

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN THE KINGDOM OF NORWAY AND THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY ON THE CONCLUSION OF FUTURE BILATERAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR ENHANCED FISHERIES COOPERATION ON CONTROL AND ENFORCEMENT BETWEEN NORWAY AND THE MEMBER STATES OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY

Recognising that there is a need to enhance the sustainable management of joint and exclusive fisheries resources occurring in the waters of Norway and the European Community;

Taking into account the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 1982, the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries adopted in 1995 and the United Nations Fish Stocks Agreement of 1995;

Considering the Agreement on fisheries between the European Community and the Kingdom of Norway of 1980 ensued from the common desire of the two Parties to ensure the conservation and rational management of the fish stocks of the waters adjacent to their coasts;

Further considering the joint desire of the two Parties to work together to a common end in the context of the North-East Atlantic Fisheries Commission;

Acknowledging that illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fisheries are a major problem for both flag States and coastal States responsible for the management of the relevant stocks

Acknowledging that there are significant benefits to both sides in sharing information as well as in enhancing their cooperation on issues of mutual interest;

Recognising that the existing cooperation between Norway and the Community has worked well and has provided mutual benefit to both Parties;

Furthermore, acknowledging that bilateral cooperation between Norway and the individual Member States of the European Community, as demonstrated through the existing bilateral arrangements between Norway and those Member States, has been beneficial to all concerned;

Recognising that there is a need to establish practical arrangements for the control of the fisheries of the two Parties:



Norway and the European Community have reached the following understanding:

The Parties will undertake to develop their cooperation on monitoring, control and surveillance of their fisheries. Such cooperation should be developed not only at the level of Norway and the Community but also between Norway and the individual Member States.

In order to better target IUU fishing activities, the Parties recognise that the existing framework for monitoring, control and surveillance should be improved through cooperation within regional fisheries management organisations as well as through cooperation between Norway and the Community and its Member States.

Officials from Norway and the relevant Member States should meet at regular intervals in order to address and exchange views on issues of common interest in relation to the control of fishing activities, on fisheries regulations, on the exchange of information, know-how and officials as well as on other relevant issues relating to the conduct of fishing activities.

Individual bilateral arrangements on control and enforcement issues between Norway and the Member States should be encouraged. Such arrangements should be additional to and complementary to any arrangements reached in the context of regional fisheries management organisations or within the context of the Norway – European Community fisheries agreement.

The following specific actions should, if appropriate, be addressed in such bilateral arrangements and may include *inter alia*:

1. Exchange of information on landings

- Upon a landing from a vessel flying the flag of either Norway or the Member States concerned, the port State should forward landing information on a vessel by vessel basis to the flag State. This information should be forwarded on a regular basis and be made available to Norway, to the European Commission and to the relevant flag Member States.
- Information on landings from countries other than Norway and the Member States concerned may be exchanged on a vessel by vessel basis.
- If either Party wishes to share information provided with another Party, they must first make a formal request for that information from the Party which provided it.

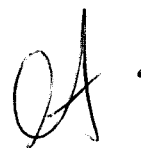
2. Exchange of officials between the relevant control authorities

3. Exchange of information on inspections at sea as well as on shore.

4. Cooperation on the planning of aerial surveillance of fishing activities and the exchange of information on aircraft sightings of fishing vessels.

5. Cooperation with Norway on the training of officials.

6. Norway and the Member States should exchange information on the names of the officials engaged in the implementation of their individual arrangements.

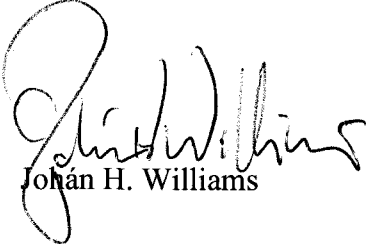


7. Regular meetings should be arranged between officials from Norway and the individual Member States in order to discuss surveillance and enforcement issues.

The existing bilateral arrangements between Norway and the individual Member States will take into account the terms of this Memorandum of Understanding and be adapted appropriately if necessary. Any new arrangements concluded between Norway and individual Member States will be notified to the Parties to this Memorandum of Understanding.

The fisheries cooperation referred to in this Memorandum of Understanding is without prejudice to the cooperation between Norway and the European Community as set out in the annual Agreed Records of Conclusions of Fisheries Consultations between the two Parties, the most recent of which was signed at Brussels on 2 December 2005.

Oslo, 4 October 2006



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