

AGREED RECORD OF CONCLUSIONS OF FISHERIES CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN ICELAND, THE FAROE ISLANDS, NORWAY, THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION AND THE UNITED KINGDOM ON THE MANAGEMENT OF NORWEGIAN SPRING-SPAWNING (ATLANTO-SCANDIAN) HERRING IN THE NORTH-EAST ATLANTIC IN 2024

London, 13.10.2023

1. A delegation from Iceland, headed by Guðmundur ÞÓRÐARSON, a delegation from the Faroe Islands, headed by Herluf SIGVALDSSON, a delegation from Norway, headed by Vidar LANDMARK, a delegation from the Russian Federation, headed by Anna SHULAEVA, a delegation from the United Kingdom, headed by Will FRANCIS, met in London on 12th and 13th of October 2023 to consult on the management of the Norwegian Spring-Spawning (Atlanto-Scandian) herring stock in the North-East Atlantic in 2024.
2. A delegation from Greenland, headed by Iben FUNCH DØJ, attended the meeting as observer. A delegation from the European Union, headed by Thomas BREGEON, attended the meeting and made a claim to be recognized as a coastal State to this stock.
3. The delegations noted that the agreed long-term management strategy for Norwegian Spring Spawning (Atlanto-Scandian) herring dated 6 November 2018, is regarded by ICES as consistent with the precautionary approach (Annex I). According to the strategy, there should be a review no later than 2023, in time for ICES to issue advice for 2024. The delegations agreed that this review needs to be coordinated with plans for benchmarking in ICES, and the Parties will return to the issue of a review and the planning and preparation of this during 2024.
4. In accordance with the ICES advice, the delegations agreed that the level of total catches for Norwegian Spring-Spawning (Atlanto-Scandian) herring in North-East Atlantic for 2024 should be no more than **390.010** tonnes. The delegations also agreed that the establishing of unilateral quotas for 2024 does not in any way imply the acceptance of the level of these quotas by any Party.
5. All Parties expressed a willingness to continue addressing the issue of a new quota sharing arrangement and underlined the need to reach such new arrangement in order to achieve comprehensive, sustainable management of the stock. Delegations also discussed possible schemes for reducing the overshooting of the agreed TAC in 2024, if agreement on a new sharing agreement cannot be reached in time for implementation already for 2024.
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 welcomed the outcomes of the Report of the 2023 Coastal States Working Group on the distribution of Norwegian Spring-Spawning Herring in the North-East Atlantic and the Barents Sea and agreed to update this report in 2024.
8. The delegations exchanged final quota and catch information for 2021 and 2022 as well as preliminary information for 2023 (Annex II). The delegations also exchanged information with regard to their fishing activities, including exchanges and access arrangements (Annex III).

9. 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 2024, provide updated information in this regard to the chair of the consultations for 2025. The chair shall forward this information as soon as possible to all Parties to this Agreed Record.
10. The delegations agreed that the Parties may fish Norwegian Spring-Spawning (Atlanto-Scandian) herring within their quotas in their respective zones of fisheries jurisdiction and in international waters.
11. The delegations agreed that further arrangements by the Parties, including arrangements for access, quota transfers and other conditions for fishing in their respective zones of fisheries jurisdiction, are regulated by bilateral agreements.

London, 13.10. 2023



Will FRANCIS

For the Delegation of UK

**LONG-TERM MANAGEMENT
STRATEGY FOR THE NORWEGIAN
SPRING-SPAWNING (ATLANTO-
SCANDIAN) HERRING STOCK**

1. The Parties agree to implement a long-term management strategy for the fisheries on the Norwegian Spring Spawning (Atlanto-Scandian) Herring 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 total allowable catch as agreed by Coastal States.
3. As a priority, the long-term management 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 $F_{mgt}=0.14$.
5. Where the rules in paragraph 4 would lead to a TAC, that 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. The TAC constraint shall not apply if the spawning biomass at 1 January in the year for which the TAC is to be set is less than $B_{trigger}$.
6. In the case that the spawning biomass (SSB) is forecast to be less than the precautionary biomass ($B_{trigger}$) but above or equal to B_{lim} 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:

$$\text{Target } F = 0.05 + [(SSB - B_{lim}) * (F_{mgt} - 0.05) / (B_{trigger} - B_{lim})]$$
7. 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 $F=0.05$.
8. 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.
9. Each Party may authorise fishing by its vessels of up to 10% beyond the quota allocated. However, this shall not apply if the stock is forecast to be under $B_{trigger}$ at

the end of the TAC year. All quantities fished beyond the allocated quota for one year shall be deducted from the Party's quota allocated for the following year.

10. 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 2023, in time for ICES to issue advice for 2024.



