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**AGREED RECORD OF CONCLUSIONS OF FISHERIES CONSULTATIONS
BETWEEN THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY AND NORWAY FOR 2007**

BRUSSELS, 1 DECEMBER 2006

1. A Community Delegation headed by Mr. Constantin ALEXANDROU and a Norwegian Delegation headed by Mr. Petter MEIER met in Brussels from 27 November to 1 December 2006 to consult on mutual fisheries relations for 2007. The meeting was a continuation of a previous meeting held in Bergen.
2. The Heads of Delegation agreed to recommend to their respective authorities the fishery arrangements for 2007 as outlined in this Agreed Record including Annexes I to X and Tables 1 to 5.

JOINTLY MANAGED STOCKS

- 3.1.1. The Delegations noted with satisfaction that fishing mortalities on some of the joint demersal stocks in the North Sea and Skagerrak, according to the latest advice from ICES, have declined in recent years and that the fishing mortalities on haddock and saithe now are close to the levels recommended as targets by the EU – Norway ad hoc scientific Working Group on multi-annual management plans for stocks shared by EU and Norway. The Delegations, however, recognised that the fishing mortality on cod is still too high and that further reduction is needed to ensure recovery of the stock.
- 3.1.2. The Delegations also agreed to continue to improve the exploitation pattern through technical measures such as reduction of discards, improving selectivity of fishing gear, closed seasons and areas as well as any other appropriate measures. They acknowledged the usefulness of harmonised technical measures, noting that the aim of such measures should be to have compatibility of fishing gear leading to the best possible selectivity achieved by the best possible means.
- 3.1.3. The Community Delegation informed the Norwegian Delegation of the Community's forthcoming review of its technical measures and invited Norwegian representatives to actively participate in this process. In this context, the Community Delegation made a presentation to Norway of the European Commission's non-paper on new technical measures for the Atlantic and the North Sea. The main objectives outlined in this non-paper are:
 - a) to bring together relevant technological information and, when appropriate, improve the effectiveness of existing technical measures;
 - b) to simplify these rules which are often too complex and difficult to understand and enforce; and

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- c) to adapt the technical measures to the context of the new Common Fisheries Policy in particular regarding the establishment of the Regional Advisory Councils and the environmental aspects such as the protection of marine habitats and the reduction of discards.

The Community Delegation offered to maintain an exchange of views with Norway on this issue, especially through specific technical meetings.

3.1.4. The Community Delegation explained the intention of the European Commission to gradually eliminate discards in the Community. A Communication from the Commission will be delivered during the first quarter of 2007 and the first regulations are expected to be proposed by the Commission during the first quarter of 2008. The Commission is aware of the work carried out by Norway on reducing discards and the Community Delegation suggested that the Commission exchange views with Norway in order to prepare this action plan.

3.1.5. The Community Delegation also made a presentation concerning a ban on the use of gillnets in depths greater than 200m, which was implemented by the Community in early 2006. In June 2006, a derogation was adopted allowing the use of gillnets targeting hake down to 600m depth. For 2007, the intention of the European Commission is to propose to allow for the introduction of a ban on the use of static nets in waters at depths of more than 200m. However, two derogations concerning waters at depths of less than 600m only for deploying gillnets targeting hake and anglerfish would be allowable, under special conditions on marking, declarations, fishing permit, gear characteristics and soak time.

3.1.6. The Norwegian Delegation informed the Community Delegation about a proposed amendment of Norwegian Regulations of 13 May 1977 relating to foreign fishing in the Norwegian Economic Zone, whereby a time period will be established between the time of reporting of the discontinuation of fishing and the time of exiting the zone.

3.1.7. The Norwegian Delegation informed the Community Delegation that it will amend its legislation by introducing the obligation of prior notification of landings of herring, mackerel and horse mackerel by electronic means. The Parties will consult on the date of entry into force of this amendment for Community vessels at the March 2007 meeting referred to in point 11.8 of this Agreed Record.

3.1.8. For the purpose of improving the exploitation pattern in the fisheries in the North Sea and Skagerrak, the Delegations agreed to convene an expert meeting on gear technology during the first half of 2007. The Delegations agreed that this meeting will be held in Norway under the Terms of Reference set out in Annex X.

Long-term management plans

3.2.1. In view of the current state of the haddock stock and taking into account the scientific advice provided by ICES, the Delegations agreed to revise the long-term management plan for haddock. The Delegations reaffirmed their commitment to manage the jointly managed stocks in accordance with the long-term management plans as set out in Annexes I to IV.

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3.2.2. The Delegations recognised that a commitment was made at the fisheries consultations for 2006 to implement a new long-term management plan for plaice from 1 January 2007. Furthermore, they recognised that they had intended to finalise the necessary work so that a decision by the Delegations could have been made at the time of the annual consultations for 2007. They regretted that despite these intentions, it had not been possible to develop such a plan in 2006 due to the need to address other interrelated issues prior to its development.

3.2.3. The Delegations took due note of the fact that the Community is in the process of finalising its internal decision on the establishment of a long-term management plan for sole and plaice in the North Sea, a decision which is expected in the very near future. The long-term management objectives and strategies for the North Sea plaice, which is the subject of joint management by the two Parties, will be considered in relation to this decision.

3.2.4. The Delegations agreed that as soon as possible following the adoption by the Community of its long-term management plan for flatfish fisheries in the North Sea, a new long-term management plan for plaice will be adopted by the Parties. This long-term management plan will be based upon a number of basic principles as set out in Annex V. The Delegations agreed to continue the work on this long-term management plan and to consult as appropriate.

Cod

3.3.1. The Delegations expressed their deep concern at the serious state of the cod stock as described in the latest ICES advice, which underlines that further action is needed. Furthermore, they noted that the assessment of the state of the cod stock is very uncertain due to incomplete catch data. The Delegations acknowledged that there had been good collaboration between the two Parties on the recovery of cod in the North Sea and confirmed their willingness to continue this collaboration.

3.3.2. The Delegations also noted that because of the mixed nature of most cod fisheries in the North Sea, management measures must cover all fisheries catching cod. To rebuild the cod stock, the Delegations therefore agreed, when fixing the TACs for the stocks caught in association, to take the situation for the cod stock into account.

Haddock

3.4. The Delegations welcomed the revision of the long-term management plan for haddock, which would come into effect on 1 January 2007.

Saithe

3.5.1. The Community Delegation informed Norway about their intention of ensuring consistency between the quota, which they will set for saithe in ICES Division VIa for 2006 and the TAC fixed for ICES Divisions IV and IIIa. The Community Delegation informed Norway of its intention to fix within this quantity a quota for saithe for Division VIa of 12,787 tonnes.

