

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.

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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

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.



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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 2013, 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.
9. 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.
8. 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 bycatches in other fisheries, reflecting a fishing mortality rate of no more than 0.25 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:

$0.25 - (0.15 * (1,500,000 - SSB) / 700,000)$ 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 bycatches 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.
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. Bycatches 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 2012.
10. This arrangement entered into force on 1 January 2009.

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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 0.3 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 2014.
4. This arrangement entered into force on 1 January 2012.



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.

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CONDITIONS FOR FISHERIES BY THE PARTIES IN 2013

I. JOINT STOCKS

1. The Total Allowable Catches (TACs) for the stocks mentioned in Table 1 for 2013 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 2013 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 2013, 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 2012, may continue their activities in 2013.
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.



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**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 2013 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, with and without inter-annual quota flexibility of 10%.
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.

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**JOINT EU-NORWAY REQUEST TO ICES ON
TAC SETTING OPTIONS FOR COD IN THE NORTH SEA AND SKAGERRAK**

The long-term management plan for cod has failed to achieve the successive reductions in fishing mortality required by the recovery phase of the plan. This has resulted in a growing discrepancy between the target fishing mortality of the plan and the real level of fishing mortality that is observed.

The plan requires that the TAC for 2013 be reduced by 20% compared to that for 2012. This corresponds to a 46% reduction in fishing mortality at a time when the cod stock is increasing and the TACs of the species associated with cod, such as saithe, haddock and whiting, have been substantially increased. Recognising that such a reduction in the cod TAC is likely to increase discard rates rather than decrease total catches, the EU and Norway have stated their intention to revise the cod plan to allow more flexibility in setting the TAC under such circumstances. In order to facilitate the selection of more appropriate TAC levels during the recovery phase of the cod plan, ICES is asked to evaluate the following options for the recovery of the cod stock:

1. Maintaining a target fishing mortality of 0.4 when the SSB is between B_{lim} and B_{pa} for as long as the resulting stock forecast indicates an increase in SSB, with no inter-annual TAC constraint. Where the stock is forecasted to decrease at a fishing mortality of 0.4, the fishing mortality should be fixed at a level that will maintain the current SSB.
2. Maintaining a constant TAC when the SSB is between B_{lim} and B_{pa} , provided that the resulting fishing mortality does not exceed 0.4, with the level of the TAC being that corresponding to a fishing mortality of 0.4 in 2014.

For the intermediate year, ICES is asked to assume a fishing mortality consistent with the linear trend of recent years.

ICES is asked to evaluate the consequences of each of the above options for the cod stock in terms of risk, spawning biomass, TAC levels and estimated discards.



INTER-ANNUAL QUOTA FLEXIBILITY

1. The Inter-annual quota flexibility scheme as described in this Annex is applicable for the quotas of haddock 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 2012	Catches in 2012	Transfers to 2013	Quotas in 2013	Quotas after transfers in 2013
Norway					
European Union					
Total					

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

In 2012, the ICES revision of the North Sea whiting natural mortality rate resulted in a rescaling of the assessment estimates of spawning biomass and exploitation rate and resulted in the current joint EU-Norway long-term management plan thresholds and target fishing mortality being unsuitable.

In 2013 ICES is also conducting a benchmark analysis of the stock data and assessment methodology.

Consequently, based on the results of 2013 North Sea whiting benchmark, assessment and subsequent scientific advice, ICES is requested to recommend the necessary changes to the joint EU-Norway long-term management plan required to achieve its stated objective of providing sustainable fisheries with high and stable yields in conformity with the precautionary approach.



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

With the objective of revising the long-term management plan for herring in the North Sea ICES is requested to evaluate if the long-term management plans for North Sea herring as set out below can be considered as precautionary.

Both long term management plans shall be evaluated with and without inter annual quota flexibility of +/- 10% when the SSB is above B_{trigger} scheme as described in Annex VIII of this Agreed Record.

ICES is requested to evaluate the following alternatives reflecting fishing mortality for 2 ringers and older in the range between $F\ 0.26-0.30$ in steps of 0.01.

Alternative 1:

1. Every effort shall be made to maintain a minimum level of Spawning Stock Biomass (SSB) greater than 800,000 tonnes (B_{lim}) and a fishing mortality corresponding to high long-term yields.
2. The plan is based on estimates provided by ICES. The reference SSB is the one at spawning time (autumn) of the TAC year in the catch projection. The reference F is the arithmetic average over 2-6-ringers.
3. Where the SSB is estimated to be above 1.3 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 F for 2 ringers and older and no more than 0.04 for 0 - 1 ringers.
4. Where the SSB is estimated to be below 1.3 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:

$$F - ((F - 0.1) * (1,300,000 - \text{SSB}) / 500,000)$$
 for 2 ringers and older, and no more than 0.04 for 0 - 1 ringers
5. 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.
6. Where the rules in paragraphs 3 and 4 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.
7. Where the rule in paragraph 6 would lead to a reference F which deviates by more than 15% from the reference F resulting from paragraphs 3 and 4, the parties shall fix a reference F that is no more than 15% greater or 15% less than the reference F resulting from paragraphs 3 and 4.

