agreed that the stocks in the poorest condition, particularly those, which suffer from reduced reproductive capacity, are the overriding concern for the management of mixed fisheries where joint stocks are exploited either as a targeted species or as a by-catch.
 - 5.3 **Long-term management plans**
 - 5.3.1 The Delegations reaffirmed their commitment to manage the jointly managed stocks in accordance with the long-term management plans as set out in Annexes I to V.



- 5.3.2 The Delegations noted that ICES provides provisional mixed fisheries advice alongside its single stock advice. The Delegations agreed that under certain conditions the development of multi-species long-term management plans for mixed fisheries could lead to more effective management. The Delegations recognised that this approach needs further consideration from both Parties.
- 5.3.3 The Delegations noted that ICES had provided evaluations during 2013 on different options to revise the long-term management plans for cod, whiting and herring.
- 5.3.4 The Delegations noted that the long-term management plan for haddock has been in place since 2009 and that ICES should be requested by the Parties in 2014 to advise on whether the plan is considered to be precautionary.
- 5.3.5 The Delegations noted that there was still no jointly agreed management plan for North Sea plaice, and agreed to continue discussions in 2014.

5.4 Cod

- 5.4.1 The Delegations noted that according to the latest ICES assessment the fishing mortality on cod continues to decrease and that the spawning biomass in 2013 was in the vicinity of B_{lim} .
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- 5.4.2 The EU Delegation noted that discard rates, representing about 24% of the total catch in 2012, continue to decrease. This may be due, in part, to the cod avoidance measures implemented since 2009. They also noted that ICES now considers that there is no unaccounted mortality from 2006 onwards, and that catch reporting has improved substantially in recent years.
- 5.4.3 The Norwegian Delegation considers that a discard level at 24 % of the biomass is a high level of discard, and represents a major reason behind the poor performance of the management plan for cod. Recent discards of large and marketable cod seem to be effectively reduced, but discard rates of 1 and 2 year-old cod are increasing. The 2012 discards represent 63% of the total catch in numbers. This represents a large amount of foregone catch. Therefore effective discard reducing measures are urgently needed.
- 5.4.4 The Delegations noted that applying the harvest control rules of the agreed management plan for cod (shown in Annex I) would result in a 9% decrease in the TAC in 2014 compared to 2013, corresponding to a 46% decrease in fishing mortality. This would lead to an expected 45% median increase in SSB in 2014.
- 5.4.5 The Delegations observed in its response to their joint request of January 2014, that ICES advised that the options of a 9% reduction, a rollover of the 2014 TAC, and an increase of 10% in the TAC would all result in significant increases in spawning biomass during 2014, but that additional measures would be required for all three options to prevent an increase in discards.



5.4.6 In the light of this advice, the Delegations agreed that the Parties would apply paragraph 5 of the Plan, which states that the Parties can deviate from the harvest control rule if it is not appropriate to meet the objectives of the Plan. The Delegations therefore agreed to set a TAC for 2014 at a level of 27,799 tonnes, which is 5% higher than the TAC in 2013.

5.4.7 The Norwegian Delegation would have preferred to follow the harvest control rule of the management plan, but in light of the current circumstances as described in the above paragraph, agreed that deviation from the harvest control rule of the Plan was warranted.

5.4.8 The EU Delegation considered that the trials on fully documented fisheries represented an important initiative that facilitates the introduction of a discard ban in the EU for pelagic species from 1 January 2015 and for North Sea cod, haddock, saithe and whiting from 1 January 2016. The trials have already demonstrated behavioural changes in fishing practices that contribute to the reduction of discards and a diminution of fishing mortality. The EU Delegation proposed that the trials should be continued in 2014.

5.4.9 The Delegations agreed that an additional 12% is made available to the EU Member States share of the cod TAC in 2014 in order to facilitate the continuation of the trials. Furthermore, the Delegations agreed that an additional 12% would be added to the Norwegian quota for cod in the North Sea and Skagerrak in 2014.

5.4.10 The Norwegian Delegation is of the view that the trials do not give sufficient evidence on full documentation of the fishery and should therefore only be considered as a supplement to other control measures. There is grave concern that the quotas needed for these trials lead to catches higher than the TAC implied from agreed total landings. Such quotas should preferably have been covered by the ICES advice.

5.4.11 However, in light of the changes introduced in the reform of the CFP on the landing obligation, the Norwegian Delegation could accept a continuation of the EU trials in 2014.

5.5 Haddock

5.5.1 The Delegations agreed that the TAC for haddock should be fixed in accordance with the agreed long-term management plan. This would result in a TAC of 38,284 tonnes in 2014, which is a decrease of 15% compared with 2013.

5.5.2 The Delegations agreed that the system of inter-annual quota flexibility on this stock, as set out in Annex IX, shall continue to apply.

5.6 Saithe

5.6.1 The Delegations noted that the SSB has been declining since 2005 with fishing mortality estimated to be below F_{msy} and SSB to be at B_{pa} .

5.6.2 The Delegations agreed that the TAC for saithe should be fixed in accordance with the agreed long-term management plan, which results in a TAC of 77,536 tonnes in 2014, which is a decrease of 15% compared with 2013.



5.6.3 The EU Delegation informed Norway of its intention of ensuring consistency between the TACs that are set for saithe in ICES Division VIa and saithe in ICES Subarea IV and Division IIIa. The EU Delegation informed Norway of its intention to fix a quota for saithe for Division VIa of 8,045 tonnes.

5.6.4 The Delegations agreed that a system of inter-annual quota flexibility as set out in Annex IX shall apply with effect from the 2014 fishery.

5.7 Whiting

5.7.1 The Delegations noted that in response to their joint request to provide revised parameters for the long term management plan, ICES advised that the current target fishing mortality of 0.3 should be replaced with a target fishing mortality of 0.15. The Delegations agreed to amend the management plan accordingly and to apply the revised plan to set the TAC for 2014. Due to the application of the 15% TAC constraint, this result in a fishing mortality of 0.213, corresponding to a TAC of 16,092 tonnes in the North Sea.

5.8 Plaice

5.8.1 The Delegations noted that the stock of plaice in the North Sea was now at its highest recorded level and that fishing mortality was well below F_{msy} .

5.8.2 The Delegations agreed to establish a TAC of 111,631 tonnes for 2014, which represents a 15% increase compared to 2013.

5.8.3 The Delegations agreed that a system of inter-annual quota flexibility as set out in Annex IX shall apply with effect from the 2014 fishery.

5.8.4 The Delegations agreed that an additional 5% be made available to the EU Member State share of the plaice TAC in 2014 in order to facilitate trials on fully-documented fisheries on this stock. Furthermore, the Delegations agreed that an additional 5% would be added to the Norwegian quota for plaice in the North Sea in 2014.

5.9 Herring

5.9.1 The Delegations recalled that in recent years the agreed management plan was not considered to be effective in maximising yields, because the TAC constraint of 15% repeatedly resulted in fishing mortality rates that were well below F_{msy} . For this reason, the TAC constraint was not applied when setting the TACs in 2011 (22% increase), 2012 (103% increase) and 2013 (18% increase). For this reason, a joint request was submitted to ICES (Annex X) to evaluate alternative TAC stability mechanisms, as well as possible changes to the fishing mortality target of the plan.

5.9.2 The Delegations noted that the ICES response proposed target fishing mortalities in the range of 0.24 to 0.3; a TAC stability mechanism whereby the inter-annual TAC variation was constrained to +/- 15%; and an additional condition that the resulting fishing mortality cannot deviate by more than 10% of the fishing mortality indicated by the plan after a TAC constraint is applied.



The Delegations considered that this approach is a good compromise between TAC stability and the ability to respond rapidly to large changes in the scientific advice.