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- 3.5.2. The Norwegian Delegation pointed to the fact that Norway has introduced a minimum mesh size of 120mm for trawling for demersal species in the North Sea. The Norwegian Delegation expressed their regret and concern that the Community had not fixed a minimum mesh size of 120mm when fishing for saithe in Community waters.

Plaice

- 3.6.1. The Community Delegation informed the Norwegian Delegation of the efforts made by Member States to reduce substantially the fishing effort in flatfish fisheries. Furthermore, the Community Delegation informed the Norwegian Delegation that effort management is already implemented as part of the Community's management of flatfish fisheries.

Herring

- 3.7.1. The Delegations acknowledged that they had followed the long-term management plan referred to in Annex IV of this Agreed Record. Whilst they noted with satisfaction that the spawning stock biomass was above B_{pa} , they expressed their concern at the recent low recruitment to this stock.

- 3.7.2. The Delegations concluded that the by-catches of herring in other fisheries will be limited to 31,875 tonnes in 2007; this quota will be allocated to the Community.

Mackerel

- 3.8.1. The Delegations discussed issues relating to the management of mackerel, referring in particular to the fisheries consultations between the European Community, the Faroe Islands and Norway. They expressed their satisfaction that at the consultations between these Parties in Edinburgh on 23 and 24 October 2006, they had concluded an ad hoc coastal State agreement on the management of mackerel for 2007.

- 3.8.2. The Delegations also expressed satisfaction about this year's Annual Meeting of the North-East Atlantic Fisheries Commission (NEAFC) which has resulted in the establishment of management measures for mackerel.

- 3.8.3. The Delegations agreed to the arrangement for mackerel set out in Tables 1 and 2. Furthermore, the Delegations agreed upon an allocation of their joint share of 11,782 tonnes of the NEAFC allowable catch, which results in a share of 3,428 tonnes to Norway and 8,354 tonnes to the Community. The Delegations agreed to inform NEAFC accordingly. They noted that the catch levels set for 2007, in respect of western mackerel, constitute an ad hoc arrangement and do not relate to an assessment of the distribution of the stock in the zones of the two Parties, this being without prejudice to future arrangements.

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- 3.8.4. The Delegation of Norway declared that all fisheries of North-East Atlantic mackerel conducted within the zones under the fisheries jurisdictions of the three relevant coastal States in the North-East Atlantic should be jointly managed and consequently be covered within the total catch limitation.
- 3.8.5. The Community Delegation declared that the coastal State agreement only applied to the Northern area as defined by ICES for the North-East Atlantic mackerel stock.
- 3.8.6. The Delegations concurred that issues relating to the management of mackerel are complex and, therefore, merit in-depth scrutiny. They acknowledged the mutual sensitivity of these issues and recognised that, under these very circumstances, a constructive and unbiased dialogue must continue with a view to bringing about a further improved, comprehensive and rational management system for mackerel. This dialogue must continue both bilaterally and, as appropriate, in the context of the coastal States forum with the inclusion of the Faroe Islands. The dialogue will have to address, inter alia, topics such as the relevant management areas, outstanding control and enforcement matters, measures to prevent misreporting and other appropriate technical regulations, the sharing of the mackerel stock, access and flexibility arrangements, economic factors and any other issues, which might be of relevance to the management of the mackerel stock.
- 3.8.7. With a view to achieving a more rational management system based upon improved scientific knowledge, the Delegations agreed to continue to advance activities in this area through the co-ordination of relevant research. Such research should cover genetics, biological markers of stock identity, extended tagging programmes, improved sampling and reporting of catch and discard data, as well as improved and extended surveys. Furthermore, the Delegations agreed to encourage financial means for such investigations to be made available from the relevant resources. The Delegations agreed to ensure adequate biological sampling from all mackerel fisheries by the two Parties. They noted with satisfaction that acoustic and aerial surveys are now co-ordinated through ICES and agreed to encourage all relevant countries to participate in such surveys, in particular in the northern areas.

OTHER JOINT STOCKS

- 4.1. The Delegations took due note of the joint European Community – Norway report on the ad hoc scientific working group on management measures for sandeel, Norway pout, anglerfish and horse mackerel in the North Sea and Skagerrak held in Charlottenlund, Denmark from 23 to 27 May 2005. On the basis of this report, the Parties have met on four occasions, latterly in Copenhagen in June 2006. Despite their endeavours, the Delegations acknowledged that additional work on possible joint management measures for these stocks is still required before any possible decisions can be taken by the Parties. To this end, the Delegations agreed that the Parties would continue to work during 2007 and in the established *ad hoc* Working Group with the Terms of References as laid down in Annex IX.

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Blue whiting

- 4.2. The Delegations expressed their satisfaction that at consultations between the Parties in Tórshavn on 27 October 2006 the coastal States had reached an agreement on the management of the blue whiting stock from 2007. The Delegations agreed on the importance of continuing to ensure an optimal biological, sustainable and economic utilisation of the available fisheries resources for the fishermen of both Parties

Norway pout

- 4.3.1. In view of the recent advice from ICES on the Norway pout stock in the North Sea the Delegations recognised the need to introduce measures to protect the stock and agreed that no directed fisheries for Norway pout should take place in 2007.
- 4.3.2. Notwithstanding the above paragraph, the Delegations agreed to keep the situation for this stock under review during 2007 in the light of any new advice from ICES. In the event of there being indications of a possible reopening of a directed fishery for this stock, the Delegations agreed that the Parties would consult one another.

Sandeel

- 4.4.1. The Delegations took note of the recent advice from ICES concerning both the management procedure for sandeel for 2007 and the need for further scientific progress on the use of different data sources as well as on the spatial structure of the sandeel in the North Sea. The Delegations agreed to convene a scientific meeting before the end of March 2007 so as to agree on a methodology for combining data from the Norwegian monitoring fishery and the monitoring fishery conducted by the Community in order that a mutually agreed real-time estimate of age 1 can be obtained in May 2007.
- 4.4.2. The Delegation agreed that during 2007, they would manage their respective fisheries in accordance with ICES advice.

Anglerfish

- 4.5.1. The Delegations took note of the ICES advice of October 2006 that fisheries are mainly conducted on the immature part of the stock. They agreed that management should ensure the improvement of the exploitation pattern, through, *inter alia*, increased minimum mesh sizes, reduced discards, protection of juveniles and appropriate measures to counter ghost fishing (see point 9). The Delegations recognised the need for improved scientific knowledge of the stock and enhanced scientific co-operation.
- 4.5.2. The Norwegian Delegation expressed its concern about the substantial and unsustainable trawl fishery on small anglerfish and declared the intention of Norway to prevent any expansion in this fishery.