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Alternative 2:

1. Every effort shall be made to maintain a minimum level of Spawning Stock Biomass (SSB) greater than 800,000 tonnes (B_{lim}) and a Fishing Mortality corresponding to high long-term yields.
2. The plan is based on estimates provided by ICES. The reference SSB is the one at spawning time (autumn) of the TAC year in the catch projection. The reference F is the arithmetic average over 2-6-ringers.
3. Where the SSB is estimated to be above 1.5 million tonnes, the Parties agree to base quotas for the directed fishery and for by-catches in other fisheries, reflecting a fishing mortality rate of no more than F for 2 ringers and older and no more than 0.05 for 0 - 1 ringers.
4. Where the SSB is estimated to be below 1.5 million tonnes but above 800,000 tonnes, the Parties agree to base quotas for the direct fishery and for by-catches in other fisheries, reflecting a fishing mortality rate on 2 ringers and older equal to:
$$F - ((F - 0.1) * (1,500,000 - SSB) / 700,000)$$
 for 2 ringers and older, and no more than 0.05 for 0 - 1 ringers
5. Where the SSB is estimated to be below 800,000 tonnes the Parties agree to base 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.
6. The TAC shall be set as the arithmetic mean of the quotas resulting from the application of the rules set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 and the TAC of the preceding year.



**TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE WORKING GROUP ON
CATCH REPORTING AND CATCH STATISTICS FOR 2013**

The Delegations agreed that the Working Group on catch reporting and catch statistics should meet during the first half of 2013 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 2014.

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.



**TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR A WORKING GROUP ON THE
HARMONISATION OF TECHNICAL MEASURES**

The Working Group shall consist of gear experts, administrators and representatives from the industry.

The Working Group shall consider technical conservation measures relating to fishing gear design as they affect the exploitation patterns of in the North Sea and Skagerrak. However, the Working Group should have the main focus on the North Sea

The Working Group shall:

- Review the conclusions and update the recommendations of the 2nd Report of the Joint Gear Expert Meeting held in Ålesund from 16 to 19 March 2009, taking into account the latest developments in selectivity measures such as mesh size, sorting grids, square mesh panels etc.
- Indicate the specifications of fishing gears that would improve the selectivity of the gear, with the objective to protect juvenile and small fish under legal minimum size and to reduce discards.
- Recommend, as far as possible, harmonised technical measures in the North Sea taking into account the technical measures in force in adjacent waters to improve fishing patterns and selectivity, and reduce discarding. The Working Group is asked to indicate where it would be beneficial to ask ICES for an assessment of the impact of its recommendations.
- Recommend cod avoidance measures that could be implemented to reduce unwanted cod catches.

The Working Group shall base its discussion on a draft report prepared by a sub-group of technical experts and gear scientists.

The Working Group shall provide the report to the Parties before the end of June 2013.



**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.

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**TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR A
MONITORING, CONTROL AND SURVEILLANCE (MCS) FACT-FINDING WORKING GROUP
FOR 2013**

Delegations from the European Union, the Faroe Islands, Iceland, Norway and the Russian Federation agreed that a Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS) fact-finding Working Group should meet before 1 April 2013 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 2014. Representatives of the Parties should meet no later than 31 January 2013 to plan the activity for the Working Group in 2013.

The Working Group, composed of operative MCS experts, should focus on fact-finding to establish best practice in monitoring, control and surveillance both at sea and on land, with the goal of securing the best possible level playing field for fisheries on certain jointly- managed pelagic stocks including mackerel, Norwegian spring-spawning (Atlanto-Scandian) herring, blue whiting and horse mackerel.

The MCS fact-finding Working Group should:

1. Follow up and monitor the already agreed measures, by comparing monitoring, control and surveillance measures:
 - a) At sea, including discards, high-grading and slipping
 - b) On landing, including weighing and inspection
2. Conduct fact-finding missions, e.g. to explore implemented measures concerning slipping, discards and high-grading, by-catch issues in the fisheries and on landing, and measures regarding weighing and inspection.
3. Exchange inspectors and co-ordinate such activity.
4. Compare data available to the Parties and study how this data could be shared e.g. by Fishery Monitoring Centers (FMC) and/or used for risk based monitoring, control and surveillance, to propose harmonised and improved measures.
5. To study the possibility to set up an observer scheme.
6. Exchange information on infringements.
7. 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 as appropriate.



**TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE WORKING GROUP ON
ELECTRONIC REPORTING AND RECORDING EXPERTS FOR 2013**

The Delegations agreed that the Working Group on Electronic Reporting and Recording Experts should meet before 31 May 2013 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 2013, 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 for complete logbooks of vessels.
 - 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.

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