

**AGREED RECORD**

**OF CONCLUSIONS OF FISHERIES CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN  
ICELAND, THE EUROPEAN UNION, THE FAROE ISLANDS AND NORWAY  
ON THE MANAGEMENT OF BLUE WHITING IN THE NORTH-EAST ATLANTIC IN 2020**

**LONDON, 22-23 OCTOBER 2019**

1. A delegation from Iceland, headed by Mr Kristján Freyr HELGASON, a delegation from the European Union, headed by Mr Fabrizio DONATELLA, a delegation from the Faroe Islands, headed by Mr Herluf SIGVALDSSON and a delegation from Norway, headed by Mr Vidar LANDMARK, met in London on 22-23 October 2019 to consult on the management of the blue whiting stock in the North-East Atlantic in 2020.
2. A delegation from Greenland, headed by Mr Emanuel ROSING, and the Russian Federation, headed by Ms Anna SHULAEVA, attended as observers.
3. The delegations noted that the agreed long-term management strategy for blue whiting dated 27 October 2016 is regarded by ICES as consistent with the precautionary approach (Annex I).
4. The delegations agreed that the level of total catches of blue whiting in the North-East Atlantic for 2020 should be no more than 1,161,615 tonnes, based on the long-term management strategy for blue whiting and corresponding to  $F_{MSY}$  as advised by ICES. The delegations agreed that establishing unilateral quotas for 2020 does not in any way imply acceptance of the level of these quotas by any Party.
5. The delegations recommended that the NEAFC allowable catches for 2020 would be 92,452 tonnes. These catches should not be considered as additional to the level set in Paragraph 4.
6. The delegations encouraged the Parties to develop and coordinate their scientific research activities in order to improve the information available for the assessment and the management of this stock.
7. The delegations exchanged quota and catch information for 2017, 2018 (final) as well as preliminary information for 2019 (Annex II). The delegations also exchanged information with regard to their fishing activities including exchanges and access arrangements (Annex III).

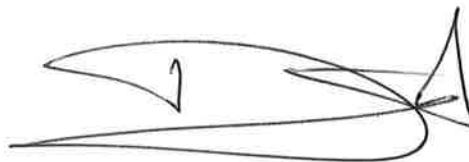


8. The delegations agreed to continue to provide information in the same format as set out in Annex II and Annex III to this Agreed Record. Each Party shall, by 1 May 2020, provide updated information in this regard to the European Union as host of the consultations on management measures for 2021. The European Union shall forward this information as soon as possible to all Parties to this Agreed Record.
9. The delegations agreed that the Parties may fish blue whiting within their quotas in their respective zones of fisheries jurisdiction and in international waters.
10. The delegations agreed that further arrangements by the Parties, including arrangements for access, quota transfers and other conditions for fishing in the respective zones of fisheries jurisdiction, are regulated by bilateral arrangements.

London, 23 October 2019



Kristján Freyr HELGASON  
For the Delegation of Iceland



Fabrizio DONATELLA  
For the Delegation of the European Union



Herluf SIGVALDSSON  
For the Delegation of the Faroe Islands



Vidar LANDMARK  
For the Delegation of Norway

**ARRANGEMENT FOR THE  
LONG-TERM MANAGEMENT  
OF THE BLUE WHITING STOCK**

1. The Parties agree to implement a long-term management strategy for the fisheries on the Blue Whiting stock, which is consistent with the precautionary approach and the MSY approach, aiming at ensuring harvest rates within safe biological limits.
2. For the purpose of this long-term management strategy, in the following text, "TAC" means the sum of the agreed Coastal State quotas and the NEAFC allowable catches.
3. As a priority, the long-term strategy shall ensure with high probability that the size of the stock is maintained above  $B_{lim}$ .
4. In the case that the spawning biomass is forecast to be above or equal to  $B_{trigger}$  ( $=B_{pa}$ ) on 1 January of the year for which the TAC is to be set, the TAC shall be fixed to a fishing mortality of  $F_{MSY}$ .
5. Where the rules in paragraph 4 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. The TAC constraint described in paragraph 5 shall not apply if:
  - a. The spawning biomass at 1 January in the year preceding the year for which the TAC is to be set is less than  $B_{trigger}$ ; or
  - b. The rules in paragraph 4 would lead to a TAC that deviates by more than 40% from the TAC of the preceding year.
7. In the case that the spawning biomass (SSB) is forecast to be less than the precautionary biomass ( $B_{trigger}$ ) on 1 January of the year for which the TAC is to be set, the TAC shall be fixed at a level that is consistent with a fishing mortality given by:
 
$$\text{Target } F = 0.05 + [(SSB - B_{lim}) * (F_{MSY} - 0.05) / (B_{trigger} - B_{lim})]$$
8. In the case that the spawning biomass is forecast to be less than  $B_{lim}$  on 1 January of the year for which the TAC is to be set, the TAC will be fixed corresponding to a fishing mortality  $F=0.05$ .
9. 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.
10. 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.

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11. The inter-annual quota flexibility scheme in paragraphs 9 and 10 should be suspended in the year following the TAC year, if the stock is forecast to be under  $B_{\text{trigger}}$  at the end of the TAC year.
12. The Parties, on the basis of ICES advice, shall review this long-term management strategy at intervals not exceeding five years. The first such review shall take place no later than by December 2021.