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- 4.5.3. The Norwegian Delegation informed the Community Delegation that misreporting by Community vessels fishing for anglerfish in the North Sea had occurred, by way of under-reporting in the Norwegian Economic Zone and over-reporting in Community waters. Therefore, Norway will take measures, as outlined in point 3.1.6, for the purpose of curbing such misreporting.

EXCHANGE OF FISHING POSSIBILITIES

Redfish in the Norwegian Economic Zone

- 5.1.1. The Delegations referred to the enlargement of the Community in 1986 and to the commitment made by Norway to facilitate this enlargement under the terms of the Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters signed at Oporto on 2 May 1992, which includes an allocation to the Community of 1,500 tonnes of redfish north of 62°N outside the balance of the bilateral fisheries agreement.

- 5.1.2. The Delegations agreed that the ICES advice for 2007 stipulates that there should be no directed fishery upon this stock during 2007 and that only by-catches should be allowed when fishing north of 62°N. The Delegation of Norway informed the Community that no directed fishery would be allowed by its vessels or those of third countries on the basis of this advice. Against this background, the Community accepted that as an ad hoc measure for 2007, its fishing possibilities for redfish should be limited only to by-catches.

- 5.1.3. The Delegations restricted the transfer of redfish from Norway to the Community to the allocation outside the balance of the bilateral fisheries agreement. They acknowledged that this is an ad hoc arrangement for 2007 without prejudice to any future arrangement.

Redfish in ICES Areas XIV and Va

- 5.2. The Community Delegation informed the Norwegian Delegation that for 2007, the arrangement for transfers of redfish to Norway is an *ad hoc* one and without prejudice to any future arrangement.

Shrimp in ICES Area XIV

- 5.3. The Community Delegation informed the Norwegian Delegation that for 2007, the arrangement for the additional transfers of shrimp to Norway is an *ad hoc* one and without prejudice to any future arrangement.

Capelin in ICES Area XIV

- 5.4. The Delegations agreed that as soon as the capelin in the waters of Greenland becomes available again at the levels of previous years, the Community will ensure that an additional quantity of 7,965 tonnes of capelin above the normal balance will be made available to Norway.

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Anglerfish

- 5.5. The Norwegian Delegation informed the Community Delegation that for 2007, the arrangement for transfers of anglerfish to the Community is an *ad hoc* one and without prejudice to any future arrangement.

FULL UTILISATION OF QUOTAS

6. The Delegations agreed that the Parties should consult in the event that the exhaustion of any quotas taken in a directed fishery or as a by-catch might prevent the full utilisation of established quotas.

CATCH INFORMATION

7. Each Party shall, when appropriate and on request, inform the other Party of catches, by stock, made in its fishing zone by the vessels of the other Party, the information provided by Norway being broken down by flag.

CATCH REPORTING DISCREPANCIES

8. It was noted that there is a recurring problem in relation to discrepancies between reported official catches or landings and catch statistics utilised by ICES. The discrepancies are assumed to be due to misreporting, inadequate accounting of discards, by-catches and other factors contributing to the total out-take of the stocks. In this context, the Delegations noted that a working group on catch reporting and catch statistics has been set up and will be convened if necessary.

GHOST FISHING AND GEAR CONFLICTS

- 9.1. The Delegations acknowledged the recurring problem of ghost fishing and gear conflicts caused by the accumulation of lost and abandoned gears at the fishing grounds. The Delegations shared the view that there is an urgent need for introducing and maintaining measures in order to counter the problem and thereby promoting environmentally friendly fishing methods. Such measures should inter alia include provisions on soak-time, maximum length and the marking of gillnet fleets, as well as retrieval surveys.
- 9.2. The Delegations noted that the enhanced cooperation between Norway and the Community in this field has resulted in the conducting of gear retrieval surveys in both Norwegian and Community waters during 2005 and 2006, and the Delegations agreed to provide for annual surveys in the future.

UNITED KINGDOM – FAROE ISLANDS SPECIAL AREA

10. With regard to Norwegian vessels fishing in the Special Area between the Community fishing zone (United Kingdom waters) and the Faroe Islands fishing zone, the following rules shall apply:

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- a. A vessel fishing in the Special Area shall comply with all relevant fishery rules established by the Party issuing a fishing licence for that vessel.
- b. If a vessel has obtained a fishing licence from both Parties, the vessel shall report its total catches in the Special Area to both Parties. The catches shall be deducted from the quotas allocated by each Party, divided equally between them. If the quota allocated by one Party is exhausted, the catches shall be deducted from the quota allocated by the other Party.
- c. Catches taken in the Special Area shall be registered in the logbook.
- d. Vessels fishing in the Special Area shall be equipped with VMS and be subject to control by the Party or Parties issuing the fishing licence.

The Community Delegation, furthermore, informed Norway that a specific hail-in and hail-out system for the Special Area will be introduced as soon as possible.

The Delegations agreed to continue to examine practical solutions in regard to technical regulations in the Special Area, which are applicable to any vessel, which has obtained a fishing licence from either Party.

CONTROL AND ENFORCEMENT

11.1.1. The Delegations agreed that there is a strong need for improved and effective control and enforcement in order to combat IUU fishing. In this respect the Delegations noted that significant progress has been achieved within the framework of NEAFC and underlined the importance of a close co-operation to achieve additional progress to eliminate IUU.

11.1.2. The Delegations agreed that measures on Port State Control would play an important role in combating IUU activities and that it would be necessary to closely monitor the implementation of such measures by the Parties.

Weighing and inspection of pelagic landings

11.2.1. The Delegations agreed that a great deal of progress had been achieved during 2006 in implementing the measures adopted in 2004. It was noted that the standardised percentage for the deduction of water had been introduced by all Parties and the primary objective of introducing the obligation to weigh all fish landed had been achieved.

11.2.2. The Delegations noted that agreement had also been reached in the Working Group of Control Experts on Methods and Procedures for Weighing Pelagic Fish on a harmonised methodology for conducting full inspections of landings. The measures agreed for the weighing and inspection of landings of mackerel, herring and horse mackerel are set down in Annex VII.

