

## **PROTOCOL**

### **Of the Thirty third session in the Joint Faroese – Russian Fisheries Commission**

1. After an invitation from the Faroese Party and according to the Agreement of 27 November 1977 on mutual fishery relations the Thirty-third session of the Joint Faroese-Russian Fisheries Commission was held in Gjógv (the Faroe Islands) on 30 November – 2 December 2009 and in Copenhagen (Denmark) on 26-27 January 2010.

The following representatives of the Contracting Parties in the Joint Commission participated in the Thirty third session:

<b>For the Faroe Islands:</b>	<b>Andras Kristiansen</b>
<b>For the Russian Federation:</b>	<b>Vladimir A. Belyaev</b>

Sergey V. Belikov took part during the Thirty third session in the Joint Faroese – Russian Fisheries Commission as a deputy representative of the Russian delegation.

Members of the delegations from the Russian Federation and Faroe Islands are listed in Appendix 1.

#### **2. The Joint Commission approved the following agenda:**

1. Opening of the session.
2. Approval of the agenda. Establishment of the Working Groups.
3. Status of fishery resources in the Faroese fishing zone and Barents and Norwegian Sea.
4. Exchange of statistical data between the Parties on their fisheries in 2008, and provisional catch statistics for 2009.
5. Mutual quota allocations for 2010.
6. Technical regulatory measures for fish and shrimps. The unified conversion factors for fish products.
7. Number of fishery licenses in 2010.

8. Procedures for granting fishery permits/licenses in 2010 and compliance with fishery regulations.
9. Consultations on satellite tracking of fishing vessels of the Parties.
10. Consultations on joint program of experimental fishery and scientific research for 2010.
11. Cooperation according to Article 7 in the Agreement of 27 November 1977.
12. Any other business.
13. Closing of the session.

The Parties agreed to establish the following joint Working Groups: on scientific cooperation, on control and enforcement, on fishing gear, on cooperation in fisheries and a protocol group

### **3. Status of fishery resources in the Faroese fishing zone and Barents and Norwegian Sea.**

The Parties presented analysis of the status of stocks of main commercial species of fish and invertebrates in the Faroese fishing zone and Barents and Norwegian Seas. The Parties were pleased to note that the status of major commercial species in the Northeast Atlantic is satisfactory. The capelin stock in the Barents Sea has recovered. It was also noted, that the stocks of the Northeast Arctic cod and haddock, as well as mackerel are in good shape, while the stock of blue whiting has declined.

### **4. Exchange of statistical data between the Parties on their fisheries in 2008, and provisional catch statistics for 2009.**

The Parties exchanged statistical information on their fisheries in the Faroese Fishing Zone and in the Exclusive Economic Zone of the Russian Federation in 2008 and provisional information on their fisheries in 2009.

The Parties agreed to exchange data on their catches in each other's zone on a monthly basis between:

Barents and White Sea Territorial Directorate of the Federal Agency for Fisheries: Fax No. +7 8152 451945 or e-mail: portcontrol@bbtu.ru;

Border Guard Department of the Federal Security Service, of the Russian Federation in the Murmansk Region e-mail: cc@pufsbm.ru

and The Faroe Islands Fisheries Inspection, : fax. No. +298 313981/ or e-mail: fve@fve.fo.

## **5. Mutual quota allocations for 2010**

After consultations the Parties agreed on the following mutual quota allocations for 2010:

5.1 The Faroese authorities will allow Russian vessels to fish a quota of 85.500 tonnes of blue whiting (including by-catch of herring – 3% and anchovy – 10% of the quota of blue whiting) and 13.500 tonnes of mackerel in the Fishing Zone of the Faroe Islands.

The maximum by-catch of all other fish species together is 2% per haul. The executive order by the Government of the Faroe Islands No. 12 of January 26, 1995 will be amended to include the above mentioned by-catch rules.

The Faroese Party agrees that up to 30.000 tonnes of the above allocation of blue whiting to the Russian Party for 2010 may be fished in the NEAFC Regulatory Area following Recommendation I adopted by NEAFC at the 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting in November 2009. Provided that NEAFC adopts an appropriate recommendation on mackerel for 2010, the Faroese Party will inform the Russian Party about the amount of possible uptake of the part of the mackerel quota allocated to the Russian Party in the Fishery Zone of the Faroese Islands in 2010 to be fished in the NEAFC Regulatory Area by Russian vessels. The Faroese Party informed that Russian vessels during fisheries in the NEAFC Regulatory Area must report on a weekly basis on uptake of quota allocated by the Faroese Party to the NEAFC Secretariat and on a daily basis to the Faroese authorities.

5.2 The Russian authorities will allow Faroese vessels to fish cod, haddock, flatfish and shrimp and by-catches of other species in the Exclusive Economic Zone of the Russian Federation in the Barents Sea including adjacent area (“Grey zone”) of the Barents Sea “Russia-Norway”.

In these areas in the Barents Sea a quota of 12.000 tonnes of cod, 1.540 tonnes of haddock, 900 tonnes of flatfish (flatfish, American plaice) and 1.000 tonnes of shrimp was agreed.

The maximum by-catch of fish resources in the Exclusive Economic Zone of the Russian Federation shall be no more than 10% by weight for each species in one haul and no more than 10% by weight for all species in the landing.

5.3 Amounts of mutual quotas of the Parties in the respective zones mentioned in items 5.1 and 5.2 include amounts agreed earlier by the letter of the Faroese Party from 31.12.2009 №200900598/15 and by the letter of Russian Party from 11.01.2010 № Y04-4.

5.4 The Faroese Party will allow 5 Russian vessels to undertake experimental fishing in the Fishing Zone of the Faroe Islands at depth over 700 meters, provided that Russian scientific observer must be onboard. No more than 3 vessels can simultaneously be operating.

One of these vessels can undertake experimental fishery in deep waters around Outer Bailey and Bill Baileys Banks, at depth between 500 and 700 meters, provided that catches in this area do not exceed 200 tonnes of deep-sea species.

5.5 In case of the receipt of additional information of principal importance from the permanent working group the Parties may decide to hold an extraordinary session of the Joint Faroese – Russian Fisheries Commission before 15 July 2010 to revise mutual quota allocations for 2010.

5.6 The Faroese Party requested the Russian Party to retain the right to fish for cod by its fishing vessels in the Baltic Sea in the future. The Russian Party agreed to look at this issue according to the Baltic cod stock condition.

5.7 The Parties agreed that consultations shall be held, if so requested by either Party, on possible re-transfer of quotas allocated under item 5.1 and 5.2 which are expected not to be fully utilized.

5.8 The Russian Party will consider the possibility of allocating a capelin quota in the Exclusive Economic zone of the Russian Federation in the Barents Sea to the Faroese Party provided that the Joint Russian-Norwegian Fisheries Commission establishes a quota of capelin to third countries.

5.9 The Faroese Party noted the proposal of the Russian Party to consider the possibility of allocating to it a saithe quota in the fishing zone of the Faroese Islands for targeted fishery.

5.10 The Faroese Party stated its readiness to restrict the total volume of fishery of cod and other demersal species in the Barents Sea to the above mentioned volumes as well as by the amounts set up by the arrangement between the Faroe Islands and Norway.

## **6. Technical regulatory measures for fish and shrimps. The unified conversion factors for fish products**

### **Notification**

The Parties agreed to inform each other about introductions or amendments of fishery regulations applicable to vessels of the other Party. Such information shall be notified at least 14 days in advance before the regulations become effective.

The Parties agreed to inform each other on such issues through correspondence to the official e-mail of the Parties.

### **Cod and haddock**

Sorting grids are mandatory for use in cod trawl fishery in the Exclusive Economic Zone of the Russian Federation in the Barents Sea.

The applied sorting grids must be in conformity with technical specifications on the basis of the minimal distance between bars of 55 mm.

This provision is not applicable when conducting directed fishery for flatfishes.

It is allowed to use fine-meshed netting and materials for guiding Parts of sorting grids.

Minimum landing size in commercial fishery is as follows: cod – 42 cm, haddock – 39 cm, saithe – 35 cm.

A by-catch of cod and haddock below minimal landing size is allowed of up to 15% of the total number of fish from each individual haul and of other bioresources below minimal landing size - not more than 20%.

Decision on the closing or opening of fishing areas shall become effective 7 days after the Parties have notified each other of the decision. Decisions on the closing or opening shall immediately come into force for vessels, which receive information on the decision directly from responsible authorities.

It is forbidden to use mid-water trawls in cod fishery.

Before the day ends it is allowed to make corrections of records in a catch logbook relating to the previous day.

## **Capelin**

Technical regulatory measures for capelin fishery are applied according to the Protocol of the 38<sup>th</sup> session of the Joint Russian Norwegian Fisheries Commission.

## **Blue whiting**

According to the Faroese Party special rules can be implemented from 15 April to 31 May 2010 concerning the fishery of blue whiting in the fishing zone of the Faroe Islands with a view to omit congestion, while the fishery is concentrated in a relatively limited area.

Sorting grids are mandatory for use by all fishing vessels operating in the blue whiting fishery in the Faroese Fishing Zone.

The Special Working Group of Gear Specialists held its meeting on 26 and 27 November 2009 and discussed results from joint experiments with sorting grids in the blue whiting fishery in the Faroese Fishing Zone in 2008-2009. Report and conclusions to respond to the mandate of the Working Group are given in Appendix 2. The Russian Party requested the Faroese Party to consider the possibility of implementing the recommendations made by the Special Working Group to modify sorting grids in compliance with Appendix 2. The Faroese Party took note of the request and confirmed that it will consider the recommendations of the Special Working Group.

