

**AGREED RECORD OF CONCLUSIONS OF FISHERIES CONSULTATIONS
BETWEEN THE FAROE ISLANDS, THE EUROPEAN UNION AND NORWAY ON THE
MANAGEMENT OF MACKEREL IN THE NORTHEAST ATLANTIC FOR 2019**

BERGEN, 29 NOVEMBER 2018

1. Delegations from the European Union, the Faroe Islands, Greenland, Iceland, Norway and the Russian Federation met in London on 8 and 9 October 2018 to consult on the management of mackerel for 2019. The Delegations from the European Union, The Faroe Islands, Greenland, Iceland and Norway continued their consultations in London on 24, 25 and 26 October 2018, as well as in Clonakilty on 7 and 8 November 2018 and in London on 21 and 22 November 2018.
2. Regrettably, a consensus could not be found at this stage, allowing for the accession of other Parties to the Fisheries Arrangement between the European Union, the Faroe Islands and Norway on the Management of Mackerel in the North-East Atlantic from 2014 to 2018 (hereinafter referred to as the 2014 Mackerel Arrangement).
3. Subsequently, the Delegation from the Faroe Islands, headed by Mr Herluf SIGVALDSSON, the Delegation from the European Union, headed by Mr Fabrizio DONATELLA, and the Delegation from Norway, headed by Ms Ann Kristin WESTBERG, continued the consultations in Bergen on 29 November 2018 on the management of mackerel in the Northeast Atlantic for 2019.
4. The Delegations recalled the 2014 Mackerel Arrangement signed in London on 12 March 2014. The Delegations also recalled the Agreed Record on a Fisheries Arrangement between the Faroe Islands, the European Union and Norway on an extension of the 2014 Mackerel Arrangement to 2020, signed in Bergen 29 November 2018.
5. The Heads of Delegation agreed to recommend to their respective authorities the arrangements for the management of mackerel for 2019, as set out in this Agreed Record.

Management

6. The Delegations noted the latest annual advice from ICES for mackerel in the Northeast Atlantic for 2019. The Delegations also recalled the long-term management strategy, signed in London 11 October 2017. This strategy is attached as Annex 1. Furthermore, the Delegations also noted that ICES will undertake an intermediate benchmark during 2019.

Quotas for 2019

7. Based on paragraph 6 the Delegations agreed that the overall objective is to reach at their level, by 2020, a fishing mortality in accordance with the available advice for the mackerel stock. In this respect, the Delegations agreed to establish a total allowable catch (TAC) of 653,438 tonnes for the mackerel fishery in 2019 in the Northeast Atlantic.



8. In accordance with the relative shares as set out in article 7.4 in the 2014 Mackerel Arrangement, the Delegations agreed to the following arrangement on the quota shares for 2019:

	Tonnes
European Union:	322,077
Faroe Islands:	82,339
Norway:	147,085

9. In accordance with the 2014 Mackerel Arrangement, 15.6% of the TAC referred to in paragraph 7 is set aside as a Coastal State and Fishing Party reserve.
10. The Delegations exchanged quota and catch information for 2016, 2017 as well as preliminary information for 2018 (Annex 4). In accordance with paragraph 7.7 of the 2014 Mackerel Arrangement regarding fishing activities in third party waters, the Delegations exchanged information and noted that the Parties had all adhered to the provisions set out in the 2014 Mackerel Arrangement.
11. The Delegations agreed that the outcome of the intermediate benchmarking exercise as referred to in paragraph 6, should be duly taken into account for any further decisions that will be necessary in order to reach the objective set out in paragraph 7. To this end, the Delegations agreed that further consultations should take place as soon as new information is made available by ICES, including a possible revised advice for 2019.

Control

12. The Delegations agreed to apply the measures concerning the weighing and inspection of pelagic landings (Annex 2). The Delegations also agreed to continue to apply the Terms of Reference for the Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS) Working Group for 2018 and 2019 (Annex 3).