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- 11.2.3. The Delegations agreed that it was necessary to continue to closely monitor the implementation of the measures agreed and to evaluate the application of the harmonised methodology for full inspections. The Delegations agreed that any situation which might undermine fair competition between the Parties must be avoided. In this regard it was agreed that information on the follow up of infringements should also continue to be exchanged in accordance with procedures developed by the Working Group.
- 11.2.4. However, the Community Delegation emphasised that there are significant differences between the Community and Norway regarding the application of prior notifications, authorisation to discharge, logbooks and cross checks as well as reduction of fishing possibilities due to over-fishing.
- 11.2.5. The Norwegian Delegation informed the Community Delegation that legislation was being prepared for the introduction of a system of prior notification of landings and cross-checks with sales note data. In addition 9 new specialist control personnel had been recruited. The Community Delegation took note of these developments but was concerned whether this increase in staff would be adequate, given the number of landings and landing places in Norway.
- 11.2.6. The Delegations recognised the need to explain to each other in detail the regulations and practical measures in place to address and account for over-fishing. The Delegations agreed that this issue should be examined by the Working Group.
- 11.2.7. The Delegations agreed that further consideration should be given to the development of the joint pilot project to place observers on board fishing vessels to monitor discards and high grading. The Community Delegation informed the Norwegian Delegation that this task might be allocated to the Community Fisheries Control Agency. It was also agreed that technical issues should be kept under review, such as tamper proofing and reliability of weighing equipment, problems of calibration of such equipment and the percentage of water content deduction. In this regard the Community Delegation expressed the view that 2% might be too low and not reflect the real water content. Both Delegations underlined the importance of applying a standardised deduction for water content by both Parties.

Landings of white fish

- 11.3. The Delegations agreed that given the state of certain stocks of white fish in the North Sea there is a need to consider possible measures to improve the control of landings. In this regard the Community Delegation referred to the adoption in June 2005 by the Community of a specific monitoring programme for cod.

Exchange of information and inspectors

- 11.4. The Delegations agreed that the Parties should continue to exchange officials as observers in relation to control and enforcement. They agreed that officials may accompany inspectors from the other Party on missions related to the implementation of measures agreed in this Agreement. The Delegations also agreed to continue the exchange of information, on a monthly basis and at more frequent

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intervals upon request, on landings by vessels of either Party and landings by third country vessels in the respective ports of the Parties.

Working Group of Control Experts

- 11.5. The Delegations agreed that a Working Group of Control Experts should be established and that the Working Group shall meet early in 2007 to address the control issues outlined in paragraphs 11.1 to 11.4. The Terms of Reference of the Working Group for 2007 are set down in Annex VIII.

Memorandum of Understanding

- 11.6. The Delegations took note of the Memorandum of Understanding between the European Community and Norway on control issues signed on 4 October 2006 and agreed that it would provide a good basis for the establishment of practical arrangements for the control of fisheries by the two Parties.

Satellite-based vessel monitoring systems for fishing vessels (VMS)

- 11.7.1. The Delegations noted that on 11 and 12 July 2006 the Parties had consulted on the implementation of the Agreed Record of Conclusions between the European Community and Norway on Issues related to Satellite Tracking of Fishing Vessels of 19 May 2004, and that the extension of the VMS to also include vessels between 15 and 24 meters length had caused no specific problems.
- 11.7.2. The Delegations agreed to continue the work of improving the electronic communication between the Fisheries Monitoring Centers, inter alia to replace X.25 with HTTPS.
- 11.7.3. The Delegations recognized that the VMS system is a key measure in the overall Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS) of fisheries, and in particular to curb IUU fishing activities. They agreed that the system has a potential to be developed further to form an even more effective tool. A higher level of transparency with regard to fishing vessel activities were regarded by the Parties to be of benefit in the overall fight against IUU fishing activities no matter where they take place.
- 11.7.4. The Delegations agreed to meet before the end of March 2007 for the purpose of further consultations on the implementation of the VMS Agreement of 19 May 2004 and on the development of the VMS with a view to propose measures to increase the level of transparency with regard to fishing vessel activities.

Electronic reporting systems for fishing vessels

- 11.8.1. The Delegations noted that at the meeting between the Parties on 11 and 12 July 2006 consultations had been held on electronic reporting systems (ERS), and that only Norwegian vessels had until now participated in the ERS-project. The Delegations emphasised the importance of developing a well functioning ERS as a transitional phase towards a fully fledged electronic logbook system, and agreed to

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work together to this end. They further agreed to consult as appropriate before the end of March 2007.

11.8.2. The Delegations noted that since 2005 it had been possible for both Norwegian and Community vessels to report electronically.

11.8.3. The Norwegian Delegation informed the Community Delegation about its intention to introduce the obligation for foreign fishing vessels to utilise ERS. The two Parties agreed to consult on the date of implementation of this obligation during the meeting referred to above.

Electronic logbooks

11.9.1. The Delegations noted that at the meeting on 11 and 12 July 2006 there had also been consultations on the development work on an electronic logbook. They reconfirmed their will to continued close cooperation in this field. In this respect, they particularly emphasised the necessity of developing logbook systems that will be compatible between the Parties, and that simplification of the reporting requirements for fishing vessels is an important aspect in the development work.

11.9.2. Both Delegations considered the process of developing electronic logbooks as an opportunity to develop the logbook into a more effective measure in the overall MCS, and in particular to curb IUU fishing activities. In this respect they agreed to inform each other of issues they consider to be of importance from an operational point of view.

11.9.3. The Delegations agreed to consult before the end of March 2007 with a view to exchange information, to focus on the potential for simplification and assess issues any of the Parties consider to be of importance from an operational point of view.

11.9.4. Although basic political decisions have not yet been made, the Norwegian Delegation informed the Community Delegation about its intention to prepare for the implementation of an electronic logbook in Norwegian waters as from 1 January 2009. The Community Delegation informed the Norwegian Delegation that the Council of Ministers had adopted the framework legislation for the adoption of electronic logbooks, which it is intended should be introduced during 2009.

Vessel detection system

11.10. The Norwegian Delegation explained that VDS could be a useful additional MCS tool in combating IUU fishing. The Community Delegation noted that considerable progress had been made at European level in improving VDS technology and suggested that a presentation on VDS could be made by the EU at the technical meeting foreseen for the first part of 2007.

Licensing

11.11.1. The Delegations noted with regret that the Parties had not succeeded in providing for the utilization of an electronic licensing system in 2006. However, substantial progress had been achieved, and they agreed that every effort should be made in order to finalizing the work, so that an electronic system could be utilized when licensing fishing vessels for 2007.

11.11.2. The Delegations acknowledged that the Parties had not during 2006 been able to prioritise the review of the Licensing Arrangements of 13 May 1995. They agreed that such review should be carried out during the first half of 2007.