On the basis of data from experiments undertaken, the Russian Party has made the following proposals:

- in the spring-summer season to permit the trawl fishery of blue whiting without sorting grids;
- in the case that the by-catch of saithe in the catch is 2% or more it is mandatory for the vessel to change the area of fishery at least by 20 nautical miles or to use the sorting grid in the trawl.

The Faroese Party informed that it will not be possible to deviate from the prescribed rules in the Executive Order concerning fisheries of blue whiting in the Faroese Fishery Zone.

## **Mackerel**

The Faroese Party informed the Russian Party that the Coastal States on mackerel, The European Union, the Faroe Islands and Norway, in July 2009 agreed upon implementing new control measures in the fisheries for pelagic species (mackerel, herring and horse mackerel) in the North-East Atlantic.

The Faroese Party informed that the new control measures will be put into effect in 2010 for all vessels fishing for mackerel, herring and horse mackerel in Faroese waters.

The Faroese Party informed further that the Russian Party will be informed prior to the entry into force of the above mentioned regulation.

### **Real time closures in Faroese waters**

The Faroese Party informed the Russian Party regarding real time closures of areas within the Faroese Fishing Zone due to high abundance of juvenile fish as stipulated in Executive Order No. 56 from March 26, 1993. In case of real time closure the Faroese Fisheries Inspection will inform without delay Russian fishing vessels operating in its waters. Russian fishing vessels concerned have to leave the relevant areas within 2 hours as from the time and date indicated in the notice sent the vessel.

The competent authorities of the Faroe Islands will also inform without delay the Russian Party of each closure.

### **Shrimp**

The use of sorting grid is mandatory in all cases of fishing for shrimp in the Exclusive Economic Zone of the Russian Federation.

A by-catch of juvenile cod in shrimp fishery should not exceed a total of 800 individuals per 1 ton of shrimp; by-catch of juvenile haddock should not exceed 2000 individuals per 1 ton of shrimp. A by-catch of juvenile redfish less than 15 cm should not exceed 300 individuals per 1 ton of shrimp. A by-catch of Greenland halibut shall not exceed 300 individuals per 1 ton of shrimp. A decision on the closing or opening of fishing areas shall become effective 7 days after the Parties have notified each other of the decision. Decision on the closing or opening shall immediately come into force for vessels, which receive information on the decision directly from responsible authorities.

Before the day ends it is allowed to make corrections of records in a catch logbook relating to the previous day.

### **Closed areas and periods of closure:**

The Russian Party forwarded to the Faroese Party coordinates of closed areas for fishery and periods of closure.

## Unified conversion factors for fish products

The Faroese Party has agreed that the Faroese fishermen similarly to the Russian and Norwegian fishermen use the following unified conversion factors for products:

of cod:

- gutted with head - 1.18
- gutted without head - 1.50 (round cut)
- gutted without head - 1.55 (straight cut)
- gutted without head and without collar bone -1.80

filleted cod (mechanised processing):

- fillet with skin (with thick back bone) - 2.60
- fillet without skin (with thick back bone) - 2.90
- fillet without skin (without thick back bone) - 3.25

of haddock:

- gutted with head - 1.14
- gutted without head - 1.40 (round cut)
- gutted without head - 1.65 (straight cut)

filleted haddock (mechanised processing):

- fillet with skin (with bone) - 2.65
- fillet without skin (with bone) - 2.95
- fillet without skin (without bone) - 3.15

According to the Faroese Executive Order No. 44 from 9 April 2003 the Russian Party has agreed to use the following established conversions factors for products in the Faroese Fishing Zone:

Of mackerel:

- gutted with head - 1.15
- gutted without head - 1.30
  
- fillet with skin and bone - 2.60
- fillet without skin with bone - 2.60
- fillet without skin boneless - 2.60

The Russian party agreed to use the following conversion factors when fishing for blue whiting out of Faroese quota:

- gutted with head	- 1.20
- gutted without head	- 1.40
- fillet with skin with bone	- 2.80
- fillet without skin with bone	- 2.80
- fillet without skin boneless	- 2.80

## 7. Number of fishery licenses in 2010

7.1 The Russian authorities will for the year 2010 permit Faroese vessels to fish cod, haddock, flatfish and shrimp and by-catch in the Exclusive Economic Zone of the Russian Federation in the Barents Sea and in the adjacent area (“Grey zone”) of the Barents Sea “Russia-Norway”.

The Russian Party does not object that part of the cod and haddock quota allocated to the Faroe Islands will be fished in the Exclusive Economic Zone of Norway according to the Agreement between the Faroe Islands and Norway.

The Faroese authorities will for the year 2010 permit Russian vessels to fish blue whiting and mackerel in the Fishing Zone of the Faroe Islands, including the Special Area defined between the Fishing Zones of the Faroe Islands and the United Kingdom, respectively. The Faroese Party made the precise coordinates for this area available to the Russian Party.

7.2 For the year 2010 Faroese authorities will permit the following number of Russian vessels to fish for blue whiting and mackerel in the Faroese Fishing Zone:

- From 1 January to 31 March : 20 vessels.
- From 1 April to 31 October : 29 vessels. If an area, as provided for in item 6 is defined with a view to omit congestion, 16 Russian vessels, simultaneously, are allowed to be present in the defined area (from 15 April to 31 May).
- From 1 November to 31 December : 28 vessels.

7.3 Upon request from the Russian Federation, the Faroese authorities will consider permitting a specified number of the Russian vessels referred to under item 7.2 to carry out directed fishery for a specified quantity of Atlanto-Scandian herring in the Faroese Fishing Zone in 2010 against the quota of the Russian Federation allocated under Agreed Record from Consultations of coastal states on the management measures for the Norwegian spring-spawning Atlanto – Scandian herring.

When the vessels change from one type of fishery to another they should in due time before the fishery starts inform the appropriate Faroese authorities accordingly.

## **8. Procedures for granting fishery permits/licenses in 2010 and compliance with fishery regulations.**

8.1 The Parties informed each other about the rules in force for fishery in the Fisheries Zone of the Faroe Islands and in the Exclusive Economic Zone of the Russian Federation in the Barents Sea. The Russian Party informed the Faroese Party about changes of the Fisheries Regulations for the Northern Basin that was approved on 16 January 2009. The Faroese Party informed the Russian Party that from 1st February 2010 transshipment of frozen fish and fish products is prohibited at sea. Upon application the Faroese Fisheries authorities may permit transshipment operations at quay side at designated Faroese ports.

8.2 It is the responsibility of each Party that its vessels comply with rules and regulations in force for fishery in areas under the jurisdiction of the other party.

8.3 Concerning the procedure for granting licenses for mutual fishery in the zones under the fisheries jurisdiction of Russia and the Faroe Islands the Parties agreed, that they for 2010 should forward lists of the authorized fishing vessels not later than 15 days before the fishery starts. Experimental and research fishery vessels have to be reported separately and are not included in the number of vessels mentioned under item 7.2. These vessels have to transmit information every 24 hours to the Faroese Authorities in accordance with a special procedure.

8.4 The Russian Party informed the Faroese Party that in 2010 in accordance with the Russian legislation the harvest (fishing) of aquatic biological resources in the exclusive economic zone of the Russian Federation as well as authorized on-loading, off-loading or transshipment of aquatic biological resources harvested (fished) in the Exclusive Economic Zone of the Russian Federation in the Barents Sea will be undertaken in the presence of officials from the federal executive body on security and under their control.

Embarkation (disembarkation) of the officials shall take place at the check point at sea, "Sever-1", or in the area of fishing, subject to weather conditions. The Russian Party informed the Faroese Party that the procedure of passage of the checkpoint for foreign vessels fishing in the Exclusive Economic Zone of the Russian Federation is set out in Appendix 3.

The Russian Party highlighted to the Faroese Party the need to take appropriate actions to ensure proper compliance with the procedure of passage of check point.

The Faroese Party informed the Russian Party about its intention to establish check points for all foreign vessels within the Faroese Fisheries Zone. The Faroese Party informed further that the Russian Party will be informed prior to the entry into force of the above-mentioned regulation.

8.5 The Faroese Party agreed that Faroese vessels during fisheries in the Exclusive Economic Zone of Norway must report on a weekly basis on uptake of quota allocated to the Faroe Islands by Russia to the Barents and White Sea Territorial Directorate of the Federal Agency for Fisheries, Murmansk, fax No. + 7 8152 451945/e-mail: portcontrol@bbtu.ru

8.6 The Russian Party confirmed to the Faroese Party that from 1 January 2009 applications for licences to the Faroese fishing vessels for fishing (catching) aquatic biological resources in the Exclusive Economic Zone of the Russian Federation in the Barents Sea shall be submitted by foreign users to the Barents and White Sea Territorial Directorate of the Russian Federal Agency for Fisheries in writing either in person or sent by post to: 7 Komintern Street, 183038 Murmansk, Russia.

The Barents and White Sea Territorial Directorate considers applications and associated documents and informs a foreign user not later than 15 working days after the day of receiving an application about the place, time and order of licences granting or notify in writing about motivated refusal on licences granting.

The Russian Party also confirmed that after the Faroese vessels have been granted licenses for fishing in the Exclusive Economic Zone of the Russian Federation in the Barents Sea their originals must be on board the vessel. The original licence shall include the name of captain, species composition and amount of aquatic biological resources allowed for fishing (catching), and other information. The Russian Party agreed to render assistance to the Faroese side to make delivery of original licenses faster.