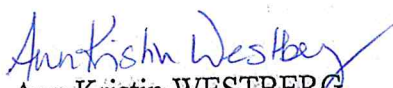
Bergen, 29 November 2018



Herluf SIGVALDSSON
For the Delegation of the Faroe Islands



Fabrizio DONATELLA
For the Delegation of the European Union



Ann Kristin WESTBERG
For the Delegation of Norway

LONG-TERM MANAGEMENT STRATEGY FOR MACKEREL

1. Reference is made to the Agreed Record on a fisheries arrangement between European Union, the Faroe Islands and Norway on the management of mackerel in the Northeast Atlantic from 2014 to 2018, signed in London on 12 March 2014.
2. The Parties agree to implement a long-term management strategy for mackerel in the Northeast Atlantic, aiming at fishing mortality rate that maximizes long-term yield. It shall be consistent with the precautionary approach, which ensures with a probability of 95% that the size of the stock is maintained above B_{lim} .
3. In the case that the spawning stock biomass (SSB) is forecast to be above or equal to 2.57 million tonnes at spawning time in the year for which the total allowable catch (TAC) is to be set, the TAC shall be fixed at a fishing mortality equal to 0.21.
4. In the case that the SSB is forecast to be less than 2.57 million tonnes at spawning time in the year for which the TAC is to be set, the TAC shall be fixed that is consistent with a fishing mortality that is given by:

$$\text{Target } F \leq 0.21 * \text{SSB}/2.57\text{Mt}$$

5. When the rules in paragraph 3 would lead to a TAC which deviates by more than 20% below or 25% above the TAC of the preceding year, the Parties shall fix a TAC that is respectively no more than 20% less or 25% more than the TAC of the preceding year.
6. When the rules in paragraph 4 apply, the TAC constraint in paragraph 5 shall not apply.
7. 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.
8. Each Party may authorise fishing 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.
9. This long-term management strategy shall be applied in fixing the 2018 TAC level and thereafter.
10. The Parties shall review and, if deemed necessary, revise this long-term management strategy at the latest in 2021 on the basis of, inter alia, the ICES benchmark report. If the Parties receive new and relevant information, an earlier review of the long-term management strategy will be considered.



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, blue whiting and horse mackerel:

1. All quantities of fresh herring, mackerel, blue whiting and horse mackerel landed must be weighed before sorting and processing. When determining the weight, any deduction for water shall not exceed 2% for landings for human consumption and 0% for landings for industrial purposes.
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. Masters of fishing vessels shall submit prior notice of landing including notification of catch on board and submit the estimated catch information to the competent authorities before commencing the discharge of catch.
4. The processor or buyer of the fish shall submit sales information for the payment of the quantities landed to the competent authorities. In cases where fish is placed in storage for a period of time after landings before being sold, information on the catch (weighing note/landing declaration, etc.) should be submitted to the competent authorities.
5. A minimum of 5% of landings and 7.5% of the quantities landed for each species should be subject to a full inspection. This should be based on a risk assessment. A full inspection shall also include cross checks of prior notifications and information submitted to competent authorities of estimated catch, weighing and sales information.

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 2018 AND 2019

The Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS) Working Group should meet before 1 April 2018 under the Terms of Reference described below:

The Working Group should submit its reports to the Parties 15 working days in advance of the Coastal State consultations in 2018 and 2019.

Representatives of the Parties should meet no later than 31 January 2018 to plan the activity of the Working Group during 2018.