- 5.9.3 For 2014, the Delegations agreed to apply the current management plan to establish the TAC, which results in a TAC of 470,037 tonnes.
- 5.9.4 The Delegations agreed that a system of inter-annual quota flexibility as set out in Annex IX shall apply with effect from the 2014 fishery.
- 5.9.5 For 2015, the Delegations agreed that in the light of ICES advice, a revised management plan would provide for a target fishing mortality of 0.26 and the introduction of a new TAC stability mechanism (Annex IV). The Delegations agreed to request ICES to confirm that the revised long-term management plan is precautionary.
- 5.9.6 The Delegations agreed that the revised management plan should be reviewed no later than 31 December 2017.
- 5.9.7 The Delegations concluded that the by-catches of herring in other fisheries would be limited to 13,085 tonnes in 2014; this quota will be allocated to the EU.
- 5.9.8 The Norwegian Delegation stated that this type of arrangement is an anomaly and not in line with sustainable practices and should be revised with a view to being phased out.

6 OTHER JOINT STOCKS (NOT JOINTLY MANAGED)

- 6.1 The Delegations noted the previous joint work undertaken on sandeel, Norway pout, anglerfish and horse mackerel in the North Sea and Skagerrak. They acknowledged that additional work is required before the Parties can take any decisions on allocation.
- 6.2 Sandeel**
- 6.2.1 The Norwegian Delegation informed the EU Delegation that the Norwegian system used for managing sandeel in Norwegian waters that is based on spatial management of the stock in order to prevent local depletion in the Norwegian Economic Zone, has been evaluated. The conclusion is that Norway will continue using and developing the existing management regime for sandeel, with possible amendments to the delimitation of the management areas
- 6.2.2 The EU Delegation stated that the TAC for 2014 would be fixed on the basis of ICES advice following the dredge surveys carried out during the fourth quarter of 2013. It noted that this advice indicated that total catches should be no more than 57,000 tonnes in Management Area 1, 270,000 tonnes in Management Area 3, zero catches in Areas 5 and 7, and that catches in the remaining areas should be restricted to the amounts required in order to undertake monitoring fisheries. The EU Delegation stated its intention of fixing its catch limitations in each of the seven management areas in line with this advice.

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6.3 Anglerfish

- 6.3.1 The Delegations took note of the ICES advice for 2014 stating that catches of anglerfish should be reduced by 20% in relation to the average over the last three years. They agreed that management should ensure the improvement of the exploitation pattern through, *inter alia*, increased minimum mesh sizes, reduced discards, protection of juveniles and appropriate measures to counter ghost fishing. The Delegations recognised the need for improved scientific knowledge of the stock and enhanced scientific co-operation.
- 6.3.2 The Norwegian Delegation expressed its concern about the substantial and unsustainable trawl fishery on small anglerfish and declared the intention of Norway to continue to reduce this fishery.

6.4 Horse Mackerel

- 6.4.1 The Norwegian Delegation noted that the EU is in the process of establishing a long-term management plan for the joint stock of horse mackerel. The Norwegian Delegation stated that ideally the Parties should try to develop joint long-term management plans for joint stocks. In the absence of a joint long-term management plan Norway would also for 2014 establish regulatory measures for this stock in the Norwegian Economic Zone.

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- 6.4.2 The EU Delegation stated that it would continue to manage the horse mackerel stock in accordance with scientific advice.

6.5 Norway pout

- 6.5.1 The Delegations welcomed the ICES response to the joint request on the evaluation of management models with the objective of achieving stable TACs keeping the stock within safe biological limits. They noted that any of the options proposed could be considered precautionary, provided that the conditions and TAC limitations described by ICES were respected.
- 6.5.2 The EU Delegation stated its intention to set the TAC according to a strategy based on an escapement biomass of 150,000 tonnes, which provides for a TAC within the range of 20,000 to 200,000 tonnes, with the additional constraint of a ceiling on fishing mortality of 0.6.
- 6.5.3 In the light of the latest ICES advice, based on the MSY approach, catches in 2014 should not exceed 216,000 tonnes. The EU Delegation informed the Norwegian Delegation that it would assume a nominal TAC of 171,000 tonnes in 2014, corresponding to the fishing mortality ceiling of 0.6 and resulting in an EU quota of 128,250 tonnes.

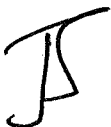


- 6.5.4 The EU Delegation reminded the Norwegian Delegation of its intention to change the TAC year for Norway pout to 1 November – 31 October. This would allow the TAC to be set on the best available advice, and obviate the need for a mid-year review. The EU noted that the ICES response to its request for advice on such a management strategy indicated that it would have limited influence on long-term yield, stock sizes, and probability of low stock biomass under the escapement strategy outlined in paragraph 6.6.2.
- 6.5.5 The Norwegian Delegation informed the EU Delegation that Norway has established a quota of 108,000 tonnes for 2014. This quota is set on basis of the latest advice from ICES.
- 6.5.6 The Norwegian Delegation stated that they would have preferred a joint management plan between the Parties based on the recommendation from ICES, with the TAC being set within a range of minimum 27,000 tonnes and maximum 100,000 tonnes, as this would achieve stable TACs and at the same time keep the stock within safe biological limits. The Norwegian Delegation regretted that EU did not show interest in discussing a joint management approach at this junction.

7 EXCHANGE OF FISHING POSSIBILITIES

7.1 Redfish in the Norwegian Economic Zone

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- 7.1.1 The Delegations noted that the ICES advice for 2014 for *Sebastes mentella* in ICES Subareas I and II, including by-catches and discards, should not exceed 24,000 tonnes.
- 7.1.2 The Delegations referred to the enlargement of the European Union in 1986 and to the commitment made by Norway to facilitate this enlargement under the terms of the Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters signed at Oporto on 2 May 1992, which includes an allocation to the EU of 1,500 tonnes of redfish north of 62°N outside the balance of the bilateral fisheries agreement.
- 7.1.3 The Norwegian Delegation regretted the NEAFC decision, made upon a proposal made by the EU to allocate as much as 19,500 tonnes for fishing on *Sebastes Mentella* in international waters, thus leaving only 4,500 tonnes to the Coastal States. Norway regards this decision irresponsible and contrary to the principles of coastal States right as embedded in the Law of the Sea.
- 7.1.4 The Norwegian Delegation informed the EU Delegation that Norway is considering to open for direct fishery for *Sebastes Mentella* in Norwegian EEZ. The strong conservation measures for *Sebastes Marinus* will be continued.
- 7.1.5 The EU Delegation recalled that it had conducted fisheries for *Sebastes mentella* in international waters in conformity with NEAFC management measures, the Union, in conjunction with other Parties, had conducted its fisheries respecting the catch limit established by NEAFC.



7.2 Other species quota

- 7.2.1 The Norwegian Delegation noted that catches of hake, within the “others quota” have increased, and constituted 74% of the catches in 2013, and informed the EU Delegation that Norway will consider the management of hake in Norwegian waters

8 EXPLORATORY FISHERIES

- 8.1 The EU Delegation expressed the interest of some EU operators in exploring the potential of under-utilised resources evolving in Norwegian waters, such as crab and prawns. The EU Delegation invited the Norwegian authorities to examine duly motivated requests transmitted by EU operators and to issue where justified fishing authorizations for exploratory campaigns subject to the applicable conditions. The provision of existing scientific and other basic information to interested operators would be much appreciated.
- 8.2 The Norwegian Delegation stated that this subject is outside the scope of this Agreed Record and referred to the website of the Directorate of Fisheries for further information in this respect.

9 FULL UTILISATION OF QUOTAS

- 9.1 The Delegations agreed that the Parties should consult in the event that the exhaustion of any quotas taken in a directed fishery or as a by-catch might prevent the full utilisation of established quotas.
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10 CATCH INFORMATION

- 10.1 Each Party shall, when appropriate and on request, inform the other Party of catches, by stock, made in its fishing zone by the vessels of the other Party, the information provided by Norway being broken down by flag.