Modifications to original licences are allowed as stipulated by the existing legislation of the Russian Federation (Executive Order of the Government of the Russian Federation No. 775 of 22 October 2008).

Requests for any modification to the licence for the Faroese fishing vessels for fishing (catching) of aquatic biological resources in the Exclusive Economic Zone of the Russian Federation in the Barents Sea shall be submitted by foreign users to the Barents and White Sea Territorial Directorate of the Russian

Federal Agency for Fisheries in writing either in person or sent by post to: 7 Komintern Street, 183038 Murmansk, Russia.

Modifications to licenses are forwarded to the foreign user and to the Faroese authorities by telefax, electronic (fisk@fisk.fo) or other means of communication. Modifications shall become an integral part of the license and shall upon receipt be onboard the relevant vessel.

The Faroese Party recalled that the Faroese authorities have not so far demanded special licences for Russian fishing vessels operating in waters under Faroese fisheries jurisdiction, as they have up to now found it sufficient that the name and other relevant characteristics of such vessels appeared on the list mentioned under Point 8.3.

The Faroese Party informed that Faroese authorities contemplate the introduction, in conformity with Faroese fisheries legislation, of licensing procedures for Russian vessels that will mirror the Russian procedures for Faroese vessels. Russian authorities will be informed of such rules at least 60 days before their introduction.

The Faroese Party found that the procedures for application and issuing of licences for Faroese vessels in waters under the fisheries jurisdiction of the Russian Federation, and for modification of such licences, as laid down in RFS' Act No. 775 of 22 October 2008 (with changes), are unnecessarily cumbersome and prone to create situations that could lead to accusations of breaches of the Russian rules. The Faroese authorities stated that it would be an advantage to have simple procedures for dealing with licenses.

The Faroese Party proposed that the Russian side make their licensing procedures for Faroese vessels fishing in Russian waters more flexible, and notably suggested the following points:

- That it should be considered sufficient that the vessels are on the list mentioned under Point 8.3., mirroring the existing Faroese rules, or
- in the case that individual licenses are considered necessary
  - that applications for new licences may be made by electronic means;
  - that licenses are issued by electronic means
  - that original license need not be on board the vessel, as a tamper proof electronic copy will be considered sufficient
  - that applications for changes in existing licences may be made by electronic means,
  - that changes in existing licenses are issued by electronic means and together with the first license issued will be regarded as a modified licence.

8.7 Both Parties should use telefax/ Inmarsat C for the solution of all operative questions in connection with the mutual fishery. Russian vessels shall give notice to the Faroe Islands Fisheries Inspection, Tórshavn not later than 24 hours before they enter the Fishing Zone of the Faroe Islands and report all catch information to this authority on fax + 298 313981/e-mail: fve@fve.fo .

Faroese vessels shall give notice to the Barents and White Sea Territorial Directorate of the Russian Federal Agency for Fisheries, Murmansk, fax No. + 7 8152 451945/e-mail: portcontrol@bbtu.ru and to coordination division of the Border Guard Department of the Federal Security Service of the Russian Federation in the Murmansk Region (5 Severny proezd, 183038 Murmansk, Russia, tel: +7 8152 487582, fax: + 7 8152 487625, e-mail: cc@pufsbm.ru) on:

- every entry into the Russian economic zone for authorized fishing of aquatic biological resources or transshipping the harvested (fished) aquatic biological resources from other vessels and exit from this area;
- positions of the vessel, when fishing for aquatic biological resources or transshipping the harvested (fished) aquatic biological resources from other vessels on a daily basis;
- Information on uptake of aquatic biological resources on a daily, 10-day and monthly basis.

8.8 The Parties agreed to continue the practice of mutual exchange of experts of the Fisheries Control and Enforcement Authorities of the Russian Federation and the Faroe Islands to monitor catch and control landings by their vessels in the ports of both Parties.

The Parties agreed to deal with technical issues inter-sessionally within the Permanent working group.

8.9 The Parties agreed that vessels of one Party fishing in the fishing zone/exclusive economic zone of the other Party at the end of one year may continue fishing from 1 January of the following year until a new license is received in accordance with the established procedure. The Faroese vessels can start fishing in the exclusive economic zone of the Russian Federation before original licenses are received, on the basis of their electronic copies.

8.10 The Parties noted their cooperation in recent years concerning international inspection activity in Regulatory Areas of Regional Fisheries Management Organisations in the North Atlantic and expressed their intention to continue this cooperation in the future.

## **9. Consultations on Satellite tracking of fishing vessels of the Parties**

The Parties discussed the functioning of the “Agreed Record of Conclusions between Russia and The Faroe Islands on Issues related to Satellite Based Vessel monitoring Systems” (Appendix 4) in 2009 and agreed to prolong the validity of the above said Agreed Record until 31 December 2010.

The Parties decided that the Internet HTTPS protocol ensuring security of information in Internet will be used as a main protocol for communication of information between the Fisheries Monitoring Centres (FMC) of the Parties in the future.

In case of interruption of communication between the FMCs the satellite tracking data will be transmitted via e-mail using the North Atlantic Format. The Parties agreed to carry out satellite tracking of Faroese vessels fishing in the adjacent area (“Grey Zone”) of the Barents Sea “Russia-Norway” in case if the Russian Party permits to conduct fisheries in the mentioned area.

The Parties agreed to discuss the next period of validity of this Agreed Record during the next regular session of the Joint Commission.

## **10. Consultations on joint program of experimental fishery and scientific research for 2010.**

The Parties have agreed upon the joint program of scientific research in the Faroese fisheries zone (see Appendix 5).

The Faroese Party requested the Russian Party to be allocated a research quota of Greenland halibut in the Barents Sea. The Russian Party took note of this request and agreed to investigate this.

## **11. Cooperation according to Article 7 in the Agreement of 27 November 1977**

Based upon Article 7 in the Agreement of 27 November 1977 on mutual fishery relations between the Faroe Islands and the Russian Federation the parties have agreed to further extend their cooperation and to enhance the framework for the cooperation between companies and firms in the fishing industry for the mutual benefit of both Parties.

The Parties highly appreciate the Most-Favoured-Nation treatment between the Russian Federation and the Faroe Islands, which strengthens and enhances

the dynamics of the mutual fishery relations and ongoing cooperation between the Russian Federation and the Faroe Islands.

11.1 The Parties agreed to nominate members of the Permanent working group on cooperation between Russia and the Faroe Islands, including, as appropriate, experts and interpreters working for the Joint Russian-Faroese Fisheries Commission.

11.2 The Permanent working group shall in the most effective way coordinate issues mentioned in 11.3-11.6. The Permanent working group shall also prepare proposals for representatives of both Parties on operative solutions of matters, which may arise in 2010, including proposals on possible changes in quotas allocated in the zones of both Parties.

The Permanent working group shall further review and have the mandate to realize the following:

11.3 Possibilities for Faroese vessels and companies to provide fish and raw material to Russian companies and vessels and for Russian vessels to provide fish, shellfish and other marine living resources for Faroese companies and vessels.

11.4 Regional joint ventures between companies from both Parties to ensure optimal economic use of resources, facilities and experience available to the Parties, including in fish-farming, co-operation concerning knowledge on fish stocks, management of stocks, experiments with different fishing gear, production technology in the fishing industry, ship technology, repairs and ship building, fisheries economy, management in the fishing industry on and off shore, fish farming, marketing with a view to provide effective and fast communication when questions arise and to implement various forms of cooperation between companies of both Parties.

11.5 Possibilities, upon request of the Parties, for Faroese and Russian companies to purchase fishing quotas in the Exclusive Economic Zone of the Russian Federation and in the Faroese Fishing Zone and respond to the Parties, as appropriate, before 1 March 2010.

11.6 Any other possibilities, which might be acceptable for both Parties on a basis of mutual benefit.

11.7 The Permanent working group shall have at least 2 consultations during the year.

## **12. Any other business**

The Parties agreed that the Thirty fourth session of the Joint Commission should take place in the Russian Federation at the end of November/beginning of December 2010.

The present Protocol is done in Copenhagen, Denmark, on 27 January 2010 in the Russian and English languages with the same authenticity for both texts.