ANNEX II

2021	QUOTAS (tonnes)					CATCHES (tonnes)							Balance to 2022		
	Quota established	Balance from 2020	Quota exchange	Quotas after transfers and flexibility	NEAFC Regulatory Area	Europe an Union Zone	Faroese Fishing Zone	Greenland fishing zone	Icelandic Exclusive Economic Zone	Norwegian Economic Zone	Fishery Protection Zone around Spalbard	Russian Economic Zone		United Kingdom Zone	TOTAL CATCH
Party	143 553	8 993	-16 500	136 046	13 678	44 819	55 794							114 299	21 747
Faroe Islands	117 707	-4 033		113 674	6 196	15	105 803							112 014	1 660
Norway	495 035	-14 720		480 315	843		488 790							489 633	-9 318
United Kingdom	12 715	262	-6 744	6 233										623	623
Russian Federation	83 462	623	10 000	94 085	9 991	9 240			73 609					92 840	1 245
Greenland	25 000			31 500	200	6 268								6 468	25 032
European Union	29 667	3 422	6 744	39 832					33 655					33 655	6 177
Total	907 139			901 695	30 908	60 342	0	161 597	596 054	0	0	0	0	848 909	47 166

2022	QUOTAS (tonnes)					CATCHES (tonnes)							Balance to 2023		
	Quota established	Balance from 2021	Quota exchange	Quotas after transfers and flexibility	NEAFC Regulatory Area	Europe an Union Zone	Faroese Fishing Zone	Greenland fishing zone	Icelandic Exclusive Economic Zone	Norwegian Economic Zone	Fishery Protection Zone around Spalbard	United Kingdom Zone		Russian Economic Zone	TOTAL CATCH
Party	131 989	21 747	-13 500	140 236	45 010	16 106	60 966							122 082	18 154
Faroe Islands	108 225	1 654		109 879	8 649		101 833							110 482	-603
Norway	454 927	-9 318		445 609	2 797		443 444							446 241	-632
United Kingdom	11 690	623	-2 101	10 212					10 379					10 379	-167
Russian Federation	76 739	1080	9200	87019	13363	9 157			63952,6					85 872,60	1146,4
European Union	27 278	2 967	2 102	32 347	2 498	2 714			28 009					30 507	1 940
Greenland	25 000		6 500	31 500	3 637	2 714								6 351	25 149
Total	835 848			856 802	75 954	27 977	0	162 799	545 184	0	0	0	0	811 914	44 888

2023 (Provisional)	QUOTAS (tonnes)					CATCHES (tonnes)							Balance		
	Quota established	Balance from 2020	Quota exchange	Quotas after transfers and flexibility	NEAFC Regulatory Area	Europe an Union Zone	Faroese Fishing Zone	Greenland fishing zone	Icelandic Exclusive Economic Zone	Norwegian Economic Zone	Fishery Protection Zone around Spalbard	United Kingdom Zone		Russian Economic Zone	TOTAL CATCH
Party	112 713	-18 154	-13 500	117 367	490	4 819	0	4 819	0	0	0	0	0	5 319	117 048
Faroe Islands	92 421	-1 467	0	90 954	2 530	43	0	43	0	0	0	0	0	76 981	13 973
Norway	188 690	515	0	189 205	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	189 204	0
United Kingdom	9 983	-1 817	123	9 289	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7 607	2 324
Russian Federation	65 532	1 103	8 500	75 135	957	2 014	0	2 014	0	1 568	0	0	0	4 539	70 596
Total Central States	603 867	15 995	-13 383	606 489	3 520	4 812	0	4 812	0	74 408	109 731	0	0	259 638	344 235
European Union	23 294	1 840	-117	25 017	138	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	25 017
Greenland	5 112	0	6 500	11 612	138	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	138	11 474
Total all Parties	608 219	15 995	-6 883	617 801	3 158	4 812	0	4 812	0	74 408	109 731	0	0	259 776	355 699

Transfers in 2023

Party	Transfer to									
	Quotas	Balance from 2021	Total available	European Union	Faroe Islands	Iceland	Norway	United Kingdom	Russian Federation	Greenland
European Union	23.294	1.840	25.134	---	0	0	0	117	0	0
Faroe Islands	112.713	18.154	130.867	0	---	0	0	0	8.500	6.500
Iceland	92.421	-1.467	90.954							
Norway	388.490	-555	387.935							
United Kingdom										
Russian Federation	65.532	1.103	75.135	0	0	0	---	0	0	0
Greenland	5.112	0	6.500							
Sum	687.562		716.525							

Access arrangements in 2023

Party	Access to						
	European Union	Faroe Islands	Iceland	Norway	United Kingdom	Russian Federation	Greenland
European Union				19.780	Full access		
Faroe Islands							6.500
Iceland			Full access				
Norway					20.000	66.635	
United Kingdom							
Russian Federation				20.000			
Greenland		8.500					