Control of blue whiting fisheries in Community waters

11.12.1. The Norwegian Delegation requested an amendment of the current control regime relating to the Norwegian blue whiting fishery in Community waters by way of establishing an additional control area to the west of Ireland. The rationale behind the request was to facilitate a traditional fishing pattern and to reduce steaming distance and costs for the vessels.


11.12.2. The Community Delegation informed the Norwegian Delegation that in order to maintain an effective control of the blue whiting fishery, the current provisions on control would continue to be applied.

Conversion factors

11.13. The Delegations agreed that technical experts should meet in the first quarter of 2007 to exchange views on the application of conversion factors.

Brussels, 1 December 2006

For the Community Delegation



Constantin ALEXANDROU

For the Norwegian Delegation



Petter MEIER

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ANNEX I

LONG-TERM MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR COD

The Parties agreed to implement a long-term management plan for the cod stock, which is consistent with the precautionary approach and is intended to provide for sustainable fisheries and high yield.

Once the stock of cod has been measured for the current year and for the previous year as no longer being at risk of reduced reproductive capacity, the plan will come into operation on 1 January of the subsequent year.

The plan shall consist of the following elements:

1. Every effort shall be made to maintain a minimum level of Spawning Stock Biomass (SSB) greater than 70,000 tonnes (B_{lim}).
2. Where the SSB is estimated to be above 150,000 tonnes the parties agreed to restrict their fishing on the basis of a TAC consistent with a fishing mortality rate that maximises long term yield. The parties agreed to use $F=0.4$ on appropriate age-groups.
3. Where the rule in paragraph 2 would lead to a TAC which deviates by more than 15% from the TAC for the preceding year, the Parties shall fix a TAC that is neither more than 15% greater nor 15% less than the TAC of the preceding year.
4. Should the SSB of cod fall below 150 000t (B_{pa}) the Parties shall decide on a TAC that is lower than that corresponding to the application of the rules in paragraphs 2 and 3.
5. The Parties may where considered appropriate reduce the TAC by more than 15% compared to the TAC of the preceding year.
6. This plan shall be subject to triennial review, the first of which will take place before 1 January 2009, including appropriate adaptations to the target mortality rate specified in paragraph 2.

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ANNEX II

LONG-TERM MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR HADDOCK

The Parties agreed to implement a long-term management plan for the haddock stock in the North Sea and Skagerrak. The objective of the plan is to provide for sustainable fisheries with high and stable yields in conformity with the precautionary approach.

The plan shall consist of the following elements:

1. Every effort shall be made to maintain a minimum level of Spawning Stock Biomass greater than 100,000 tonnes (B_{lim}).
2. For 2007 and subsequent years the Parties agreed to restrict their fishing on the basis of a TAC consistent with a fishing mortality rate of no more than 0.3 for appropriate age-groups, when the SSB in the end of the year in which the TAC is applied is estimated above 140,000 tonnes (B_{pa}).
3. Where the rule in paragraph 2 would lead to a TAC which deviates by more than 15% from the TAC of the preceding year the Parties shall establish a TAC that is no more than 15% greater or 15% less than the TAC of the preceding year.
4. Where the SSB referred to in paragraph 2 is estimated to be below B_{pa} but above B_{lim} the TAC shall not exceed a level which will result in a fishing mortality rate equal to $0.3 - 0.2 * (B_{pa} - SSB) / (B_{pa} - B_{lim})$. This consideration overrides paragraph 3.
5. Where the SSB referred to in paragraph 2 is estimated to be below B_{lim} the TAC shall be set at a level corresponding to a total fishing mortality rate of no more than 0.1. This consideration overrides paragraph 3.
6. In order to reduce discarding and to increase the spawning stock biomass and the yield of haddock, the Parties agreed that the exploitation pattern shall, while recalling that other demersal species are harvested in these fisheries, be improved in the light of new scientific advice from *inter alia* ICES.
7. In the event that ICES advises that changes are required to the precautionary reference points B_{pa} (140 000t) or B_{lim} (100 000t) the parties shall meet to review paragraphs 1-5.
8. No later than 31 December 2009, the parties shall review the arrangements in paragraphs 1 to 7 in order to ensure that they are consistent with the objective of the plan. This review shall be conducted after obtaining *inter alia* advice from ICES concerning the performance of the plan in relation to its objective.

This arrangement enters into force on 1 January 2007.

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ANNEX III

LONG-TERM MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR SAITHE

The Parties agreed to implement a long-term management plan for the saithe stock in the Skagerrak, the North Sea and west of Scotland, which is consistent with a precautionary approach and designed to provide for sustainable fisheries and high yields.

The plan shall consist of the following elements:

1. Every effort shall be made to maintain a minimum level of Spawning Stock Biomass (SSB) greater than 106,000 tonnes (B_{lim}).
2. Where the SSB is estimated to be above 200,000 tonnes the Parties agreed to restrict their fishing on the basis of a TAC consistent with a fishing mortality rate of no more than 0.30 for appropriate age groups.
3. Where the SSB is estimated to be below 200,000 tonnes but above 106,000 tonnes, the TAC shall not exceed a level which, on the basis of a scientific evaluation by ICES, will result in a fishing mortality rate equal to $0.30 - 0.20 * (200,000 - SSB) / 94,000$.
4. Where the SSB is estimated by the ICES to be below the minimum level of SSB of 106,000 tonnes the TAC shall be set at a level corresponding to a fishing mortality rate of no more than 0.1.
5. Where the rules in paragraphs 2 and 3 would lead to a TAC which deviates by more than 15% from the TAC of the preceding year the Parties shall fix a TAC that is no more than 15% greater or 15% less than the TAC of the preceding year.
6. Notwithstanding paragraph 5 the Parties may where considered appropriate reduce the TAC by more than 15% compared to the TAC of the preceding year.
7. A review of this arrangement shall take place no later than 31 December 2007.
8. This arrangement enters into force on 1 January 2005.