Head of the Delegation of the Faroe  
Islands

Head of the Delegation of the Russian  
Federation

Andras Kristiansen

Vladimir A. Belyaev

## **Appendix 1**

### **Russian Delegation**

V.A. Beliaev	Head of the Department of Science and Education of the Federal Agency for Fisheries, Head of Delegation
S.V. Belikov	Deputy Head of the Department of Management of International Cooperation of the Federal Agency for Fisheries,
E.A. Izumova	Deputy Head of Legal Assistance Department of the Federal Agency for Fisheries
S.V. Nazarova	Head of the unit of the Department of Management of International Cooperation of the Federal Agency for Fisheries
M.A. Sominskaya	Head of the unit of the Department of Fisheries Management of the Federal Agency for Fisheries
V.V. Sokolov	Deputy Chairmen of the Committee for fisheries of Murmansk Region
Yu.P. Tarasenko	Inspector of the GMI PS FSB of the Russian Federation (Border Guard Service of the Federal Security Service)
G.M. Elzov	Inspector of the GMI PS FSB of the Russian Federation (Border Guard Service of the Federal Security Service)
S.E. Veleslavov	Head of the Coordinating Division of PU of the FSB of the Russian Federation in Murmansk Region

K.V. Gorchinsky	Senior Expert of the Department for the Barents and White Seas of the Federal Agency for Fisheries
E.N. Samoylova	Head of the Department of International Cooperation, PINRO
A.I. Krysov	Head of Laboratory, PINRO
V.I. Dubovitsky	Head of the Analysis Department of west subsidiary in Murmansk the Federal State Department “The centre of fishery monitoring and communication”.
T.A. Zhigulina	Assistant manager of the Federal State Department “The centre of fishery monitoring and communication”.
O.M. Lapshin	Leading scientist, VNIRO
V.A. Serenkov	General Director, company ZAO “RK Rybflot-FOR”
A.V. Gayvoronskiy	Deputy Head of Division of the OAO “Murmansk Trawl Fleet”
K.V. Melnikova	Interpreter, PINRO

## Faroese Delegation

- Andras Kristiansen - Head of Delegation; Head of Department, Faroese Ministry of Fisheries;
- Ulla S. Wang - Special Adviser, Faroese Ministry of Fisheries;
- Janet S. Nørregaard - Adviser, Faroese Ministry of Fisheries;
- Kaj P. Mortensen - Counsellor, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Faroes;
- Bjørn Kunoy - Legal Adviser, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Faroes;
- Árni Olafsson - Counsellor, Adviser on Faroe Islands Affairs
- Jan Arge Jacobsen - Scientist, Faroese Fisheries Laboratory;
- Kristian Zachariassen - Gear Technician, Faroe Marine Research Institute;
- Jóhan Simonsen - Adviser, Faroese Fisheries Inspection;
- Viberg Sørensen - Chairman, Faroe Shipowners Association;
- Árni M. Dam - Secretary, Faroe Shipowners Association;
- Mortan Johannesen - Representative of Faroe Shipowners Association;
- Sonny Johannesen - Representative of Faroe Shipowners Association;
- Hanus Hansen - Representative of Faroe Shipowners Association;
- Eyðun á Bergi - Representative of Faroe Shipowners Association;
- Anfinnur Olsen - Representative of Faroe Shipowners Association;
- Arni Hansen - Representative of Faroese Pelagic Organisation
- Jógvan Jespersen - Director, Faroese Pelagic Organisation;
- Kristian Martin - Representative of Faroese Pelagic Organisation;
- Rasmussen
- Bozena Rasmussen - Interpreter, Faroese Ministry of Fisheries.

**Report of the meeting of Faroese-Russian Special Working Group of  
Gear Specialists (WG)**

**26–27 November, Faroe Marine Research Institute (FMRI)**

According to the terms of reference (ToR) laid out from Protocols of 32 and 33 Sessions of the Joint Faroese – Russian Fisheries Commission the experiments with the sorting grid in the Faroese fishing zone have been done in 2008 and 2009.

1. Determine the efficiency of the use of various selection grids in relation to different vessel types and different types of trawls.
2. Determine the mortality percentages of blue whiting due to the use of the selection grid, taken into consideration various densities of fish.
3. Determine the efficiency of the selection of saithe in the selection grid.
4. Determine the efficiency of the selection grid on different concentrations of blue whiting: low < 10t/h, medium between 10 and 30t/h, and high > 30t/h.
5. Based on the results obtained from the present WG determine the necessity of the use of the selection grid, and present the respective recommendations from the WG to the Commission.

Participants at the meeting of WG:

Faroese: Jan Arge Jacobsen (FRMI), Kristian Zachariassen (FRMI), Johan Simonsen and Eiler Mikkelsen (Faroe Islands Fishery Inspection), Sámal Olsen (Trawl Factory Vonin Ltd).

Russia: Oleg Lapshin (VNIRO, Moscow), Gorchinsky Konstantin (Barent Sea and White Sea Branch of Federal Agency of Fisheries, Murmansk), Gayvoronskiy Alexander (Murmansk Trawl Fleet).

During 2-days meeting participants of the WG discussed the results of the experiments that have been done in 2008 and 2009. Sámal Olsen had a presentation of a sorting system with a new improvement of stretching so it remained open (kites and ropes).

After presentations and very productive discussion participants proceed short summary and conclusions from the ToR for presenting at the 33rd session in the Joint Faroese – Russian Fisheries Commission.

Members of WG noted good level of research and high level of scientists involving in experiments.

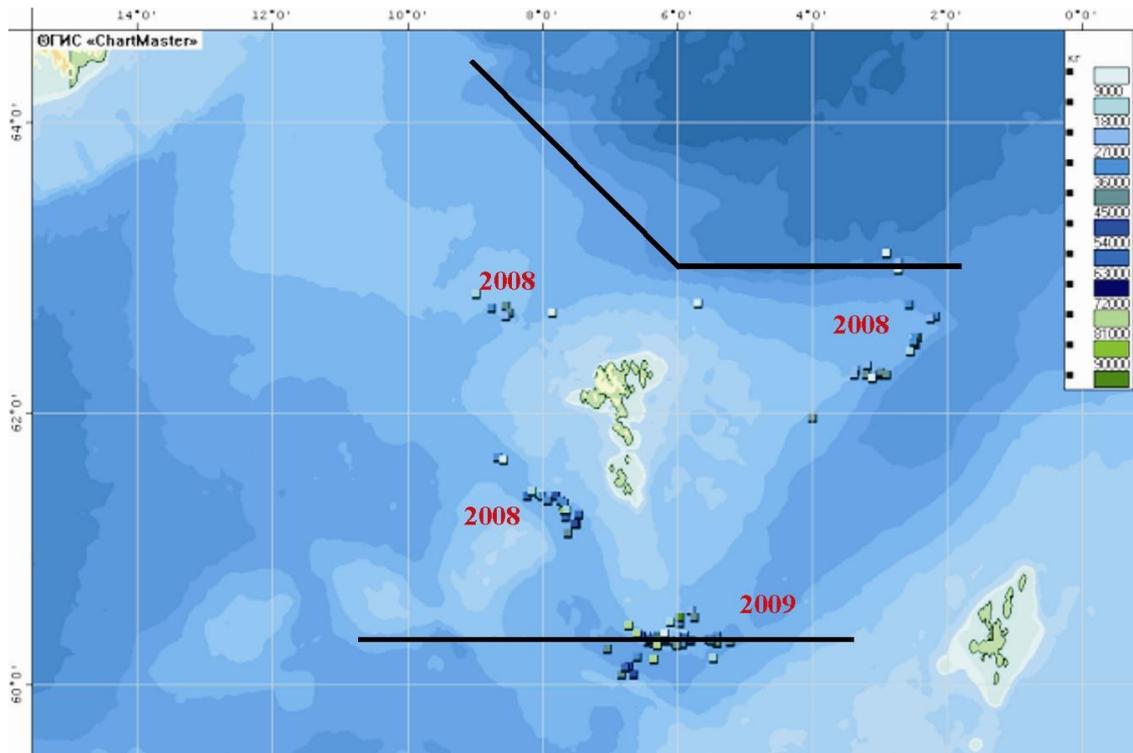
#### **Short summary of Faroese-Russian Special Working Group Results 2008-2009**

In accordance with decision of the Joint Faroese–Russian Fisheries Commission, Russian fishing vessels catching blue whiting in Faroese fishing zone were used to conduct experiments to evaluate the effectiveness of sorting grid utilization in 2008 and 2009.

*Aim of conducted experiments was to study two main aspects of commercial fishing conditioned by the utilization of selective grids, namely:*

14. revelation of possible impact of grids on catch size, as the results of commercial fishing in 2007 have shown that installation of sorting grid on to the trawl leads to a 20–50% decrease of the catch, according to different estimates;
15. estimation of the decrease of bycatch species value on specialized blue whiting fishing due to the utilization of sorting grid, obtained data were processed based upon the aim set.

We have used 3 commercial vessels for experiments in 2008, and 1 vessel in 2009. All experiments have been done in May (Fig. 1).



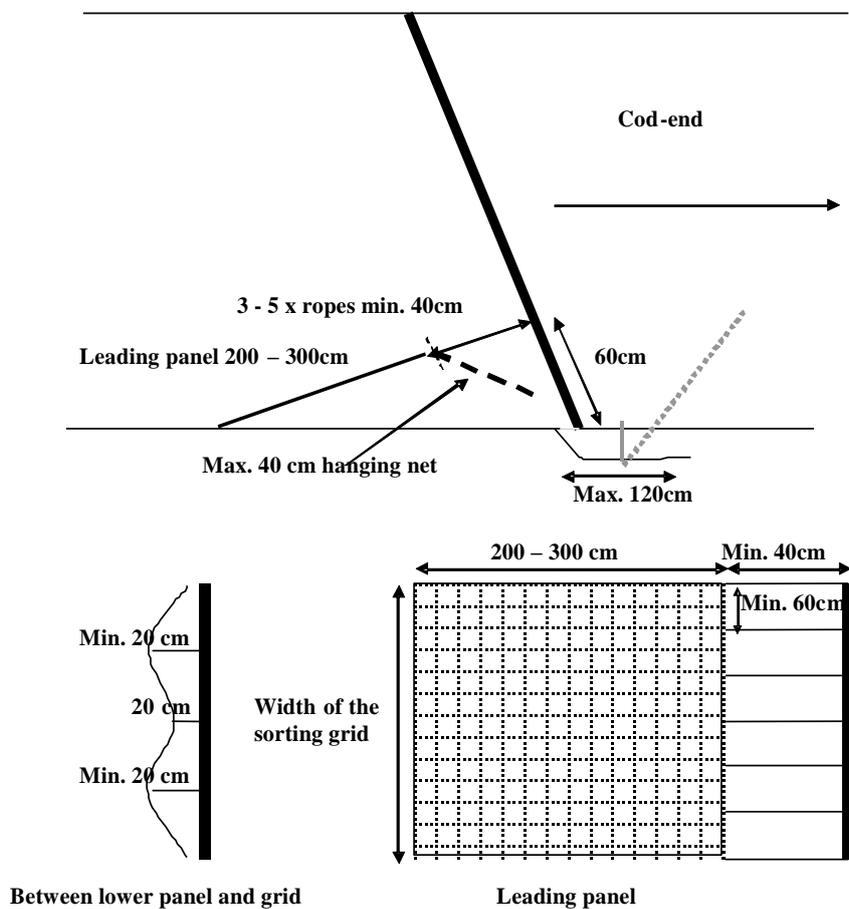
**Fig 1. The dots show the area of experiments with sorting grid in Faroese fishing zone. Between the lines sorting grid is mandatory.**

