

AGREED RECORD

OF CONCLUSIONS OF FISHERIES CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN THE FAROE ISLANDS, THE EUROPEAN UNION, ICELAND AND NORWAY ON THE MANAGEMENT OF BLUE WHITING IN THE NORTH-EAST ATLANTIC IN 2011

LONDON, 19 OCTOBER 2010

1. A Delegation of the Faroe Islands, headed by Mr Andras KRISTIANSEN, a Delegation of the European Union, headed by Mr John SPENCER, a Delegation of Iceland, headed by Mr Kristján Freyr HELGASON and a Delegation of Norway, headed by Ms Sigrun M. HOLST, met in London from 18 to 19 October 2010 to consult on the management of the blue whiting stock in the North-East Atlantic in 2011.

A Delegation of the Russian Federation attended as an observer.

2. The Delegations recognised that the basis for management measures in 2011 is the Agreed Record of Conclusions of Fisheries Consultations on the Management of Blue Whiting in the North-East Atlantic concluded in Oslo on 16 December 2005 (the 2005 Agreed Record), including its Annex I.
3. The Delegations noted the ICES advice for 2011 which indicated a continuing deterioration of the blue whiting stock.
4. Within a total catch limitation of 40,100 tonnes of blue whiting in the North-East Atlantic the Delegations agreed to recommend the limitation of their total catches in 2011 to 36,908 tonnes¹ in accordance with the arrangement for the long-term management of the blue whiting stock (Annex II).
5. In accordance with paragraphs 5 and 6 of the 2005 Agreed Record, the Delegations agreed to recommend to their respective authorities the arrangement for the regulation of the fisheries of blue whiting in 2011 as contained in Annex I to this Agreed Record.

¹ The Coastal States took note that within the framework of NEAFC the Russian Federation was granted an additional quantity of 16,237 tonnes for 2009. NEAFC agreed that this quantity will be reduced in 2010 to 8,000 tonnes and in 2011 to 4,000 tonnes. There will be no additional quantity available in 2012. In 2011 the total outtake will be 44,100 tonnes.

6. The Delegations encouraged the Parties to develop their scientific research activities in order to improve the information available for the assessment and the management of this stock.

7. The Delegations agreed to recommend that NEAFC adopt at its Annual Meeting in November 2010 a daily catch reporting requirement from 1 January 2011.

London, 19 October 2010

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ARRANGEMENT FOR THE REGULATION OF THE FISHERIES OF BLUE WHITING IN 2011

1. In accordance with the arrangement for the long-term management of the blue whiting stock as set out in Annex II to this Agreed Record, the Parties agreed to restrict their fisheries of blue whiting in 2011 to a maximum catch limit of 36,908 tonnes on the basis of the following quotas:

European Union	11,257 tonnes
Faroe Islands	9,642 tonnes
Iceland	6,507 tonnes
Norway	9,502 tonnes

2. Each Party may transfer unutilised quantities of up to 10% of the quota allocated to it for 2011 to 2012. Such transfer shall be in addition to the quota allocated to the Party concerned for 2012.
3. In the event of over-fishing of the allocated quotas by any Party in 2011, the quantity shall be deducted from the quota allocated in 2012 for the Party or Parties concerned.
4. The Parties may fish blue whiting within the quotas laid down in Paragraph 1 in their respective zones of fisheries jurisdiction and in international waters.
5. 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.

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

1. The Parties agree to implement a long-term management plan for the fisheries on the blue whiting stock, which is consistent with the precautionary approach, aiming at ensuring harvest within safe biological limits and designed to provide for fisheries consistent with maximum sustainable yield, in accordance with advice from ICES.
2. For the purpose of this long-term-management plan, in the following text, "TAC" means the sum of the coastal State TAC and the NEAFC allowable catches.
3. As a priority, the long-term-plan shall ensure with high probability that the size of the stock is maintained above 1.5 million tonnes (B_{lim})
4. The Parties shall aim to exploit the stock with a fishing mortality of 0.18 on relevant age groups as defined by ICES.
5. While fishing mortality exceeds that specified in paragraphs 4 and 6, the Parties agree to establish the TAC consistent with reductions in fishing mortality of 35% each year until the fishing mortality established in paragraphs 4 and 6 has been reached. This paragraph shall apply only during 2009 and 2010.

For the purposes of this calculation, the fishing percentage mortality reduction should be calculated with respect to the year before the year in which the TAC is to be established. For this year, it shall be assumed that the relevant TAC constrains catches.

6. When the fishing mortality in paragraph 4 has been reached, the Parties agree to establish the TAC in each year in accordance with the following rules:
 - In the case that the spawning biomass is forecast to reach or exceed 2.25 million tonnes (SSB trigger level) on 1 January of the year for which the TAC is to be set, the TAC shall be fixed at the level consistent with the specified fishing mortality.
 - In the case that the spawning biomass is forecast to be less than 2.25 million tonnes on 1 January of the year for which the TAC is to be set (B), the TAC shall be fixed consistent with a fishing mortality given by:

$$F = 0.05 + [(B - 1.5)(0.18 - 0.05) / (2.25 - 1.5)]$$
 - In the case that spawning biomass is forecast to be less than 1.5 million tonnes on 1 January of the year for which the TAC is to be set, the TAC will be fixed that is consistent with a fishing mortality given by $F = 0.05$.
7. When the fishing mortality rate on the stock is consistent with that established in paragraph 4 and the spawning stock size on 1 January of the year for which the TAC is to be set is forecast to exceed 2.25 million tonnes, the Parties agree to discuss the appropriateness of adopting constraints on TAC changes within the plan.
8. The Parties, on the basis of ICES advice, shall review this long-term management plan at intervals not exceeding five years and when the condition specified in paragraph 4 is reached.