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ANNEX IV

LONG-TERM MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR HERRING
OF NORTH SEA ORIGIN AND ALLOCATION OF CATCHES

The Parties agreed to continue to implement the management system for North Sea herring, which entered into force on 1 January 1998 and which is consistent with a precautionary approach and designed to ensure a rational exploitation pattern and provide for stable and high yields. This system consists of the following:

1. Every effort shall be made to maintain a minimum level of Spawning Stock Biomass (SSB) greater than 800,000 tonnes (B_{lim}).
2. Where the SSB is estimated to be above 1.3 million tonnes the Parties agree to set quotas for the directed fishery and for by-catches in other fisheries, reflecting a fishing mortality rate of no more than 0.25 for 2 ringers and older and no more than 0.12 for 0-1 ringers.
3. Where the SSB is estimated to be below 1.3 million tonnes but above 800,000 tonnes, the Parties agree to set quotas for the direct fishery and for by-catches in other fisheries, reflecting a fishing mortality rate equal to:
 $0.25 - (0.15 * (1,300,000 - SSB) / 500,000)$ for 2 ringers and older, and
 $0.12 - (0.08 * (1,300,000 - SSB) / 500,000)$ for 0-1 ringers
4. Where the SSB is estimated to be below 800,000 tonnes the Parties agree to set quotas for the directed fishery and for by-catches in other fisheries, reflecting a fishing mortality rate of less than 0.1 for 2 ringers and older and of less than 0.04 for 0-1 ringers.
5. Where the rules in paragraphs 2 and 3 would lead to a TAC which deviates by more than 15% from the TAC of the preceding year the parties shall fix a TAC that is no more than 15% greater or 15% less than the TAC of the preceding year.
6. Notwithstanding paragraph 5 the Parties may, where considered appropriate, reduce the TAC by more than 15% compared to the TAC of the preceding year.
7. By-catches of herring may only be landed in ports where adequate sampling schemes to effectively monitor the landings have been set up. All catches landed shall be deducted from the respective quotas set, and the fisheries shall be stopped immediately in the event that the quotas are exhausted.
8. The allocation of the TAC for the directed fishery for herring shall be 29% to Norway and 71% to the Community. The by-catch quota for herring shall be allocated to the Community.
9. A review of this arrangement shall take place no later than 31 December 2007.
10. This arrangement enters into force on 1 January 2005.

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ANNEX V

BASIC PRINCIPLES FOR A LONG-TERM MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR PLAICE

- The initial aim of this long-term management plan will be to bring the spawning stock biomass (SSB) up to an agreed minimum target level (B_{pa}) and fishing mortality below an agreed maximum level (F_{pa}).
- After having reached this level, the plan should provide for an agreed target mortality rate for sustainable fisheries and high yield in the longer term.
- Where either or both the SSB is estimated to be below the precautionary biomass level (B_{pa}) and the fishing mortality is above the precautionary level (F_{pa}), the Parties will restrict their fishing on the basis of a TAC consistent with a gradual reduction in the fishing mortality rate.
- Where this leads to a TAC which deviates by more than 15% from the TAC for the preceding year, the Parties shall fix a TAC that is neither more than 15% greater nor 15% less than the TAC of the preceding year.
- Should the SSB of plaice fall below the minimum level (B_{lim}), the Parties shall decide on a TAC that is lower than that corresponding to the application of the applicable deviation rules.
- This plan shall be subject to regular review after consulting the relevant scientific bodies. It shall include if necessary adaptations to the appropriate target mortality rate as decided by the Parties. In particular, a decision shall be taken on the long-term target fishing mortality rates once the fishery exploiting the stock of plaice is operating within safe biological limits.
- Further measures to reduce discards of plaice should be considered. Other measures should also be considered.

ANNEX VI

CONDITIONS FOR FISHERIES BY THE PARTIES IN 2007

I. JOINT STOCKS

1. The Total Allowable Catches (TACs) for the stocks mentioned in Table 1 shall for 2007 be as indicated in that table. If new scientific recommendations are made by ICES, the Parties will review these TACs.
2. The TACs referred to in paragraph 1 shall be divided between the Parties as indicated in Table 1.
3. Each Party shall inform the other Party of allocations granted to third countries for fishing on the stocks referred to in Table 1.
4. The Parties shall supply each other with monthly catch statistics for fishing on the stocks referred to in Table 1 by their own vessels. Communication of these statistics for the preceding month shall take place at the latest on the last day of each month.

II. OTHER STOCKS

Each Party shall authorise fishing by vessels of the other Party for the stocks mentioned in Tables 3 to 5 within the quotas set out in these tables.

III. LICENSING

1. Licensing by either Party of the other Party's vessels in 2007 shall be limited to the following fisheries.
 - A. EC fishing in the Norwegian Economic Zone:
 - all fishing north of 62° N;
 - all industrial fishing and fishing for mackerel in the North Sea;
 - all other fishing with vessels over 200 GRT in the North Sea.
 - B. Norwegian fishing in the EC zone and in Greenland waters:
 - all fishing in NAFO Sub-area 1 and ICES Sub-area XIV and Division Va;
 - all fishing in the Community's fishing zone with vessels over 200 GRT.

For 2007, the number of licences and the conditions of those licences shall be in accordance with the Agreed Record of Conclusions on Licence Arrangements for 1995 between the European Community and Norway signed at Bergen on 13 May 1995.

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2. The Parties shall notify each other, according to the types of fishing indicated above, the name and characteristics of the vessels for which licences may be issued.

It is agreed that the requirement for each Party's vessels to keep on-board a licence whilst fishing in the other Party's zone shall no longer apply.

3. Vessels which were authorised to fish on 31 December 2006 may continue their activities in 2007 on the basis of this authorisation until the new lists of vessels for 2007 have been approved.
4. Each Party shall submit to the other Party the names and characteristics of the other Party's vessels which will not be authorised to fish in its fishing zone the next month(s) as a consequence of an infringement of its rules.
5. The Delegations agreed to meet to consult on the current licence arrangements as noted in paragraph 11.11.2.

IV. FISHERY REGULATIONS

1. The Parties will consult on fishery regulations in the North Sea, with a view to achieving, as far as possible, the harmonisation of regulatory measures in the zones of the two Parties.
2. A Party intending to introduce or amend fishery regulations, applicable to vessels of the other Party, shall inform the latter of such intentions with a notice of at least two weeks. Exceptionally, the introduction or amendment of fishery regulations, due to concentrations of young fish in limited areas, may be implemented with advance notice of one week. Consultations shall be held if so requested by either Party.

V. CONSULTATIONS

The two Parties will consult on the implementation of the arrangements set out herein.

VI. IMPLEMENTATION

In the event that the implementation of the fishery arrangements is delayed, the Parties agreed that the arrangements shall be subject to re-negotiation upon the request of either Party.