*One trawl was equipped with the grid with dimensions and rigging analogous to recommend and one that was found to be optimal during trials using video observation, the second trawl did not have the selective grid. In 2008 we with trawls equipped with the grid and without it by turns. Utilization of alternating trawling method was not a necessity in 2009 when working within a single fisheries area on a stable blue whiting aggregation.*

*Results of underwater video observations have shown that operations with sorting grids using during experiments was not optimal due to the following reasons:*

1. sorting grids installed on the trawl may deform the net cover of the trawl which leads to appearance of net “pockets”, so lot of fish become meshed before the grid;
2. free positioning of net edge of trawl’s lower panel before the lower edge of the grid leads to appearance of a too large opening for bycatch exit and as a result significant part of the target species (blue whiting) escapes from the trawl.

*Graphical recommendations on rigging and installation of selective grid on the trawl are given on Figure 2.*



**Fig. 2. Rigging and installation of selective grid on the trawl, latest modification.**

*Main recommendations on the installation of selective grid on the trawl and its rigging:*

6. it's necessary to ensure the stickiness of the grid by using installation on the trawl in the rope frame or having rope stiffeners in the grid or using more hardness construction of the grid;
7. a lifting net panel 200-300 cm long with width equal to trawl's codend horizontal spreading at the place of fastening should be installed before the grid, frontal edge of the panel should be tightly fastened to the lower panel of the trawl;
8. distance from the rear edge of the lifting panel to the grid should be 40 cm;
9. free (rear) edge of the lifting panel should be connected with the grid by ropes of the same length (40 cm), the distance between ropes not less than 50 cm;
10. free edge of the escaping window in front of the grid is recommended to connect to the lower edge of the grid with ropes of the length of 20 cm. Minimum distance between ropes must be 75 cm.

*This modified rigging was then used by two of the three trawlers during the experiments in 2008 and by the trawler in 2009.*

*The number of hauls by vessels with and without grid is shown in Table 1.*

**Table 1. Number of hauls during experiments**

Name of fishing vessel	Hauls with grid	Hauls without grid	Control 6 hauls with grid and collecting bag
2008			
Valery Dzaparidze	5	5	–
Admiral Shabalin	8	8	–
Revolutsia	8	8	–
2009			
Admiral Shabalin	6	15	6

**Table 2. Fishing parameters of experimental hauls in 2008.**

Fishing vessel		K-1864 “Valery Dzaparidze”	M-0047 “Revolutsia”	M-0002 “Admiral Shabalin”	M-0002 “Admiral Shabalin”	
Date of experiments		12–18 May 2008	19–25 May 2008	12–18 May 2008	1–15 May 2009	
Haul count	with grid	5	8	8	6	
	without grid (valid)	6 (5)	8	11 (8)	15	
Total time of haul, h	with grid	28.83	57.7	35.5	24.5	
	without grid	41.42	50.2	74.5	56.5	
Mean time of haul, h	with grid	5.77	7.2	4.44	4.1	
	without grid	6.9	6.28	6.77	3.8	
Total catch, t	with grid	164.87	227.7	222.1	250.0	
	without grid	245.6	189.7	391.5	640.78	
Catch per haul, t	with grid	average	33.0	28.5	27.8	41.7
		min-max	14.5–59.0	8.8–49.6	1.3–44.5	10–70
	without grid	average	40.9	23.7	35.6	42.7
		min-max	24.7–60.9	1.5–44.5	3.7–82.6	10–80
Catch per hour of haul, (on valid hauls), t h <sup>-1</sup>	with grid	average	5.79	4.71	6.57	15.3
		min-max	2.72–9.89	1.06–9.92	0.37–15.4	1.7–30
	without grid	average	5.88	4.41	10.06	13.5
		min-max	3.53–9.57	0.32–12.22	1.78–41.25	4–40
Bycatch (on valid hauls), t	with grid	0.19	0.36	0.16	0.002	
	without grid	0.85	0.42	0.32	0.017	

**Table 3. Results of statistical analysis CPUE with and without sorting grid in 2008-2009.**

Parameters of statistical analysis	Catch, t h <sup>-1</sup>		Difference in catches with grid (+) and without grid (-), %
	with grid (+)	without grid (-)	
K-1864 “Valery Dzaparidze” 2008			
Mean value	5.79	5.88	-1.57
Standard deviation	3.24	2.68	
Standard error	1.45	1.20	
Kolmogorov-Smirnov criterion	K-S = 0.31, p = 0.99		
Mann-Whitney criterion	W = 13, p = 0.99		
M-0047 “Revolutsia” 2008			
Mean value	4.71	4.41	+6.52
Standard deviation	3.16	4.20	
Standard error	1.12	1.48	
Kolmogorov-Smirnov criterion	K-S = 0.75, p = 0.63		
Mann-Whitney criterion	W = 25, p = 0.49		
M-0002 “Admiral Shabalin” 2008			
Mean value	6.57	10.06	-34.73 (all hauls have been conducted without sorting grid construction improvements)
Standard deviation	4.65	13.42	
Standard error	1.64	4.74	
Kolmogorov-Smirnov criterion	K-S = 0.5, p = 0.96		
Mann-Whitney criterion	W = 30, p = 0.87		
Mean value	15.264	13.527	
Standard deviation	10.808	9.751	
Standard error	4.413	2.518	
Kolmogorov-Smirnov criterion	K-S = 0.55, p = 0.92		
Mann-Whitney criterion	W = 38.5, p = 0.64		

*So the big differences of trawl catches per hour with grid and without it on “Admiral Shabalin” in 2008 in comparison with “Valery Dzaparidze” and “Revolutsia” may be explained by the fact that grid on the trawl of this vessel was operated not taking into account the recommendations obtained through video observations on improvement of the grid operation during trawling.*

Thus for all items involved in different types of statistical analysis (parametric and distribution-free analysis) differences are insignificant for catches per hour for hauls with and without grid.

*Using the alternating trawl haul method for comparison difference in catches with and without sorting grid show us a lot of permanent mistakes (Table 3). That is why we used collecting bag in 2009 for correct estimation.*

The main designation of selective grids on blue whiting fishing in the Faroese fishing zone is the decrease of unwanted bycatch species. Such species are saithe, redfish, haddock – fish species whose sizes are significantly bigger than those of blue whiting.

Results of experimental hauls from 2008, averaged data on bycatch values, tell that installation of sorting grid on to the trawl has decreased saithe bycatch/general bycatch in blue whiting commercial fishing from 1.46 to 3 times (Figure 3).

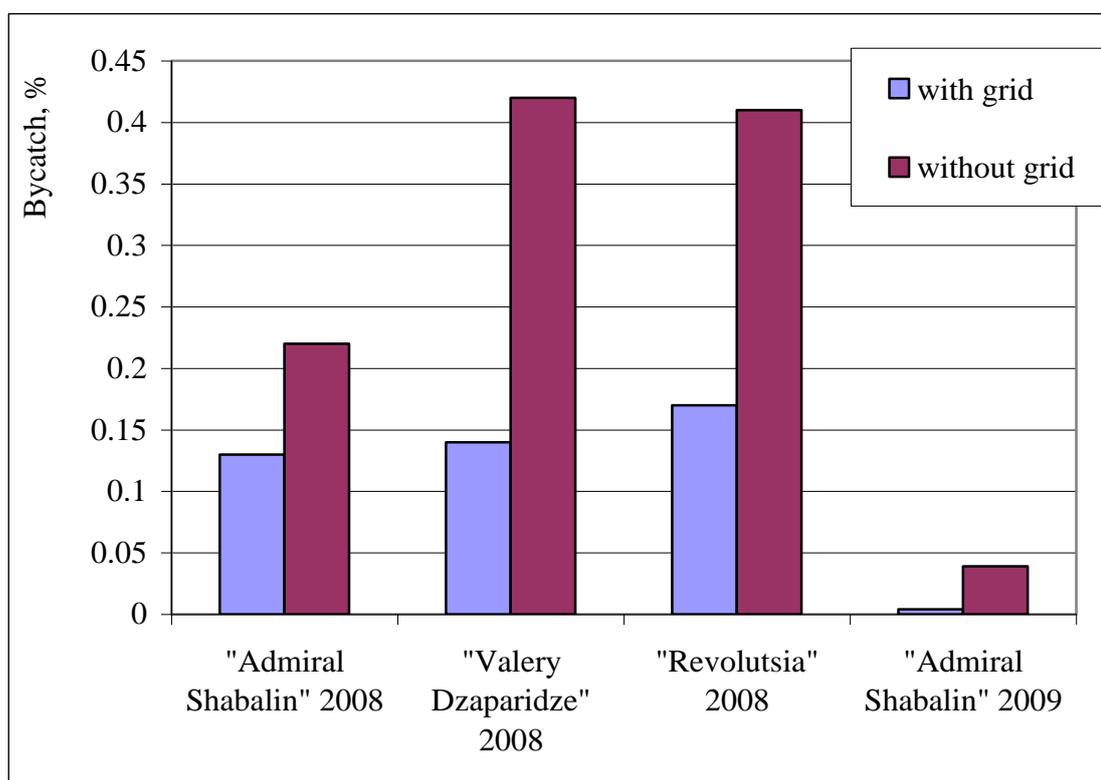


Figure 3. Ratio of saithe bycatch (% to total catch) in catches of trawls equipped with and without the grid in 2008-2009.