11 CATCH REPORTING DISCREPANCIES

- 11.1 It was noted that there is a recurring problem in relation to discrepancies between reported official catches or landings and catch statistics utilised by ICES. The discrepancies are assumed to be due to misreporting, inadequate accounting of discards, by-catches and other factors contributing to the total out-take of the stocks.
- 11.2 The Delegations noted that the Working Group on catch reporting and catch statistics had met in 2013. The Delegations recognised that the Working Group was not in the position to disclose discrepancies, on a vessel by vessel level, between the parties official catch statistics and thereafter identify the reasons for such discrepancies, as detailed catch and activity data on vessel level for all EU vessels were not available.
- 11.3 The Delegations agreed that the quality of catch and activity data is decisive for efficient management measures and high quality stock assessments, and noted that the introduction of ERS should have given the Parties the opportunity to compare catch and activity data on vessel level in a more efficient manner than previously.
- 11.4 In this context, the Delegations agreed that a working group on catch reporting and catch statistics shall be set up during 2014. The Terms of Reference are set out in Annex XI.

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12 Discards and associated activities

- 12.1 The Delegations recognised that discarding of fish represents a major waste of resources as well as a loss of potential income and is detrimental towards the rebuilding of fish stocks. Furthermore, they recognised that discarding implies that some catches are not recorded with the result that the scientific basis for the management decisions is weakened.
- 12.2 The Delegations recalled that in the Agreed Record of conclusion of Fisheries Consultation between Norway and the European Community for 2009, it was agreed to implement several measures that would contribute to a significant reduction in levels of discard. Examples of measures are a ban on high grading, technical measures to improve gear selectivity, improved control measures and the introduction of RTC systems. The Delegations stated the importance of continuing to work in order to reduce discards of all commercial species, including juveniles and undersized fish.
- 12.3 The EU Delegation informed the Norwegian delegation that under the new Common Fisheries Policy a landing obligation will be established and gradually implemented for all catches of species which are subject to catch limits, caught during fishing activities in Union waters. The landing obligation will be introduced fishery by fishery according to timelines specified in the CFP, between 2015 and 2019
- 12.4 The Norwegian Delegation was informed by the EU Delegation that limited exemptions and flexibility mechanisms are possible under the rules on the landing obligation. Specifically fishermen will be allowed to continue discarding species which, according to the best available scientific advice, have a high survival rate when released back into the sea, fish that are used for live bait, and species on which fishing is prohibited under EU law. In order to cater for unwanted catches that are unavoidable even when all the measures for their reduction are applied, limited exemptions ("*de minimis*") from the landing obligation should be established for the fisheries to which the landing obligation applies. It will also be permitted to count catches of by-catch species against the quota of the target species under conditions of good conservation status of the by-catch stocks, and to transfer limited quotas between years, up to a percentage of 10% for species under the landing obligation.
- 12.5 The Norwegian Delegation noted that the CFP has been revised, and expressed that in its view, the new CFP should make it possible to largely improve the sustainability of the fishing sector in the EU. In particular the introduction of a landing obligation is seen as an important step, as well as increased focus on technical measures in order to reduce unwanted by-catches. The Norwegian Delegation noted that several exemptions from the landing obligations are foreseen. The detailed application of these exemptions has still to be decided upon. The Norwegian Delegation recommended that the EU ensure that these exemptions do not undermine the landing obligation.

13 REFORM OF THE COMMON FISHERIES POLICY

- 13.1 The EU Delegation informed the Norwegian Delegation that the new Common Fisheries Policy came into force from 1 January 2014. The Union shall apply the precautionary approach and shall aim to ensure that exploitation of living marine biological resources restores and maintains populations of harvested stocks above levels that can produce the maximum sustainable yield. The exploitation rates should be

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achieved by 2015 where possible and, on a progressive, incremental basis at the latest by 2020 for all stocks.

13.2 Furthermore, the EU Delegation informed the Norwegian Delegation that under the new Common Fisheries Policy multiannual plans shall be adopted as a priority. These plans shall be based on scientific, technical and economic advice, and shall contain conservation measures in accordance with the objective on maximum sustainable yields. The plans shall cover either single species or in the case of mixed fisheries or where the dynamics of stocks relate to one another, fisheries exploiting several stocks in a relevant geographical area.

13.3 The EU Delegation also informed the Norwegian Delegation that the new Common Fisheries Policy envisages a regionalised governance dimension under which Member States with a direct interest in a fishery can develop joint recommendations to the Commission, for adoption under Commission Acts. These joint recommendations and subsequent Commission Acts are circumscribed in Union legislation, such as multiannual plans or the new Common Fisheries Policy Regulation. Any transposition of joint recommendations shall result in Union legislation. The regionalized governance is without prejudice to international agreements. Where it concerns a fish stock shared with a third country, the Union shall consult on these measures with the relevant partner(s).

13.4 Future EU Technical Measures

13.4.1 The EU Delegation informed the Norwegian Delegation that the Commission intends to develop in 2014 a proposal for a new framework for technical measures which, over time, will facilitate the full implementation of the landing obligation and which will incorporate the regionalised approach envisaged in the reform of the CFP.

13.4.2 Furthermore, the EU Delegation informed the Norwegian Delegation that any changes to the technical measures will not substantively alter the current rules other than to require vessels not to discard species according to the timelines included in the reform of the CFP. However, the EU delegation informed the Norwegian Delegation that new rules relating to the recording of catches and the storage of catches aboard fishing vessels will apply according to the timetables included in the reform of the CFP.

13.4.3 Both Delegations recognised the significance of these changes and agreed to meet during 2014 in order to ensure full transparency, on the content of future legislation.

13.4.4 The Delegations noted the report from a Working Group on Harmonising Technical measures in the North Sea, which was presented at a meeting in Edinburgh in September 2013. The EU Delegation informed the Norwegian Delegation that the report would be an input into a process that will start with a consultation process in the EU leading to a revised regulation on technical measures to be in force in 2015.

13.4.5 In the first half of 2014, the EU Delegation will arrange a meeting between the Parties in order to discuss the status of the work on developing new technical regulations.



14 TECHNICAL MEASURES

14.1.1 The Delegations agreed on the importance of technical regulations that are both practical and effective. This will strengthen the legitimacy as well as the control and enforcement aspect of the regulations.

14.1.2 The Delegations recalled last years' decision to establish a Working Group on gear technology to review all available information on selection measures in fishing gears, and noted the report from the Working Groups meeting held in Edinburgh 7 to 8 May 2013.

14.1.3 Based on the report from the Working Group, the Norwegian Delegation proposed that the Delegations should agree to introduce an obligation to use a sorting grid in the *Pandalus* fisheries in the North Sea outside 4 nm. Furthermore, it is proposed that the *Pandalus* fisheries in the North Sea should be regulated according to the rules agreed for *Pandalus* fishing in the Skagerrak. The Norwegian Delegation also proposed that the minimum mesh size in the mixed fisheries with large mesh trawl and seine in the North Sea should be 120 mm, with few and limited exemptions.

Furthermore, the Norwegian Delegations proposed that the minimum mesh size in the mixed fisheries with large mesh trawl and seine in the North Sea, north of 56 °N, should be 120 mm with no exemptions.

14.1.4 The EU Delegation took note of the Norwegian proposals and stated that it would consider all these proposals in the context of the development of the new EU technical measures regulation.

14.1.5 Norway stated that it would work on introducing the implementation of a sorting grid in the *Pandalus* fishery in the Norwegian sector.

15 REAL TIME CLOSURES

15.1 The Delegations consider that it is of great importance to continue the Real Time Closure (RTC) systems to protect small fish and juveniles, and furthermore that they will continue to share information on the operation of the RTC systems.

16 CONTROL AND ENFORCEMENT

16.1 Control measures for pelagic fisheries

16.1.1 The Delegations agreed that it was of great importance to follow up the implementation of the measures agreed between the European Community, the Faroe Islands and Norway on 1 July 2009 regarding control measures in the fisheries for pelagic species (mackerel, herring and horse mackerel), which came into force from 1 January 2010. The measures agreed are set down in Annex XII.