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ANNEX VII

MEASURES TO BE APPLIED CONCERNING THE
WEIGHING AND INSPECTION OF PELAGIC LANDINGS

The Delegations agreed that the following measures shall be applied to the weighing and inspection of landings exceeding 10 tonnes of mackerel, herring and horse mackerel:

1. All quantities of fresh herring, mackerel and horse mackerel landed must be weighed before sorting and processing. When determining the weight, any deduction for water shall not exceed 2%.
2. For fish landed frozen the weight shall be determined by weighing all the boxes minus the tare weight (cardboard and plastic) or by multiplying the total number of boxes landed by the average weight of the boxes minus tare weight landed in the same shipment calculated in accordance with an agreed sampling methodology.
3. Landings shall take place in designated ports. Skippers of fishing vessels shall give prior notice of landing including notification of catch on board and give the logbook sheet to the competent authorities before commencing the discharge of catch.
4. The processor or buyer of the fish shall submit a copy of the sales note for the payment of the quantities landed to the competent authorities.
5. A minimum of 10% of landings and 15% of the quantities landed should be subject to a full inspection. A full inspection shall include:
 - a) Cross-checks of the quantities by species indicated in the prior notice of landing and the quantities recorded in the vessel's logbook;
 - b) Cross-checks of the quantities by species recorded in the vessel's logbook and the landing declaration;
 - c) Cross-checks of the quantities by species recorded on the landing declaration and the sales note issued by the buyer.

In the case of vessels pumping catch ashore the weighing of the entire discharge from the vessels selected for inspection shall be monitored and a cross-check undertaken between the quantities by species recorded in the landing declaration or sales note and the record of weighing held by the buyer or processor of the fish.

In the case of freezer trawlers, the counting of boxes shall be monitored. The sample weighing of boxes/pallets carried out in order to determine the tare weight shall also be monitored.

It shall be verified that the vessel is empty, once the discharge has been completed

6. In each case where the checks reveal a significant discrepancy it shall be followed up as an infringement.

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ANNEX VIII**TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE WORKING GROUP ON CONTROL FOR 2007**

The Delegations agreed that the Working Group of Control Experts shall meet before the end of April 2007 under the Terms of Reference described below. The Working Group shall submit its report to the Parties well in advance of the annual consultations for 2007, and where appropriate make proposals for measures to be adopted.

Port State Control

- Monitor the implementation of measures introduced in the framework of NEAFC, in particular as regards landings of Arcto-Norwegian cod;
- Co-ordinate the exchange of inspectors to observe inspections by third country fishing vessels and reefers and invite Russian inspectors to participate in such exchanges;
- Review and consider existing control measures and regulations implemented by the Parties.

Weighing and inspection of pelagic landings

- Monitor the implementation of the measures set down in Annex VII concerning the deduction of water, weighing of landings and inspections;
- Co-ordinate the exchange of inspectors;
- Consider the information exchanged between Parties on the follow-up to infringements concerning discrepancies between logbooks, quantities landed, landing declarations and sales notes and evaluate the application of the harmonised methodology for full inspections;
- Review technical issues, such as tamper proofing and reliability of weighing equipment, problems of calibration of such equipment and the percentage of water content deduction;
- Assess the introduction of a prohibition of discards of legal sized mackerel including high grading and slipping. This should involve the examination of how such a ban could be controlled as well as the cost-effectiveness implications;
- Review and consider the regulations and practical measures put in place by the Parties to address and account for over-fishing.
- **Landings of white fish from the North Sea**

Examine the situation with regard to landings of white fish from the North Sea and consider possible improvements to the control measures in place.

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ANNEX IX**TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE MANAGEMENT MEASURES
FOR ANGLERFISH, HORSE MACKEREL, NORWAY POUT AND SANDEEL**

The Working Group shall:

1. Further develop the work of the Working Group between the European Community and Norway on the management of the fisheries on the stocks of horse mackerel, sandeel, Norway pout, Norway lobster and anglerfish on the collation of historical data on the geographical and seasonal distribution of catches by Party of the stocks of Western horse mackerel, anglerfish, Norway pout and sandeel in the Skagerrak, North Sea and West of Scotland;
2. Compile and review relevant biological information on the stocks concerned including information on geographical and seasonal distribution of adults and juveniles;
3. Recommend management systems including management strategies and objectives, ecosystem considerations and allocations between the Parties for the stocks concerned. In this respect the Working Group shall consider relevant advice on long-term management from ICES;
4. The Working Group shall meet during 2007 at a venue and time to be decided as appropriate.

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ANNEX X

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR AN EXPERT MEETING ON GEAR TECHNOLOGY

The Expert Meeting shall consider technical conservation measures relating to fishing gear design as they affect the exploitation patterns of demersal trawl and seine net fisheries in the North Sea (ICES Area IVa and IVb) and Skagerrak (ICES Area IIIa).

The fisheries which are to be reviewed are as follows:

a. Large mesh (≥ 80 mm diamond) trawl and seine net fisheries for:

- Cod
- Haddock
- Hake
- Anglerfish
- Norway lobster
- Plaice
- Saithe
- Sole
- Whiting

b. Small mesh (≤ 80 mm diamonds) trawl fisheries for:

- Crangon
- Norway pout
- Shrimps
- Sandeel

c. Static gear:

- Anglerfish
- Greenland halibut
- Cod
- Ling
- Tusk
- Blue ling
- Flatfish
- Saithe

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For each identified fishery, the Expert Meeting shall collate information on

- Current technical regulations
- Catch composition
- Discard rates

In the light of this information, the Expert Meeting will review relevant selectivity studies and identify prospective technical measures to improve selectivity and reduce discarding, taking into account, as appropriate, issues relating to practicality, safety, harmonisation and simplification of legislation, enforcement, current minimum catch and landing sizes and levels of short and long-term benefits or losses where known..

TABLE 1

2007 JOINT STOCK QUOTAS IN THE NORTH SEA

Species and ICES Area	TAC	Zonal Attachment				Transfer from Norway to European Community	Transfer from EC to Norway	Quota to Norway		Quota to European Community	
		Norway		European Community				Total	EC Zone ⁽¹⁾	Total	Norwegian Zone ⁽¹⁾
		%	Tonnes	%	Tonnes						
Cod IV	19,957	17	3,393	83	16,564	-----	-----	3,393	3,393	16,564	14,397
Haddock IV	54,640 ⁽²⁾	23	12,567	77	42,073	4,910 ⁽⁷⁾	-----	7,657	7,657	46,983	34,948
Saithe IV, IIIa	123,250	52	64,090	48	59,160	-----	-----	64,090	64,090	59,160	59,160
Whiting IV	23,800 ⁽²⁾	10	2,380	90	21,420	-----	-----	2,380	2,380	21,420	14,512
Plaice IV	50,261	7	3,518	93	46,743	2,400 ⁽⁷⁾	-----	1,118	1,118	49,143	20,165
Mackerel IV, IIIa	53,073		34,139		18,934	-----	-----	34,139 ⁽³⁾	34,139 ⁽³⁾	18,934 ⁽⁴⁾	18,934 ⁽⁴⁾
Herring IV, VIIId	341,063	29	98,908	71	242,155	-----	-----	98,908	50,000 ⁽⁵⁾⁽⁶⁾	242,155	50,000 ⁽⁶⁾