Table 4. Results of statistical analysis of non-target species bycatch (saithe, redfish, haddock) in hauls with and without sorting grid in 2008-2009.

Parameters of statistical analysis	Bycatch, t		Difference in bycatch with grid (+) and without (-), %
	with grid (+)	without grid (-)	
K-1864 "Valery Dzaparidze" 2008			
Mean value	0.04	0.17	-325.0
Standard deviation	0.03	0.11	
Standard error	0.01	0.05	
Kolmogorov-Smirnov criterion	K-S = 1.2, p = 0.08		
Mann-Whitney criterion	W = 24, p = 0.02		
M-0047 "Revolutsia" 2008			
Mean value	0.04	0.05	-25.0
Standard deviation	0.03	0.04	

Standard error	0.01	0.01	
Kolmogorov-Smirnov criterion	K-S = 0.75, p = 0.62		
Mann-Whitney criterion	W = 34, p = 0.87		
M-0002 “Admiral Shabalin” 2008			
Mean value	0.02	0.04	-100.0
Standard deviation	0.03	0.03	
Standard error	0.01	0.01	
Kolmogorov-Smirnov criterion	K-S = 1.0, p = 0.27		
Mann-Whitney criterion	W = 44, p = 0.20		
M-0002 “Admiral Shabalin” 2009			
Mean value	0.002	0.017	-1004
Standard deviation	0.003	0.013	
Standard error	0.001	0.003	
Kolmogorov-Smirnov test	K-S = 1.518, p = 0.02		
Mann-Whitney test (non-parametric)	W = 13.5, p = 0.01		

*Thereby presence of sorting grid leads to decreasing of non-target species. Statistically significant increase of bycatch by 1004% is observed in the absence of sorting grid (Table 4) in 2009.*

**Table 5. Averaged data on the saithe and mackerel bycatch (% of total catch).**

Parameter	Fishing vessel	2008			2009
		M-0002 “Admiral Shabalin”	K-1864 “Valery Dzaparidze”	M-0047 “Revolutsia”	M-0002 “Admiral Shabalin”
Haul without grid	Saithe	0.16 (n = 5)	0.38 (n = 8)	0.40 (n = 8)	0.039 (n = 15)
	Saithe+m	0.22 (n = 5)	0.42 (n = 8)	0.41 (n = 8)	0.055 (n = 15)
	ac.				
Hauls with grid	Saithe	0.11 (n = 5)	0.13 (n = 8)	0.17 (n = 8)	0.004 (n = 6)
	Saithe+m	0.13 (n = 5)	0.14 (n = 8)	0.17 (n = 8)	0.005 (n = 6)
	ac.				

**Table 6. Weight characteristics of blue whiting and main objects of the bycatch when working with collector bag in 2009.**

Haul No.	Catch, t (%)		Saithe bycatch, t	
	main codend	collector bag (%)	main codend	collector bag
22	5.950	1.175 (16.5)	0	0
27	3.725	0.425 (10.2)	0	0.003
32	1.975	0.325 (14.1)	0	0.037
36	40.000	4.125 (9.3)	0	0.016
40	15.000	0.800 (5.1)	0.023	0.217
43	40.000	4.300 (9.7)	0	0.045
Mean value	17.775	1.859		
Standard deviation	17.790	1.849		
Standard error	7.263	0.755		

*Obtained equation of correlation between blue whiting catches in the collector bag and total catches of blue whiting confirms the presence of stable dependence describing blue whiting escape from trawls equipped with a sorting system with average percentage of escape equal to  $10.82 \pm 1.63\%$ .*

*Sorting system has shown high efficiency for saithe. In five trawling out of six all saithe was in the collector bag and only in a single haul a 23 kg of saithe was caught in the main codend (Table 6).*

### Conclusions of the FRSWGGS 2009

In accordance with the Appendix 2 of the Thirty second Russian-Faroese Session studies were conducted according to the approved mandate for gear specialists:

#### **I. Determine the efficiency of the use of various selection grids in relation to different vessel types and different types of trawls.**

Experiments on sorting (selection) grid tests with added constructive changes and analysis of underwater videos performed in 2008-2009 showed that there are possibilities to improve the existing types of selective grid constructions. Insertion of possible additional constructive changes should not lead to deterioration of saithe, cod, bass and haddock escape. During the experiments changes of the escape opening and a leading net in front of the sorting grid improved the grid system, with less loss of blue whiting through the escape opening.

**II. Determine the mortality percentages of blue whiting due to the use of the selection grid, taken into consideration various densities of fish.**

Analysis of observed blue whiting injuries in the collection bag showed that they are caused by the influence of outer stresses during collection bag rise on the ship's slipway that is why it is hard to evaluate traumatism of blue whiting exiting the trawl using this method.

**III. Determine the efficiency of the selection of saithe in the selection grid.**

Utilization of selective grid decreased the saithe by-catch significantly.

The bycatch of saithe ranged from 0 to 0.4% during the experiments in 2008 and 2009. The saithe by-catch without sorting grid was in average 0.21% and with sorting grid 0.11%.

In one haul taken in the area where the sorting grid is mandatory, the bycatch of saithe was estimated to 1,000 kg (6.7%) when the catch of blue whiting was 15,000 kg. This haul was without sorting grid.

**IV. Determine the efficiency of the selection grid on different concentrations of blue whiting: low < 10t/h, medium between 10 and 30t/h, and high > 30t/h.**

The experiments in 2009 using a collector bag are the only data (6 tows with both grid and collector bag, Table 8 in summary) that can be used to answer this question properly. The loss of blue whiting through the escape opening (= catch in the collector bag) seems to be a constant fraction of the total catch, independent of the concentration of blue whiting, equal to 10.8% (Fig. 3 in Summary).

If the data are divided into low and high concentrations, the results indicate that the loss is slightly less when the catch rates is high (8%) compared to low (13.6%), indicating that the performance of the grid works well with high concentrations.

**V. Based on the results obtained from the present WG determine the necessity of the use of the selection grid, and present the respective recommendations from the WG to the Commission.**

The WG had difficulties to say yes or no to the necessity of the sorting grid. Ideally we should have looked at all available data and not only the present data from May 2008 and 2009. But if we look at the present data the average bycatch of saithe was well below the 2% limit (0.21% on average, but with one haul above, 6.7%). In this case the sorting grid was not needed during the blue whiting fishery in spring (May).

In 2009 half of the hauls were taken in the area where the grid was not mandatory (south of the 60°20'N dividing line), and should therefore not be part of this analysis, but the average bycatch would still be below the 2% if only the hauls north of the 60°20'N dividing line were used in the calculations.

However, to conclude from the experiments in 2008 and 2009 alone that the grid is not necessary to use in other areas and at other times is premature. The reason is that previous experiments made by the Faroe Marine Research Institute that were used as basis when the sorting grid in the Faroese blue whiting fishery was introducing, show average bycatch rates of saithe above 2% in certain areas and times in the area where the use of the sorting grid is mandatory. The Faroese results are as follows: average bycatch of saithe Nov-Dec 2004, 3.2% (40 hauls); May-June 2005, 2.2% (9 hauls); Sep 2006, 8.7% (3 hauls).

***The opinion of the Russian part of the WG is that for the spring period in the blue whiting fishery the use of the sorting grid is not necessary.***

Recommended changes to the sorting grid based on the results from the 2008 and 2009 experiments. It is recommend to make following amendments in description and rigging of the sorting system construction (see Fig. 2 in the Summary):

- 1 for escaping window — insert 3 additional ropes between the bottom edge of sorting grid and edge of escaping window. The distance between these ropes shall not be less than 60 cm. The length of the ropes shall be minimum 20 cm.
- 2 for lifting panel — make from square mesh, width — according the width of sorting grid, the length — not more than 3 meters, the distance between edge and bottom of sorting grid — max. 60 cm height, the distance between the edge of lifting panel and sorting grid — not less than 40 cm.

This recommendation should be reflected in the legal description of the regulations of the blue whiting fishery in the Faroe zone.

On behalf of the Faroese participants

Jan Arge Jacobsen

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On behalf of the Russian

Oleg Lapshin

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**REGULATIONS  
on procedure for passing sea check point by Faroese vessels**

**VI. General provisions**

1.1 The Sea Check Point (hereinafter referred as check point) shall be established in the exclusive economic zone of the Russian Federation (hereinafter referred as the RF EEZ) with the purpose to carry out monitoring-and-checking procedures aimed at proving observance of the present Regulations by Faroese vessels that catch aquatic resources in the RF EEZ and (or) carry out maritime research studies in the RF EEZ when such vessels enter the RF EEZ with the above mentioned purposes or leave it.

1.2 The monitoring-and-checking procedures in the check points shall be carried out by the officers of a specially authorized federal executive body on security (hereinafter referred to as officers) who are present on board a frontier guard ship (patrol vessel) of the Russian Federation Federal Security Service Frontier Board in the Murmansk region (hereinafter referred to as frontier guard ship (patrol vessel)).