16.1.2 The Delegations noted that the measures agreed for the weighing and inspection of landings of mackerel, herring and horse mackerel adopted in 2004 (Annex XIII) have been implemented along with the harmonised methodology for conducting full inspections. The introduction of these measures has improved control and the Delegations believe that the level of underreporting due to undeclared landings has been significantly reduced.

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16.1.3 The EU Delegation informed the Norwegian Delegation that in the period 2012 – 2015, the European Union is carrying out a specific control and inspection programme for pelagic fisheries in western waters. This programme relies on risk-management strategies.

16.1.4 The Norwegian Delegation expressed its interests in being invited as an observer to the Joint Development Programme for pelagic species in western waters, as Norway is a major shareholder in the pelagic stocks.

16.1.5 The EU Delegation informed the Norwegian Delegation that the Joint Deployment Plans are set up to coordinate the activities of EU Member States and that there is no provision for participation by observers in such plans. However, the EU Delegation took note of the Norwegian interest. It pointed out that, of course, Norwegian officials may observe the operation of specific control and inspection programme for pelagic fisheries in Western Waters through bilateral contact between competent control authorities of the EU Member States.

16.2 Exchange of information and inspectors

16.2.1 The Delegations agreed that cooperation should be continued between the inspections services of both Parties, in particular through involvement of Norwegian inspection services in the operation of specific control and inspection programmes through bilateral contact between competent control authorities.

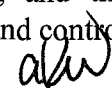
16.2.2 The Delegations agreed that the Parties should continue to exchange officials as observers in relation to control and enforcement. They agreed that officials may accompany inspectors from the other Party on missions related to the implementation of measures agreed in this Agreement. The Delegations also agreed to continue the exchange of information on landings by vessels of either Party and landings by third country vessels in the respective ports of the Parties.

16.2.3 Furthermore, the Delegations agreed that the Parties should exchange information and views regarding monitoring, control and surveillance issues of bilateral interest and agreed to facilitate meetings when appropriate.

16.2.4 Norway recalled the agreement to arrange a Joint Operational Seminar in 2013. Joint Operational Seminars were arranged in 2010 and 2011. Representatives from Iceland and the Faroe Islands have attended the Seminars, as well as representatives from Norway and the EU. It is the view of the Norwegian Delegation that these seminars were successful and such cooperation is beneficial for all involved parties. However, it has not been possible to arrange Joint Operational Seminars in 2012 and 2013. The Norwegian Delegation regrets that situation, and stated that Norway would consider other venues to initiate similar arrangements.

16.3 Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS) Working Group for 2014

16.3.1 The Delegations noted a report from the Working Group reporting on the activity in 2013. The Working group met two times, in addition to a planning meeting. Also, 3 fact-finding missions were carried out to the Faroe Islands, Iceland and Norway. The Delegations expressed their consent with the work of the Group, and the importance of cooperation between all relevant Parties related to monitoring and control



of the pelagic fisheries. Furthermore they agreed on the need to make the task of the Working Group more targeted on certain issues, in particular to review the measures concerning weighing and inspections that are set out in Annex XIII. The Delegations reviewed the Terms of Reference for the Working Group pursuant to the agreement of the Coastal States reached in Clonakilty on 20 November 2013. They noted that Greenland will be invited to join the Working Group. The reviewed Terms of Reference for the Working Group is in Annex XIV.

16.4 Electronic reporting systems (ERS) and Vessel Monitoring Systems (VMS) for fishing vessels

16.4.1 The Delegations noted that the quality of the data was improving and that ERS has given an improved basis for management, monitoring, control and surveillance, and for statistical and scientific purposes. However, the Delegations recognized that there is still room for improving and developing ERS.

16.4.2 Furthermore, the Delegations took note of the work of the Working Group of electronic reporting and recording experts in 2013. The Working Group has made progress on finding common ground on the issue of introducing a separate transportation layer to electronic exchange of data. However, this task has not been finalised.

16.4.3 Therefore, the Delegations agreed to continue the Working Group of electronic reporting and recording experts in 2014. The Delegations agreed that the Working Group should focus on issues as set down in the Terms of Reference of the Working Group for 2014 (Annex XV). The Working Group should meet before 31 May 2014.

16.4.4 The Norwegian Delegation informed the EU Delegation that bilateral arrangement on exchange of electronic catch and activity data have been entered with Iceland, Russia and Greenland. These agreements are in line with the electronic reporting system that Norway and EU has committed to in the Agreed Record between Norway and EU on electronic exchange of catch and activity data.

17 SEABIRD AND CETACEAN BY-CATCH

17.1 The EU Delegation informed the Norwegian Delegation that the EU had adopted an Action Plan for reducing incidental catches of seabirds in fishing gears at the end of 2012. This plan provides a management framework to minimise seabird by-catch to as low levels as is practically possible. The EU Delegation requested Norway to ensure the reporting of seabird incidental catches from Norwegian vessels operating in EU waters to the relevant ICES working group and, where possible, to adopt mitigation measures to reduce such incidental catches.

17.2 The EU Delegation also informed the Norwegian Delegation in accordance with Council Regulation 812/2004 that all vessels larger than 12 metres fishing in ICES sub-area IV and Division IIIa with any bottom-set gillnet or entangling net with mesh sizes greater than 220mm are required to use acoustic deterrent devices to reduce incidental catches of cetaceans. These devices must meet the technical specifications and be deployed under the specified conditions set out in Annex II of that Regulation. The EU Delegation requested Norway to ensure the reporting of incidental catches of cetaceans to the relevant ICES working group.

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- 17.3 The Norwegian Delegation took note of this information, and informed the EU Delegation that Norwegian fishing vessels are obliged to record and report such by-catches, wherever the fisheries are conducted.

18 UNITED KINGDOM – FAROE ISLANDS SPECIAL AREA

- 18.1 With regard to Norwegian vessels fishing in the Special Area between the EU fishing zone (United Kingdom waters) and the Faroe Islands fishing zone, the following rules shall apply:

- (1) Vessels fishing in the Special Area shall comply with all relevant fishery rules established by the Party issuing a fishing licence for that vessel.
 - (2) If a vessel has obtained a fishing licence from both Parties, the vessel shall report its total catches in the Special Area to both Parties. The catches shall be deducted from the quotas allocated by each Party, divided equally between them. If the quota allocated by one Party is exhausted, the catches shall be deducted from the quota allocated by the other Party.
 - (3) Catches taken in the Special Area shall be registered in the logbook.
 - (4) Vessels fishing in the Special Area shall be equipped with VMS and be subject to control by the Party or Parties issuing the fishing licence.
-

- 18.2 The EU Delegation, furthermore, informed Norway that a specific hail-in and hail-out system for the Special Area will be introduced as soon as possible.

- 18.3 The Delegations agreed to continue to examine practical solutions in regard to technical regulations in the Special Area, which are applicable to any vessel, which has obtained a fishing licence from either Party.

London, 12 March 2014

For the European Union Delegation


John SPENCER

For the Norwegian Delegation


Ann Kristin WESTBERG

RECOVERY AND LONG TERM MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR COD

The Plan covers an initial recovery phase as well as a long-term management phase and shall consist of the following elements.

Objective

1. The Parties agree to restrict their fishing on the basis of TACs consistent with a fishing mortality rate that maximises long-term yield and maintains spawning stock biomass above B_{pa} .

Transitional arrangement

2. The fishing mortality will be reduced by setting a TAC at a level not exceeding that corresponding to a fishing mortality which is a fraction of the estimate of fishing mortality on appropriate age groups in 2008 as follows: 75% for the TACs in 2009, 65% for the TACs in 2011, and applying successive decrements of 10% for the following years.