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Reporting of quotas and catches of blue whiting in the North-East Atlantic - 2017 to 2019

2017	QUOTAS (tonnes)										CATCHES (tonnes)						
	Coastal State share/share	Balance from 2016	Quota exchange	Quota	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	
European Union	55,973	32,157	-116,500	471,630	18,945	337,934	18,945	0	0	17	0	0	0	0	363,825	107,805	
Faroe Islands	476,901	-16,376	-87,500	373,025	45,731	29,604	281,741	0	350	0	0	0	0	0	357,426	15,599	
Iceland	264,000	-19,321	-1,500	243,179	7,965	0	191,592	0	24,801	0	0	0	0	0	224,358	18,821	
Norway	324,256	-37,935	86,636	372,957	77,714	287,558	3,034	0	31,057	0	0	0	0	0	399,363	-26,406	
Total Coastal States	1,621,130	-41,475	-118,864	1,460,791	138,340	655,096	495,312	0	25,151	31,074	0	0	0	0	1,344,972	115,819	
Russian Federation	207,379			207,379	84,873		102,608			968					188,449	18,930	
Greenland	7,268	384	13,000	20,652	1	0	20,471	27	25,151	32,042	0	0	0	0	1,553,920	134,902	
Total all Parties	1,835,777	-41,091	-105,864	1,688,822	223,214	655,096	618,391	27	25,151	32,042	0	0	0	0	1,553,920	134,902	

30.4.2019

26.8.2019

17.9.2019

2018	QUOTAS (tonnes)										CATCHES (tonnes)						
	Quota established	Balance from 2017	Quota exchange	Quota	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	
European Union	574,836	55,597	-117,500	512,933	5,814	412,828	13,419	0	0	20	0	0	0	0	432,082	80,852	
Faroe Islands	493,081	15,599	-89,500	419,180	54,362	271,936	0	175	0	0	0	0	0	0	352,496	66,684	
Iceland	293,000	18,821	-1,500	310,321	30,738	0	225,311	0	31,043	0	0	0	0	0	287,092	23,229	
Norway	335,257	-26,406	85,843	394,694	61,684	345,267	8,726	0	22,749	0	0	0	0	0	438,426	-43,732	
Total EU	1,696,174	63,611	-122,657	1,637,128	152,598	784,118	519,392	0	31,218	22,769	0	0	0	0	1,510,096	127,033	
Russian Federation	218,381			218,381	64,113		106,779			0					170,892	47,489	
Greenland	7,514	153	16,000	23,667	60	0	23,273								23,333	334	
Total all Parties	1,922,069	63,764	-106,657	1,879,176	216,771	784,118	649,444	0	31,218	22,769	0	0	0	0	1,704,321	174,856	

2019 Provisional	QUOTAS (tonnes)										CATCHES (tonnes)						
	Quota established	Balance from 2018	Quota exchange	Quota	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	
European Union	473,691	57,484	-107,400	423,775	491	305,469	1,796	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	307,761	116,014	
Faroe Islands	406,307	64,064	-87,000	383,371	67,834	28,321	214,545	0	1,878	0	0	0	0	0	312,578	70,793	
Iceland	241,000	23,229	-2,000	262,229	94,917	0	121,848	0	6,547	0	0	0	0	0	223,312	38,917	
Norway	276,257	-43,732	79,994	312,517	59,160	267,240	2,452	0	17,550	0	0	0	0	0	346,402	-33,885	
Total EU	1,397,255	101,045	-116,406	1,381,892	222,402	601,030	340,641	0	8,425	17,555	0	0	0	0	1,190,053	191,839	
Russian Federation	84,828	8,795	102,906	196,529	88,329		73,857			16,763					178,949	17,580	
Greenland	6,192	334	13,500	20,026	70	0	12,236								12,306	7,720	
Total all Parties	1,488,275	110,174	0	1,598,447	310,801	601,030	426,734	0	8,425	34,318	0	0	0	0	1,381,308	217,139	

23.9.2019

22.10.2019

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Guideline for the spreadsheet	
Coastal state share/share	Quota allocated to the Party
Balance	Unutilised/fishing beyond the quota from last year. Includes unused quantity related to transfers between countries
Quota exchange	Transfers between countries
Quotas after transfers and flexibility	New quota

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### Transfers and access arrangements for blue whiting in the North-East Atlantic in 2019

#### Transfers in 2019<sup>1</sup>

Party	Quotas	Balance from 2018	Total available	Transfer to					
				European Union	Faroe Islands	Iceland	Norway	Russian Federation	Greenland
European Union	473,691	57,484	531,175	---	10,000	---	99,900	---	---
Faroe Islands	406,307	64,064	470,371	2,500	---	---	---	81,000	13,500
Iceland	241,000	23,229	264,229	---	---	---	---	2,000	---
Norway	276,257	-43,732	232,525	---	---	---	---	19,906	---
Russian Federation	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Greenland	6,192	334	6,526	---	---	---	---	---	---

<sup>1</sup> Transfers imply full access

#### Access arrangements in 2019

Party	Access to					
	European Union	Faroe Islands	Iceland	Norway	Russian Federation	Greenland
European Union	---	22,500	---	187,855	---	---
Faroe Islands	22,500	---	100%	30,000	25%*	6,192
Iceland	---	100%	---	---	---	---
Norway	187,855	30,000	---	---	---	---
Russian Federation	---	81,000	2,000	19,906	---	---
Greenland	---	6,192	---	---	---	---

\* Of the NEAFC quota

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