1.3 The check points are regions limited by circumference with a radius of 2 nautical miles with the center formed by points the geographical coordinates of which as well as the names of check points, call signs, radio frequencies (channels) used to call a frontier guard ship (patrol vessel) are given in the Note 1 of the present Appendix.

1.4 It is obligatory for vessels to pass checks in the checking points every time they enter (leave) the RF EEZ while crossing the line of its outward border with the purpose to catch aquatic biological resources and (or) carry out maritime resource studies or after having performed such operations.

1.5 Faroese vessels shall pass through the checking points irrespective of the presence of frontier guard ships (patrol vessels) in the control points.

1.6 Violation of the established procedure for passing checking point by the Faroese vessels shall be prosecuted in accordance with the Russian Federation legislation.

## **VII. The procedure for passing a check point by Faroese vessels**

2.1 A Faroese vessel captain shall, not later than 24 hours prior to crossing the outward border of the RF EEZ, send by radio (or by fax) to the coordination division of the Border Guard Department of the Federal Security Service of the Russian Federation in the Murmansk Region a message containing the data on a running voyage vessel (see Note 2 and 3). The data shall be in Russian or English language. The coordination division of the Border Guard Department of the Federal Security Service of the Russian Federation in the Murmansk Region shall be informed in advance about any changes in the intentions to pass the checking point.

2.2 When a Faroese vessel comes as close as 12-15 nautical miles to a checking point the captain shall call an officer onboard the frontier guard ship (patrol vessel) using Channel 16 VHF radio communication (156.8 MHz) and confirm (insert changes into) the previously sent data enlisted in the Note 3.

2.3 After having received such information the officer shall take one of the following decisions:

- to carry out checking (examination) of the vessel;
- to embark (disembark) an officer onboard the vessel;
- to give a permission for to the vessel to pass freely without checking.

The officer shall inform the captain of Faroese vessel on the decision taken.

2.4 A vessel shall be considered as having passed the checking point immediately after the check is over provided its results give no grounds for her arrest or after having got a permission to pass freely.

The captain of Faroese vessel shall put down into the fishing (or ship's) log an entry containing the date, time (board time), number of the checking point passed, name or number of the frontier guard ship (patrol vessel), name of the officer who gave the permission to pass freely.

While checking a vessel, frontier guard ship (patrol vessel) officers shall enter corresponding notes into the fishing (or ship's) log of the Faroese vessel.

2.5 Provided no response to a call made by the approaching to a checking point Faroese vessel is given by frontier guard ship (patrol vessel) within 45 minutes, the captain of Faroese vessel shall put down into the fishing (or ship's) log an entry containing the date, time when they started and ended to call, Faroese vessel's position and proceed on its route with obligatory crossing of the checking point.

Twenty minutes after having passed the checking point the vessel shall make another attempt of communication. Provided a frontier guard ship (patrol vessel) does not respond within 10 minutes, the captain of Faroese vessel shall put down into the fishing (or ship's) log an entry containing the date, time when they started and ended to call, Faroese vessel's position.

2.6 Information on crossing the RF EEZ outward border in the Barents Sea shall be transmitted coordination division of the Border Guard Department of the Federal Security Service of the Russian Federation in the Murmansk Region.

Inspection shall be carried out at "Sever-1" check point.

2.7 The frontier guard ship (patrol vessel) that carries out monitoring-and-checking procedure at a control point shall inform fishing Faroese vessels about her working radio frequencies.

**Note 1**

Coordinates of the check point

Name of the check point	Coordinates of the centre of the checkpoint		Call sign of frontier guard ship (patrol vessel)	Frontier guard ship (patrol vessel) radio call frequency	Check point radius
	Latitude north	Longitude east			
Sever-1	70°10.0	32°00.0	Whaleboat-1	156.8 MHz (Channel 16)	2 miles

**Note 2**

Coordination division of the Border Guard Department of the Federal Security Service of the Russian Federation in the Murmansk Region:

5 Severny proezd, Murmansk, 183038

tel.: (8152) 48 75 82

Fax: (8152) 48 76 25

Area of responsibility: the Barents Sea within internal waters, territorial sea and exclusive economic zone of the Russian Federation.

### **Note 3**

Information to be transmitted by Faroese vessels to coordination division of the Border Guard Department of the Federal Security Service of the Russian Federation in the Murmansk Region:

11. Flag state of the vessel
12. Name of the vessel
13. Shipowner
14. Side number of the vessel
15. Radio call sign of the vessel
16. Port of registry
17. First and family name of the captain
18. Crew number
19. License number for harvesting (catching) of aquatic bioresources
20. Name of authority that issued the license
21. Date of the license issue
22. Fish products present onboard the vessel (in kg) in accordance with the codes of the International Convention on the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System of 14 June 1983 for Foreign vessels.
23. Coordinates of the vessel when fishing started (entering zone) or when fishing ended (leaving zone).
24. Coordinates and estimated time of crossing the line of outward boarder or delimitation line of the exclusive economic zone of the Russian Federation.
25. Name and estimated time of passing through the sea checking point.
26. Reference number of the message

**Agreed Record of Conclusions between Russia and the Faroe Islands on Issues related to Satellite Based Vessel monitoring Systems**

1. In accordance with paragraph 9 of the protocol of the 23<sup>th</sup> session of the Russian-Faroese Fisheries Commission held in Tyrshavn on 14-16 December 1999, The Russian Federation and The Faroe Islands have agreed to carry out satellite tracking of fishing vessels as outlined in the following paragraphs.

The term "satellite tracking" indicates permanent automatic determination of co-ordinates and transmission of information on the vessel position with the help of the satellite means of communication.

The term "fishing vessel" means a vessel carrying out , at least, one of the following types of activity:

- searching, fishing, on-loading/off-loading, processing, transporting, storing of aquatic biological resources or products made of them;
- scientific research of aquatic biological resources;
- supplying of vessels referred to above with oil, water, provisions, packaging materials and other supplies.

2. Satellite tracking shall apply to the Parties' fishing vessels exceeding 24 meters overall length, when operating in the waters of the other Party. Satellite tracking shall apply to Faroese vessels fishing in the adjacent area (grey zone) of the Barents Sea «Russia-Norway» in case if the Russian Party permits to conduct fisheries in the mentioned area.

3. Vessels defined in paragraph 2 shall be tracked by their flag Party Fisheries Monitoring Centre (FMC) at all times, regardless of which waters they are operating in.

4. For the purpose of satellite tracking the Parties shall communicate to the other Party latitude and longitude co-ordinates of their respective Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZs) and Fisheries Zones (FZs). Such co-ordinates shall be without prejudice to other claims and positions of the Parties.

The said data shall be communicated in computer readable form as decimal degrees in the WGS-84 datum.

5. Tracking may have a position error, which shall be less than 500 metres, with a confidence interval of 99%.
6. When a vessel subject to satellite tracking enters into or exits from an EEZ or a FZ of the other Party, the flag Party FMC shall forward to the FMC of the other Party an Entry or Exit report. These messages shall be identified as either Entry or Exit reports as appropriate. Such messages shall be transmitted without delay and based on a preceding tracking on an hourly basis.
7. When a fishing vessel has moved into an EEZ or a FZ of the other Party, the latest position report from that vessel shall be communicated from the flag Party

FMC to the FMC of the other Party without delay at least every hour. These messages shall be identified as Position reports.

8. Messages according to paragraphs 6 and 7 shall be in computer readable form, utilising protocol HTTPS without other overlaying protocols. All the messages shall be set up in accordance with the definitions in ANNEX 4.1 and be communicated in real time.

If it is not possible to transmit data with HTTPS protocol messages shall be sent by e-mail.

9. In the event of technical failure or non-function of the satellite tracking device fitted on board of a fishing vessel as identified in paragraph 2, the master of that vessel shall communicate to his flag Party FMC information according to paragraph 7 in a timely manner. One position report every 6 hours shall be sufficient under such circumstances, as long as the vessel stays within the EEZ or a FZ of the other Party. The flag Party FMC or the fishing vessel shall forward such messages to the FMC of the other Party without undue delay.

If these messages are communicated to the other Party in machine-readable form, messages shall be identified as Manual reports.

Such faulty equipment shall be repaired or replaced within one month or at the first call to port during this period. Thereafter, the vessel is not authorised to commence or continue fishing in the waters of the other Party with a defective satellite tracking device.

10. The Parties shall exchange information concerning IP and e-mail addresses and specifications that shall be used for electronic communication between their FMCs in accordance with paragraphs 6, 7 and 9. Such information shall, to the extent available, also include names, telephone numbers, telex numbers, fax numbers, Internet addresses that can be useful for general communication between the FMCs.
11. The flag state FMCs shall monitor the tracking of its vessels when in the waters of the other Party. Information will be forwarded to the FMC of the other Party without delay in the event that it is discovered that their tracking does not function as agreed.
12. In the event that a FMC discovers that information is not being communicated by the other Party in accordance with paragraphs 6, 7 or 9, the other Party shall be notified without delay.
13. Under no circumstances shall tracking data communicated to the other Party in accordance with paragraphs 6, 7 and 9 of this agreement be disclosed to anyone other than control and monitoring authorities in such a form that the identity of an individual vessel can be derived.
14. The FMC of the Faroe Islands is established at the Ministry of Fisheries in Torshavn. The NFMC of Russia is established in Moscow on the basis of the Federal State Department "The centre of fishery monitoring and communication", having west subsidiary in Murmansk the Federal State Department "The centre of fishery monitoring and communication".