The objective of the Working Group should be to establish best practice in monitoring, control and surveillance both at sea and on land, to increase compliance and secure a level playing field for fisheries on the following pelagic stocks; 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. Conduct fact finding missions as appropriate concerning:
 - a) Sea-going missions focusing on slipping, discards and high grading, by-catch issues and other relevant issues in the context of MCS;
 - b) Missions on land focusing on weighing and inspections, by-catch issues and other relevant issues in the context of MCS; and
 - c) Consider findings in fact-finding missions with a view to recommend harmonised practises and regulations;
2. Review and identify possible differences in current practices by individual Parties when conducting full inspections, and as appropriate make recommendations to harmonise practices;
3. Follow up interagency cooperation between fisheries authorities and metrology services.
4. Recommend harmonised requirements for the use of weighing systems that reflect the need for additional national requirements established by individual Parties today, and new requirements on storing data, to reduce the possibility of manipulating weighing systems and landing figures;
5. Recommend harmonised requirements for the use of water draining installations used



on landings for industrial purposes and consider the effect of such installations with the regard to loss of biological material;

6. Follow up on EU's evaluation regarding the tare deduction for landings of pelagic species;
7. Identify possible new elements for risk assessment methods and exchange experience in risk assessment. Consider the possibility to share relevant data related to risk assessment and possible share point solutions.
8. Consider measures to reduce slipping, discarding and high-grading in pelagic fisheries, e.g. catch and size distribution analysis, share point solutions, measuring systems on board vessels and other relevant measures, and as appropriate make proposals on this topic.

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.



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REPORTING OF QUOTAS AND CATCHES OF MACKEREL IN THE NORTHEAST ATLANTIC – 2016 TO 2018

QUOTAS (tonnes)				CATCHES (tonnes)											
Party	Quota established	Balance 2017	Quota exchange	Quotas after transfers and flexibility	NEAFC Regulatory Area	European Union Zone	Faroese Fishing Zone	Greenland fishing zone	Icelandic Exclusive Economic Zone	Norwegian Economic Zone	Fishery Zone around Jan Mayen	Fishery Protection Zone around Svalbard	Russian Economic Zone	TOTAL CATCH	Balance to 2019
European Union	402 599	16 771	354	419 724	181	210 189	8	0	0	13	0	0	0	210 391	209 333
Faro Islands	102 924	6 508	-20 879	88 553	9 167	15 117	37 263	0	0	4 778	0	0	0	66 325	22 228
Iceland	134 772	9 341	-200	143 913	70 697	0	175	3 140	61 834	0	0	0	0	135 846	8 067
Norway	183 857	-8 621	5 625	180 861	2 843	6 410	0	0	0	13 370	0	0	0	22 623	158 238
Greenland	66 365	0	0	66 365	10 604	0	0	53 132	0	0	0	0	0	63 736	0
Total CS	890 517	23 999	-15 100	899 416	93 492	231 716	37 446	56 272	61 834	18 161	0	0	0	498 921	397 866
Russian Federation	109 415	125	15 100	124 640	102 303	0	13 492	0	0	0	0	0	0	115 795	8 845
Total all Parties	999 932	24 124	0	1 024 056	195 795	231 716	50 938	56 272	61 834	18 161	0	0	0	614 716	406 711

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European Union	503 245	27 461	328	531 034	7 431	476 490	473	0	0	2 080	0	0	0	486 474	16 771
Faro Islands	128 655	-2 722	-20 779	105 154	8 482	38 120	51 469	0	0	575	0	0	0	98 646	6 508
Iceland	168 464	1 231	1 300	170 995	57 567	0	692	0	103 395	0	0	0	0	161 654	9 341
Norway	229 821	-20 696	4 651	213 776	17 102	46 661	4 221	0	0	154 413	0	0	0	222 397	-8 621
Greenland	66 365	0	0	66 365	9 721	0	0	36 730	0	0	0	0	0	46 451	0
Total CS	1 096 560	5 274	-14 500	1 087 324	100 303	561 271	56 855	36 730	103 395	157 068	0	0	0	1 015 622	23 999
Russian Federation	123 785	14 500	138 285	123 693	123 693	0	14 410	0	0	57	0	0	0	138 160	125
Total all Parties	1 220 335	5 274	0	1 225 609	223 996	561 271	71 265	36 730	103 395	157 125	0	0	0	1 153 782	24 124

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