The transitional phase ends (and will not apply) as from the first year in which the long-term management arrangement (paragraphs 3, 4 and 6) leads to a higher TAC than the transitional arrangement.

Long-term management

3. If the size of the stock on 1 January of the year prior to the year of application of the TACs is:
 - a. Above the precautionary spawning biomass level, the TACs shall correspond to a fishing mortality rate of 0.4 on appropriate age groups;
 - b. Between the minimum spawning biomass level and the precautionary spawning biomass level, the TACs shall not exceed a level corresponding to a fishing mortality rate on appropriate age groups equal to the following formula:

$$0.4 - (0.2 * (\text{Precautionary spawning biomass level} - \text{spawning biomass}) / (\text{Precautionary spawning biomass level} - \text{minimum spawning biomass level}))$$
 - c. At or below the limit spawning biomass level, the TAC shall not exceed a level corresponding to a fishing mortality rate of 0.2 on appropriate age groups.
4. Notwithstanding paragraphs 2 and 3, the TAC for 2011 and subsequent years shall not be set at a level that is more than 20% below or above the TACs established in the previous year.




5. When scientific advice indicates that the application of the rules set out in paragraphs 2 to 4 is not appropriate to meet the objectives of the plan, the Parties may, notwithstanding the above mentioned provisions, decide on an alternative TAC level.
6. Where the stock has been exploited at a fishing mortality rate close to 0.4 during three successive years, the parameters of this plan shall be reviewed on the basis of advice from ICES in order to ensure exploitation at maximum sustainable yield.
7. The TAC shall be calculated by deducting the following quantities from the total removals of cod that are advised by ICES as corresponding to the fishing mortality rates consistent with the management plan:
 - a. A quantity of fish equivalent to the expected discards of cod from the stock concerned;
 - b. A quantity corresponding to other relevant sources of cod mortality.
8. The Parties agree to adopt values for the minimum spawning biomass level (70,000 tonnes), the precautionary biomass level (150,000 tonnes) and to review these quantities as appropriate in the light of ICES advice.

Procedure for setting TACs in data-poor circumstances

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9. If, due to a lack of sufficiently precise and representative information, it is not possible to implement the provisions in paragraphs 3 to 7, the TAC will be set according to the following procedure.
 - a. If the scientific advice recommends that the catches of cod should be reduced to the lowest possible level the TAC shall be reduced by 25% with respect to the TAC for the preceding year.
 - b. In all other cases the TAC shall be reduced by 15% with respect to the TAC for the previous year, unless the scientific advice recommends otherwise.

This plan entered into force on 1 January 2013 and shall be reviewed no later than 31 December 2015.



LONG-TERM MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR HADDOCK

The Parties agreed to implement a long-term management plan for the haddock stock in the North Sea and Skagerrak. The objective of the plan is to provide for sustainable fisheries with high and stable yields in conformity with the precautionary approach.

The plan shall consist of the following elements:

1. Every effort shall be made to maintain a minimum level of Spawning Stock Biomass greater than 100,000 tonnes (B_{lim}).
 2. For 2009 and subsequent years the Parties agreed to restrict their fishing on the basis of a TAC consistent with a fishing mortality rate of no more than 0.3 for appropriate age-groups, when the SSB in the end of the year in which the TAC is applied is estimated above 140,000 tonnes (B_{pa}).
 3. Where the rule in paragraph 2 would lead to a TAC, which deviates by more than 15 % from the TAC of the preceding year, the Parties shall establish a TAC that is no more than 15% greater or 15% less than the TAC of the preceding year.
-
4. Where the SSB referred to in paragraph 2 is estimated to be below B_{pa} but above B_{lim} the TAC shall not exceed a level which will result in a fishing mortality rate equal to $0.3 - 0.2 * (B_{pa} - SSB) / (B_{pa} - B_{lim})$. This consideration overrides paragraph 3.
 5. Where the SSB referred to in paragraph 2 is estimated to be below B_{lim} the TAC shall be set at a level corresponding to a total fishing mortality rate of no more than 0.1. This consideration overrides paragraph 3.
 6. In the event that ICES advises that changes are required to the precautionary reference points B_{pa} (140,000t) or B_{lim} (100,000t) the Parties shall meet to review paragraphs 1-5.
 7. In order to reduce discarding and to increase the spawning stock biomass and the yield of haddock, the Parties agreed that the exploitation pattern shall, while recalling that other demersal species are harvested in these fisheries, be improved in the light of new scientific advice from *inter alia* ICES.
 8. No later than 31 December 2014, the Parties shall review the arrangements in paragraphs 1 to 7 in order to ensure that they are consistent with the objective of the plan. This review shall be conducted after obtaining *inter alia* advice from ICES concerning the performance of the plan in relation to its objective.

This arrangement entered into force on 1 January 2009.




LONG-TERM MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR SAITHE

The Parties agreed to implement a long-term management plan for the saithe stock in the Skagerrak, the North Sea and west of Scotland, which is consistent with a precautionary approach and designed to provide for sustainable fisheries and high yields.

The plan shall consist of the following elements:

1. Every effort shall be made to maintain a minimum level of Spawning Stock Biomass (SSB) greater than 106,000 tonnes (B_{lim}).
 2. Where the SSB is estimated to be above 200,000 tonnes the Parties agreed to restrict their fishing on the basis of a TAC consistent with a fishing mortality rate of no more than 0.30 for appropriate age groups.
 3. Where the SSB is estimated to be below 200,000 tonnes but above 106,000 tonnes, the TAC shall not exceed a level which, on the basis of a scientific evaluation by ICES, will result in a fishing mortality rate equal to $0.30 - 0.20 * (200,000 - SSB) / 94,000$.
-
4. Where the SSB is estimated by the ICES to be below the minimum level of SSB of 106,000 tonnes the TAC shall be set at a level corresponding to a fishing mortality rate of no more than 0.1.
 5. Where the rules in paragraphs 2 and 3 would lead to a TAC, which deviates by more than 15% from the TAC of the preceding year the Parties, shall fix a TAC that is no more than 15% greater or 15% less than the TAC of the preceding year.
 6. Notwithstanding paragraph 5 the Parties may where considered appropriate reduce the TAC by more than 15% compared to the TAC of the preceding year.
 7. A review of this arrangement shall take place no later than 31 December 2015.

This arrangement entered into force on 1 January 2009.



**LONG-TERM MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR HERRING
OF NORTH SEA ORIGIN AND ALLOCATION OF CATCHES**

The Parties agreed to continue to implement the management system for North Sea herring, which entered into force on 1 January 1998 and which is consistent with a precautionary approach and designed to ensure a rational exploitation pattern and provide for stable and high yields. This system consists of the following:

1. Every effort shall be made to maintain a minimum level of Spawning Stock Biomass (SSB) greater than 800,000 tonnes (B_{lim}).
2. Where the SSB is estimated to be above 1.5 million tonnes the Parties agree to set quotas for the directed fishery and for by-catches in other fisheries, reflecting a fishing mortality rate of no more than 0.26 for 2 ringers and older and no more than 0.05 for 0 - 1 ringers.
3. Where the SSB is estimated to be below 1.5 million tonnes but above 800,000 tonnes, the Parties agree to set quotas for the direct fishery and for by-catches in other fisheries, reflecting a fishing mortality rate on 2 ringers and older equal to:

$0.26 - (0.16 * (1,500,000 - SSB) / 700,000)$ for 2 ringers and older, and

no more than 0.05 for 0 - 1 ringers

4. Where the SSB is estimated to be below 800,000 tonnes the Parties agree to set quotas for the directed fishery and for by-catches in other fisheries, reflecting a fishing mortality rate of less than 0.1 for 2 ringers and older and of less than 0.04 for 0-1 ringers.
5. Where the rules in paragraphs 2 and 3 would lead to a TAC which deviates by more than 15% from the TAC of the preceding year the parties shall fix a TAC that is no more than 15% greater or 15% less than the TAC of the preceding year. However, if the resulting fishing mortality rate would be more than 10% higher or more than 10% lower than that indicated by the rules in paragraphs 2 and 3, the TAC shall be fixed at a level corresponding to a fishing mortality that is respectively 10% higher or 10% lower than that indicated by the rules of paragraphs 2 and 3.
6. Notwithstanding paragraph 5 the Parties may, where considered appropriate, reduce the TAC to a level that corresponds to a fishing mortality more than 10% lower than that indicated by the rules of paragraphs 2 and 3.
7. By-catches of herring may only be landed in ports where adequate sampling schemes to effectively monitor the landings have been set up. All catches landed shall be deducted from the respective quotas set, and the fisheries shall be stopped immediately in the event that the quotas are exhausted.
8. The allocation of the TAC for the directed fishery for herring shall be 29% to Norway and 71% to the EU. The by-catch quota for herring shall be allocated to the EU.
9. A review of this arrangement shall take place no later than 31 December 2017

This arrangement shall enter into force on 1 January 2015.