15. Vessels subject to satellite tracking shall still comply with all current reporting requirements of the other Party, until otherwise agreed between Russia and the Faroe Islands. In this context a review of the Parties' respective rules on monitoring and control is encouraged in order to make appropriate improvements.
16. Exchange of messages according to paragraphs 6, 7 and 9 shall commence on 1 January 2010.
17. If a vessel as identified in paragraph 2 flying the flag of one of the Parties is observed within the EEZ or a FZ of the other Party after the date stated in paragraph 16, fishing or intending to fish, without having an operational tracking device on board, and without messages as agreed being communicated to that other Party, this vessel may be instructed to leave the waters of that Party. The Parties agree to establish routines concerning the exchange of information in order to establish the factual situation causing such lack of messages. This exchange must seek to prevent the wrongful exclusion of a vessel.
18. Failing to comply with agreed provisions may be considered a serious infringement.
19. The Parties take note that for ensuring the accuracy pursuant to the requirements specified in paragraph 5 the coordinate formats should be presented as decimal degrees with three digits after the decimal point.
20. In order to provide for a harmonised satellite based vessel monitoring system the Parties agree to review the operation of the satellite based vessel monitoring systems by the end of 2010.
21. The Parties agree to exchange, upon request, information on the equipment used for the operation of the satellite tracking system in order to confirm that such equipment is fully compatible with the requirements of the other Party.
22. The Russian Party confirms that Faroese vessels, which meet with requirements and the paragraphs as stated in this agreement, will be understood to fulfil the requirements of the Russian regulation "Temporary Regulations on Satellite Control on the Geographical Position of Foreign Vessels".

## Appendix 4.1

Communication of VMS messages to the other Party  
 Messages shall use the syntax of The North Atlantic Format

### 1) «ENTRY» report

<b>Data Element:</b>	<b>Code:</b>	<b>Mandatory/ Optional</b>	<b>Remarks:</b>
Start record	SR	M	System detail; indicates start of record
Address	AD	M	Message detail; destination Party Alfa-3 ISO country code
From	FR	M	Message detail; the transmitting Party Alfa-3 ISO country code
Record number	RN	M	Message detail; serial number of the record in the relevant year
Type of Message	TM	M	Message detail; message type, «ENT»
Radio call sign	RC	M	Vessel detail; international radio call sign of the vessel
Zone	ZO	M	The Alfa-3 code for an EEZ or a FZ
Speed	SP	O	Vessel speed in tenths of knots
Course	CO	O	Vessel course 360° scale
External Registration Number	XR	O	Vessel detail; the side number of the vessel
Latitude	LT	M	± DD.ddd (WGS84) <sup>1</sup> Values negative if latitude is on the southern hemisphere
Longitude	LG	M	± DDD.ddd (WGS84) <sup>1</sup> Values negative if longitude is on the western hemisphere

<sup>1</sup> The plus-sign (+) needs not to be transmitted; leading zeros can be omitted

Date	DA	M	Position detail; UTC date of position (YYYY MMDD)
Time	TI	M	Position detail; UTC of time position (HHMM)
End of record	ER	M	System detail; indicates end of the record

2) «POSITION» report

<b>Data Element:</b>	<b>Code:</b>	<b>Mandatory/Optional</b>	<b>Remarks:</b>
Start record	SR	M	System detail; indicates start of record
Address	AD	M	Message detail; destination Party Alfa-3 ISO country code
From	FR	M	Message detail; the transmitting Party Alfa-3 ISO country code
Record number	RN	M	Message detail; serial number of the record in the relevant year
Type of Message	TM	M	Message detail; message type, «POS» <sup>1</sup>
Radio call sign	RC	M	Vessel detail; international radio call sign of the vessel
Zone	ZO	M	The Alfa-3 code for an EEZ or a FZ
Speed	SP	O	Vessel speed in tenths of knots
Course	CO	O	Vessel course 360° scale
External Registration Number	XR	O	Vessel detail; the side number of the vessel
Latitude	LT	M	± DD.ddd (WGS84) <sup>2</sup> Values negative if latitude is on the southern hemisphere
Longitude	LG	M	± DDD.ddd (WGS84) <sup>2</sup> Values negative if longitude is on the western hemisphere
Date	DA	M	Position detail; UTC date of position (YYYY MMDD)
Time	TI	M	Position detail; UTC of time position (HHMM)

<sup>1</sup> Message type shall be «MAN» for reports in accordance with Paragraph 9

<sup>2</sup> The plus-sign (+) needs not to be transmitted; leading zeros can be omitted

End of record	ER	M	System detail; indicates end of the record
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3) «EXIT» report

<b>Data Element:</b>	<b>Code:</b>	<b>Mandatory/ Optional</b>	<b>Remarks:</b>
Start record	SR	M	System detail; indicates start of record
Address	AD	M	Message detail; destination Party Alfa-3 ISO country code
From	FR	M	Message detail; the transmitting Party Alfa-3 ISO country code
Record number	RN	M	Message detail; serial number of the record in the relevant year
Type of Message	TM	M	Message detail; message type, «EXI» as Exit Report
Radio call sign	RC	M	Vessel detail; international radio call sign of the vessel
External Registration Number	XR	O	Vessel detail; the side number of the vessel
Zone	ZO	M	The code for an EEZ or a FZ
Date	DA	M	Position detail; UTC date of position (YYYYMMDD)
Time	TI	M	Position detail; UTC time of position (HHMM)
End of record	ER	M	System detail; indicates end of the record

4) «RETURN» message

<b>Data Element:</b>	<b>Code:</b>	<b>Mandatory/ Optional</b>	<b>Remarks:</b>
Start record	SR	M	System detail; indicates start of record
Address	AD	M	Message detail; destination Party Alfa-3 ISO country code
From	FR	M	Message detail; the transmitting Party Alfa-3 ISO country code (The Party sending the Return message)
Type of Message	TM	M	Message detail; «RET» as Return message
Radio call sign	RC	M	Vessel detail; international radio call sign of the vessel
External Registration Number	XR	O	Vessel detail; the side number of the vessel
Return Status	RS	M <sup>1</sup>	Reporting detail; code showing whether the message is acknowledged or not (ACK or NAK)
Return error number	RE	M	Reporting detail; number showing the type of error: message unreadable (101), inconsistent data (102), sequence error (103)
Record number	RN	M	Reporting detail; record number of the message which is received
Date	DA	M	Return Message detail; UTC date of transmission (YYYYMMDD)
Time	TI	M	Return Message detail UTC time of transmission (HHMM)
End of record	ER	M	System detail; indicates end of the record

<sup>1</sup> The Parties shall only send a Return message when the status is NAK

## **JOINT PROGRAMME OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH IN 2010**

### **1. Research on blue whiting**

PINRO (Russian Federation) and the FAMRI (Faroe Marine Research Institute, Faroe Islands) have collaborated to study the migration and distribution of blue whiting in the Norwegian Sea and adjacent waters since 1998.

In 2010 PINRO (Russian Federation) and FAMRI (Faroe Marine Research Institute, Faroe Islands) will continue the collaboration to assess the spawning stock of blue whiting in international waters west of the British Isles to be coordinated by Planning Group on Northeast Atlantic Pelagic Ecosystem Surveys (PGNAPES).

In 2010 the Parties intend to continue this research to improve the understanding of the seasonal migration pattern. Envisaged is the analysis of results to be presented at the ICES WG on Widely Distributed Stocks (WGWIDE), (Blue Whiting, NEA Mackerel, Horse mackerel, and Norwegian spring-spawning Herring) and at the ICES Annual Science Conference.

For monitoring the blue whiting stock in 2010, an allocation of 1000 tonnes is set aside out of the total blue whiting quota to Russia in the Faroese waters to cover part of the expense on such research. The monitoring will be carried out by research and fishing vessels (the names of vessels will be provided later).

### **2. Research on Norwegian spring-spawning (Atlanto-Scandian) herring.**

The Parties will carry out research on Atlanto-Scandian herring according to national programmes.

An international herring survey in the Norwegian Sea is scheduled for May-July 2010 under the programme agreed at the meeting of PGNAPES in the Faroe Islands in August 2009. The results will be presented to the ICES WGWIDE.

### **3. Research on mackerel**

The FAMRI and PINRO will co-operate in the framework of the possible Russian aerial survey for mackerel in the Norwegian Sea planned for July-

August 2010. To verify the findings of the aircraft the Faroese Party intends to invite a fishing vessel operating in the Faroese fishing zone to take part in a cooperative effort if survey is conducted.

For monitoring the mackerel in May-August 2010 allocation of an additional quota of 500 tonnes in the Faroese waters for scientific purposes is required to cover part of the expense on such research. The research, fishing vessels (the name of the vessels will be announced later) and an aircraft will be engaged in monitoring to assess mackerel biomass during the feeding season. During this period Faroese scientific and technical experts can stay onboard the Russian vessel to exchange knowledge about mackerel fishing technique.

The results will be presented as a working document to the ICES Working Group.

#### **4. Research on deep-sea species.**

In 2010 the Russian Party plans to conduct research of deep-sea species in the course of experimental fishing referred to under item 5.4 of this Protocol.

Data will be collected with the aim of assessing the status of fisheries resources and possibilities for their exploitation. Observations over the occurrence of marine vulnerable ecosystem's indicator species will continue. Faroese observers may be present on board the Russian research and fishing vessels when working in the Faroese fishing zone.