LONG-TERM MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR WHITING IN THE NORTH SEA

The Parties agreed to implement a long-term management plan for the whiting stock in the North Sea, which is consistent with a precautionary approach and designed to provide for sustainable fisheries and high yields.

The plan shall consist of the following elements:

1. The Parties shall establish a TAC that is consistent with a fishing mortality rate of no more than 0.15 for appropriate age groups.
2. Where the rule in paragraph 1 would lead to a TAC, which deviates by more than 15% from the TAC of the preceding year, the Parties shall establish a TAC that is no more than 15% greater or 15% less than the TAC of the preceding year.
3. A review of this arrangement shall take place no later than 31 December 2017.

This arrangement entered into force on 1 January 2014.



BASIC PRINCIPLES FOR A LONG-TERM MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR PLAICE

1. The initial aim of this long-term management plan will be to bring the spawning stock biomass (SSB) up to an agreed minimum target level (B_{pa}) and fishing mortality below an agreed maximum level (F_{pa}).
2. After having reached this level, the plan should provide for an agreed target mortality rate for sustainable fisheries and high yield in the longer term.
3. Where either or both the SSB is estimated to be below the precautionary biomass level (B_{pa}) and the fishing mortality is above the precautionary level (F_{pa}), the Parties will restrict their fishing on the basis of a TAC consistent with a gradual reduction in the fishing mortality rate.
4. Where this leads to a TAC which deviates by more than 15% from the TAC for the preceding year, the Parties shall fix a TAC that is neither more than 15% greater nor 15% less than the TAC of the preceding year.
- ~~5. Should the SSB of plaice fall below the minimum level (B_{lim}), the Parties shall decide on a TAC that is lower than that corresponding to the application of the applicable deviation rules.~~
6. This plan shall be subject to regular review after consulting the relevant scientific bodies. It shall include if necessary adaptations to the appropriate target mortality rate as decided by the Parties. In particular, a decision shall be taken on the long-term target fishing mortality rates once the fishery exploiting the stock of plaice is operating within safe biological limits.
7. Further measures to reduce discards of plaice should be considered. Other measures should also be considered.



CONDITIONS FOR FISHERIES BY THE PARTIES IN 2014

I. JOINT STOCKS

1. The Total Allowable Catches (TACs) for the stocks mentioned in Table 1 for 2014 shall be as indicated in that table. If ICES make new scientific recommendations, the Parties will review these TACs.
2. The TACs referred to in paragraph 1 shall be divided between the Parties as indicated in Table 1.
3. Each Party shall inform the other Party of allocations granted to third countries for fishing on the stocks referred to in Table 1.
4. The Parties shall supply each other with monthly catch statistics for fishing on the stocks referred to in Table 1 by their own vessels. Communication of these statistics for the preceding month shall take place at the latest on the last day of each month.

II. OTHER STOCKS

Each Party shall authorise fishing by vessels of the other Party for the stocks mentioned in Tables 2 to 4 within the quotas set out in these tables.

III. LICENSING

1. Licensing by either Party of the other Party's vessels in 2014 shall be limited to the following fisheries.
 - A. EU fishing in the Norwegian Economic Zone:
 - all fishing north of 62° N;
 - all industrial fishing and fishing for mackerel in the North Sea;
 - all other fishing with vessels over 200 GRT in the North Sea.
 - B. Norwegian fishing in the EC zone and in Greenland waters:
 - all fishing in NAFO Sub-area 1 and ICES Sub-area XIV and Division Va;
 - all fishing in the EU's fishing zone with vessels over 200 GRT.

For 2014, the number of licences and the conditions of those licences shall be in accordance with the Agreed Record of Conclusions on Licence Arrangements for 1995 between the European Community and Norway signed at Bergen on 13 May 1995.

2. The Parties shall notify each other, according to the types of fishing indicated above, the name and characteristics of the vessels for which licences may be issued.




It is agreed that the requirement for each Party's vessels to keep on-board a licence whilst fishing in the other Party's zone shall no longer apply.

3. Vessels, which were authorised to fish on 31 December 2013, may continue their activities in 2014.
4. Each Party shall submit to the other Party the names and characteristics of the other Party's vessels which will not be authorised to fish in its fishing zone the next month(s) as a consequence of an infringement of its rules.

IV. FISHERY REGULATIONS

1. The Parties will consult on fishery regulations in the North Sea, with a view to achieving, as far as possible, the harmonisation of regulatory measures in the zones of the two Parties.
2. A Party intending to introduce or amend fishery regulations, applicable to vessels of the other Party, shall inform the latter of such intentions with a notice of at least two weeks. Exceptionally, the introduction or amendment of fishery regulations, due to concentrations of young fish in limited areas, may be implemented with advance notice of one week. Consultations shall be held if so requested by either Party.

V. CONSULTATIONS

The two Parties will consult on the implementation of the arrangements set out herein.

VI. IMPLEMENTATION

In the event that the implementation of the fishery arrangements is delayed, the Parties agreed that the arrangements shall be subject to re-negotiation upon the request of either Party.



**JOINT EU-NORWAY REQUEST TO ICES TO
EVALUATE THE PERFORMANCE OF THE
LONG-TERM MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR NORTH SEA Haddock**

The EU-Norway long-term management plan for North Sea haddock has been in force since 1 January 2009 and should be reviewed before 31 December 2014 to ensure that its provisions continue to be consistent with its objective.

To this end ICES is requested to:

1. Evaluate the performance of the plan in achieving its stated objective of providing for sustainable fisheries with high and stable yields in conformity with the precautionary approach.
 2. Indicate whether or not the long-term target fishing mortality of 0.3 remains consistent with maximizing sustainable yield, and whether or not the estimates of B_{lim} and B_{pa} remain appropriate.
-
3. Advise on any other adjustments to the plan that could improve its performance.



INTER-ANNUAL QUOTA FLEXIBILITY

1. The Inter-annual quota flexibility scheme as described in this Annex is applicable for the quotas of herring, haddock, saithe and plaice established in this Agreed Record.
 2. 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. This quantity cannot be transferred further to the quotas for subsequent years.
 3. 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.
 4. If the uptake on an annual quota is exceeded by more than 10%, there should be a penalty resulting in a reduction of the Party's following year annual quota by more than 10%.
-
5. Complete catch statistics and quotas for the previous year should be made available to the other Party no later than 1 April in the format as set out below. The Delegations agreed that in order to ensure transparency in the operation of inter-annual quota flexibility, more detailed information on catch utilisation shall be exchanged.
 6. The inter-annual quota flexibility scheme should be terminated if the stock is estimated to be under the precautionary biomass level (B_{pa}) and the fishing mortality is estimated to be above the precautionary mortality level (F_{pa}) the following year, or if the SSB is estimated to be below B_{pa} in two consecutive years.

REPORTING OF QUOTAS AND CATCHES

	Quotas for 2014	Catches in 2014	Transfers to 2015	Quotas in 2015	Quotas after transfers in 2015
Norway					
European Union					
Total					




**JOINT EU-NORWAY REQUEST TO ICES TO EVALUATE THE
PROPOSED LONG-TERM MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR HERRING IN THE NORTH SEA**

The Parties have agreed to revise the existing long-term management plan for herring in the North Sea as follows:

1. *Every effort shall be made to maintain a minimum level of Spawning Stock Biomass (SSB) greater than 800,000 tonnes (B_{lim}).*
2. *Where the SSB is estimated to be above 1.5 million tonnes the Parties agree to set quotas for the directed fishery and for by-catches in other fisheries, reflecting a fishing mortality rate of no more than 0.26 for 2 ringers and older and no more than 0.05 for 0 - 1 ringers.*
3. *Where the SSB is estimated to be below 1.5 million tonnes but above 800,000 tonnes, the Parties agree to set quotas for the direct fishery and for by-catches in other fisheries, reflecting a fishing mortality rate on 2 ringers and older equal to:*

$$0.26 - (0.16 * (1,500,000 - SSB) / 700,000)$$
for 2 ringers and older, and no more than 0.05 for 0 - 1 ringers
4. *Where the SSB is estimated to be below 800,000 tonnes the Parties agree to set quotas for the directed fishery and for by-catches in other fisheries, reflecting a fishing mortality rate of less than 0.1 for 2 ringers and older and of less than 0.04 for 0-1 ringers.*
5. *Where the rules in paragraphs 2 and 3 would lead to a TAC which deviates by more than 15 % from the TAC of the preceding year the parties shall fix a TAC that is no more than 15 % greater or 15 % less than the TAC of the preceding year. However, if the resulting fishing mortality rate would be more than 10% higher or more than 10% lower than that indicated by the rules in paragraphs 2 and 3, the TAC shall be fixed at a level corresponding to a fishing mortality that is respectively 10% higher or 10% lower than that indicated by the rules of paragraphs 2 and 3.*
6. *Notwithstanding paragraph 5 the Parties may, where considered appropriate, reduce the TAC to a level that corresponds to a fishing mortality more than 10 % lower than that indicated by the rules of paragraphs 2 and 3.*
7. *By-catches of herring may only be landed in ports where adequate sampling schemes to effectively monitor the landings have been set up. All catches landed shall be deducted from the respective quotas set, and the fisheries shall be stopped immediately in the event that the quotas are exhausted.*
8. *The allocation of the TAC for the directed fishery for herring shall be 29% to Norway and 71% to the EU. The by-catch quota for herring shall be allocated to the EU.*
9. *A review of this arrangement shall take place no later than 31 December 2017*




ICES is requested to evaluate whether such a plan would be precautionary. It is also requested to evaluate whether the B_{trigger} value of 1,500,000 tonnes is optimal, or whether consideration should be given to adjusting it.

When performing its evaluations, ICES is requested to assume that an inter-annual quota flexibility of +/- 10% will apply.

ICES is requested to deliver this advice by 31 May 2014.

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**TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE WORKING GROUP ON
CATCH REPORTING AND CATCH STATISTICS FOR 2014**

The Delegations agreed that the Working Group on catch reporting and catch statistics should meet during the first half of 2014 under the Terms of Reference described below.

The Working Group should submit its report to the Parties well in advance of the annual consultations for 2015.

The Working Group shall establish and implement routines for quality insurance of electronically exchanged catch and activity data on a vessel by vessel level, with a view to render the possibility to disclose any discrepancies between these data and official catch statistics registered by the Flag state of the vessel for fisheries in each other's waters.



**MEASURES TO BE MONITORED CONCERNING SLIPPING, DISCARDS
AND HIGH-GRADING OF PELAGIC SPECIES**

The Delegations agreed that the following control measures shall be applied in fisheries for mackerel, herring and horse mackerel:

1. High grading (*discarding of fish which can be landed legally*) of these species is banned throughout the entire migratory range of the stocks in the North-East Atlantic.
2. Slipping (*releasing the fish before the net is fully taken on board the fishing vessel, resulting in the loss of dead or dying fish*) of these species is banned throughout the entire migratory range of the stocks in the North-East Atlantic.
3. Fishing vessels shall move their fishing grounds when the haul contains more than 10% of undersized fish (*below the minimum landing sizes or the minimum catching sizes*) of these species.
4. ~~The maximum space between bars in the water separator on board fishing vessels shall~~ be 10mm. The bars must be welded in place. If holes are used in the water separator instead of bars, the maximum diameter of the holes must not exceed 10mm. Holes in the chutes before the water separator must not exceed 15mm in diameter.
5. The possibility to discharge fish under the water line of the vessel from buffer tanks or RSW tanks shall be prohibited.
6. Drawings related to catch handling and to discharge capabilities of the vessels, which are certified by the competent authorities of the flag State, as well as any modifications thereto shall be sent to the competent fisheries authorities of the flag State. The competent authorities of the flag State of the vessel shall carry out periodic verifications of the accuracy of the drawings submitted. Copies shall be carried on board at all times.
7. Unless fish is frozen on board the vessel, the carrying or use on board a fishing vessel of equipment, which is capable of automatically grading by size herring, mackerel or horse mackerel, is prohibited. In the case of fish being frozen on board, the fish shall be frozen immediately after grading.



**MEASURES TO BE APPLIED CONCERNING THE
WEIGHING AND INSPECTION OF PELAGIC LANDINGS**

The Delegations agreed that the following measures shall be applied to the weighing and inspection of landings exceeding 10 tonnes of mackerel, herring and horse mackerel:

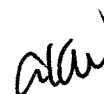
1. All quantities of fresh herring, mackerel and horse mackerel landed must be weighed before sorting and processing. When determining the weight, any deduction for water shall not exceed 2%.
 2. For fish landed frozen the weight shall be determined by weighing all the boxes minus the tare weight (cardboard and plastic) or by multiplying the total number of boxes landed by the average weight of the boxes minus tare weight landed in the same shipment calculated in accordance with an agreed sampling methodology.
 3. Landings shall take place in designated ports. Skippers of fishing vessels shall give prior notice of landing including notification of catch on board and give the logbook sheet to the competent authorities before commencing the discharge of catch.
 4. The processor or buyer of the fish shall submit a copy of the sales note for the payment of the quantities landed to the competent authorities.
-
5. A minimum of 10% of landings and 15% of the quantities landed should be subject to a full inspection. A full inspection shall include:
 - a) Cross-checks of the quantities by species indicated in the prior notice of landing and the quantities recorded in the vessel's logbook;
 - b) Cross-checks of the quantities by species recorded in the vessel's logbook and the landing declaration;
 - c) Cross-checks of the quantities by species recorded on the landing declaration and the sales note issued by the buyer.

In the case of vessels pumping catch ashore the weighing of the entire discharge from the vessels selected for inspection shall be monitored and a cross-check undertaken between the quantities by species recorded in the landing declaration or sales note and the record of weighing held by the buyer or processor of the fish.

In the case of freezer trawlers, the counting of boxes shall be monitored. The sample weighing of boxes/pallets carried out in order to determine the tare weight shall also be monitored.

It shall be verified that the vessel is empty, once the discharge has been completed.

6. In each case where the checks reveal a significant discrepancy it shall be followed up as an infringement.



**TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR
A MONITORING, CONTROL AND SURVEILLANCE (MCS)
WORKING GROUP FOR 2014**

Delegations from the European Union, the Faroe Islands, Iceland, Norway and the Russian Federation agreed that a Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS) Working Group should meet before 1 April 2014 under the Terms of Reference described below.

The Working Group should submit its report to the Parties well in advance of the Coastal State consultations for 2015. Representatives of the Parties should meet no later than 31 January 2014 to plan the activity of the Working Group in 2014.

The objective of the Working Group should be to establish best practice in monitoring, control and surveillance both at sea and on land, with the goal of securing level playing field for fisheries on pelagic stocks such as mackerel, Norwegian spring-spawning (Atlanto-Scandian) herring, blue whiting and horse mackerel.

The Working Group should be composed of operative MCS experts.

The MCS Working Group should:

1. Review the measures agreed between the European Union, the Faroe Islands and Norway in 2004 concerning weighing and inspections, with a view to propose common and revised measures for weighing and inspections applicable to all Coastal States.
2. Conduct and compare fact-finding missions in order to ensure equivalent effect of the measures concerning slipping, discards and high grading, by catch issues and weighing and inspections.
3. Explore and present MCS related data and study how this data could be exchanged between the Parties to improve the risk based monitoring, control and surveillance work, e.g. by using Fishery Monitoring Centres (FMC).
4. Consider the financial aspects of the observer scheme outlined by the Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS) Working Group for 2013.

If there are any other relevant issues, which the Working Group believes would result in a more efficient Monitoring, Control and Surveillance of pelagic fisheries, the Working Group could explore these as appropriate.

It was agreed that Greenland would be invited to participate.




**TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE WORKING GROUP ON
ELECTRONIC REPORTING AND RECORDING EXPERTS FOR 2014**

The Delegations agreed that the Working Group on Electronic Reporting and Recording Experts should meet before 31 May 2014 under the Terms of Reference described below. After that the Working Group should meet as appropriate to closely follow and evaluate the development, tests performed and solve practical questions the Parties may encounter.

The Working Group should submit its report to the Parties well in advance of the annual consultations for 2015, and where appropriate make proposals for measures to be adopted in accordance with the agreed ERS format life cycle.

The Working Group shall:

- Follow up the implementation of the agreed electronic reporting system between Norway and the European Union, to secure satisfactory exchange and increased quality of catch and activity data.
- Review the arrangements set down in the Agreed Record of Conclusions of Fisheries Consultations between the European Union and Norway on Electronic exchange of catch and activity data of 14 November 2011, with a view to establish procedures and specifications for:
 - Complement the existing push approach for exchanging catch and activity data of the current fishing trip with a pull approach.
 - Separating the transportation layer and the business layer.
- Review the return error codes with a view to increase the quality of the data.
- Consider international standards for ERS
- Consider exchange of electronic catch and activity data for vessels above 12 metres in overall length.



TABLE 1

2014 JOINT STOCK QUOTAS IN THE NORTH SEA

Species and ICES Area	TAC	Zonal Attachment				Transfer from Norway to European Union ⁽⁶⁾	Transfer from EU to Norway ⁽⁶⁾	Quota to Norway		Quota to European Union	
		Norway		European Union				Total	EU Zone ⁽¹⁾	Total	Norwegian Zone ⁽¹⁾
		%	Tonnes	%	Tonnes						
Cod IV	27,799 ⁽²⁾	17	4,726	83	23,073	-----	-----	4,726	4,726	23,073	20,054
Haddock IV	38,284 ⁽³⁾	23	8,805	77	29,479	2,600	-----	6,205	6,205	32,079	23,862
Saithe IV, IIIa	77,536	52	40,319	48	37,217	-----	300	40,619	40,619	36,917	36,917
Whiting IV	16,092 ⁽³⁾	10	1,609	90	14,483	750	-----	859	859	15,233	10,320
Plaice IV	111,631 ⁽⁸⁾	7	7,814 ⁽⁷⁾	93	103,817	300	-----	7,514	7,514	104,117	42,723
Herring IV, VIIId	470,037	29	136,311	71	333,726	-----	-----	136,311	50,000 ⁽⁴⁾⁽⁵⁾	333,726	50,000 ⁽⁵⁾
Mackerel IV, IIIa	pm		pm		pm	-----	-----	pm	pm	pm	pm

- (1) Any part of this allocation not taken may be added to the allocation in the Party's own zone.
- (2) An additional amount of 3,336 tonnes is available to the Parties (Norway: 567 tonnes, EU 2,769 tonnes) under point 5.4.9 of this Agreed Record
- (3) TAC to include industrial by-catches.
- (4) Limited to ICES Divisions IVa and IVb.
- (5) An additional quantity of maximum 10,000 tonnes will be granted if such an increase is called for.
- (6) The Delegations may consider in 2014 possible further transfers.
- (7) Of which 300 tonnes may be fished in the Skagerrak
- (8) An additional amount of 5,582 tonnes is available to the Parties (Norway: 391 tonnes, EU 5,191 tonnes) under point 5.8.4 of this Agreed Record




TABLE 2

2014 JOINT STOCK QUOTAS (NOT JOINTLY MANAGED)

SPECIES AND ICES AREA		QUOTA TO NORWAY IN THE EU ZONE (TONNES)	QUOTA TO EU IN THE NORWEGIAN ZONE (TONNES)
Norway pout	IV	15,000	
Blue ling	IV, Vb, VI, VII, IIa	150	
Ling	IV, Vb, VI, VII, IIa	5,500 ^{(1) (2)}	
Tusk	IV, Vb, VI, VII, IIa	2,923 ^{(1) (2)}	
Combined quota	Vb, VI, VII	140 ⁽³⁾	
Shrimps	IV		357
Horse mackerel	IVb, c	3,550 ⁽⁴⁾	
Others	IV, IIa (EU Zone)	4,000 ⁽⁵⁾	7,250 ⁽⁵⁾
Sole	IV	10	
Anglerfish	IV		1,500
Norway lobster	IV		1,000
Ling	IV		950
Tusk	IV		170
Saithe	VIa	500 ⁽⁶⁾	
Blue Whiting	II, IVa, VIa ⁽⁶⁾ , VIb, VII ⁽⁹⁾	100,000 ^{(7) (8)}	

- (1) The quotas for ling and tusk are interchangeable of up to 2,000 tonnes and may only be fished with long-lines in ICES Division Vb and Sub-areas VI and VII.
- (2) Of which an incidental catch of other species of 25 % per vessel at any moment is permitted in ICES Sub-areas Vb, VI and VII. However, this percentage may be exceeded in the first 24 hours following the beginning of the fishing on a specific fishing ground. This total incidental catch of other species in Vb, VI and VII may not exceed 3,000 tonnes.
- (3) Fishing with long-lines for grenadiers, rat tails, mora mora and greater forkbeard.
- (4) This quota may be fished in ICES Division IVa.
- (5) Including fisheries not specifically mentioned; exceptions may be introduced after consultations as appropriate.
- (6) North of 56°30'N.
- (7) Of which up to 500 tonnes of argentine (*Argentina spp.*) may be fished.
- (8) Of which up to 40,000 tonnes may be fished in ICES Division IVa.
- (9) West of 12°W.




TABLE 3

2014 QUOTAS TO THE EU OF NORWEGIAN EXCLUSIVE STOCKS

SPECIES	ICES AREA	QUANTITY (TONNES)
Arcto-Norwegian cod	I, II	20,524
Arcto-Norwegian haddock	I, II	1,200
Saithe	I, II	2,550
Greenland halibut (by-catches)	I, II	50
Others (by-catches)	I, II	350




TABLE 4

**2014 QUOTAS TO NORWAY FROM EU EXCLUSIVE STOCKS
AND FROM EU QUOTAS IN GREENLAND WATERS**

SPECIES	ICES AREA	QUANTITY (TONNES)
Sprat	IV	9,000
Greenland halibut	IIa, VI ⁽¹⁾	1,000
Shrimp	XIV, Va	2,550
Greenland halibut	NAFO 1 XIV, Va	575 575
Halibut	NAFO 1 XIV, Va	75 ⁽³⁾ 75 ⁽³⁾
Grenadier (by-catches)	NAFO 1, XIV, Va	60
Redfish	XIV, Va	800 ⁽²⁾

(1) In ICES Division VI with long-lines only.

(2) May be fished with pelagic trawls.

(3) May only be fished with long-lines.



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