(1) Any part of this allocation not taken may be added to the allocation in the Party's own zone.
 (2) TAC to include industrial by-catches.
 (3) May be fished in ICES Division IVa only, except for 3,000 tonnes which may be fished in ICES Division IIIa. Of which no more than 6,000 tonnes may be fished in ICES Divisions IVb, IVc and IIIa.
 (4) Limited to ICES Divisions IVa and IVb.
 (5) An additional 10,000 tonnes will be granted if such an increase is called for.
 (6) The Delegations agreed to consider in 2007 possible further transfers of plaice and haddock.
 (7)

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2007 TAC AND SHARING OF MACKEREL STOCK

TABLE 2

AREA	TAC (TONNES)	NORWEGIAN TRANSFER TO EUROPEAN COMMUNITY (TONNES)	EC TRANSFER TO NORWAY (TONNES)	FLEXIBILITY LIMITS (TONNES)
IV, IIIa	53,073 ⁽¹⁾	-----	-----	-----
IIa ⁽²⁾	94,101	10,200 ⁽³⁾	-----	100,000 ⁽⁴⁾
Yp (European Community zone), VI, VII, VIIIa, b, d, e, XII, XIV	262,665	-----	10,200 ⁽⁵⁾	105,000 ⁽⁶⁾
TOTAL	409,839			

(1) See Table 1.

(2) Norwegian economic zone and international waters.

(3) May be fished in the Norwegian zone in ICES Division IVa.

(4) May be fished in ICES Division IVa.

(5) To be fished in ICES Divisions IIa, VIa, (north of 56°30'N), VIIId, e, f and h; may also be fished in ICES Division IVa.

(6) May be fished in the Community zone in ICES Division IVa.

TABLE 3

2007 JOINT STOCK QUOTAS (NOT JOINTLY MANAGED)

SPECIES AND ICES AREA		QUOTA TO NORWAY IN THE EC ZONE (TONNES)	QUOTA TO EC IN THE NORWEGIAN ZONE (TONNES)
Norway pout	IV	1,000 ⁽⁴⁾	5,000 ⁽¹⁾
Blue whiting	IV		19,000
Sandeel	IV	20,000 ⁽¹³⁾	20,000 ⁽¹³⁾
Blue whiting	II, IVa, VIa ⁽²⁾ , VIb, VII ⁽³⁾	140,000 ^{(5) (6)}	1,000 ⁽¹²⁾
Blue ling	IV, Vb, VI, VII, IIa	160	
Ling	IV, Vb, VI, VII, IIa	5,780 ^{(7) (8)}	
Tusk	IV, Vb, VI, VII, IIa	3,400 ^{(7) (8)}	
Combined quota	Vb, VI, VII	140 ⁽⁹⁾	
Dogfish	IV, VI, VII	50 ⁽¹⁰⁾	
Shrimps	IV		900
Horse mackerel	IV	1,600	
Others	IV, IIa (EC Zone)	4,720 ⁽¹¹⁾	7,000 ⁽¹¹⁾
Sole	IV	100	
Anglerfish	IV		1,650
Norway lobster	IV		1,300
Ling	IV		1,000
Tusk	IV		200

(1) Including inextricably mixed horse mackerel.

(2) North of 56°30'N.

(3) West of 12°W.

(4) This quota may be fished in ICES Division VIa, north of 56°30'N.

(5) Of which up to 500 tonnes of argentine (*Argentina spp.*) may be fished.

(6) Of which up to 40,000 tonnes may be fished in ICES Division IVa.

(7) The quotas for ling and tusk are interchangeable of up to 2,000 tonnes and may only be fished with long-lines in ICES Division Vb and Sub-areas VI and VII.

(8) Of which an incidental catch of other species of 25% per vessel at any moment is permitted in ICES Sub-areas Vb, VI and VII. However, this percentage may be exceeded in the first 24 hours following the beginning of the fishing on a specific fishing ground. This total incidental catch of other species in Vb, VI and VII may not exceed 3,000 tonnes.

(9) Fishing with long-lines for grenadiers, rat tails, mora mora and greater fork beard.

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- (10) Including catches taken with long-lines of Tope shark (*Galeorhinus galeus*), kitem shark (*Dalatias licha*), bird beak dogfish (*Deania calceus*), leafscale gulper shark (*Centrophorus squamosus*), greater lantern shark (*Etmopterus princeps*), smooth lantern shark (*Etmopterus spinax*), and Portuguese dogfish (*Centroscymnus coelolepis*).
- (11) Including fisheries not specifically mentioned, exceptions may be introduced after consultations as appropriate.
- (12) May only be fished in ICBS Sub-area II.
- (13) These quotas are for an experimental fishery relating to the estimation of sandeel abundance. The conditions under which these quotas may be fished will be the subject of consultations between the Parties no later than 1 April 2007. If the results of the experimental fishery warrant the opening of a commercial fishery, further commercial fishing may continue against these quotas.

TABLE 4**2006 QUOTAS TO THE EC OF NORWEGIAN EXCLUSIVE STOCKS**

SPECIES	ICES AREA	QUANTITY (TONNES)
Arcto-Norwegian cod	I, II	16,974
Arcto-Norwegian haddock	I, II	3,000
Saithe	I, II	3,950
Greenland halibut (by-catches)	I, II	75
Others (by-catches)	I, II	450

TABLE 5

2006 QUOTAS TO NORWAY FROM EC EXCLUSIVE STOCKS AND FROM EC QUOTAS IN GREENLAND WATERS

SPECIES	ICES AREA	QUANTITY (TONNES)
Sprat	IV	18,812
Greenland halibut	IIa, VI ⁽¹⁾	350
Shrimp	XIV, Va	3,250
Greenland halibut	NAFO 1	800
	XIV, Va	800
Redfish	XIV, Va	3,500 ⁽²⁾
Halibut	NAFO 1	200 ⁽³⁾
	XIV, Va	200 ⁽³⁾
Grenadier (by-catches)	NAFO 1, XIV, Va	120

⁽¹⁾ In Sub-area VI with long-lines.
⁽²⁾ May be fished with pelagic trawls.
⁽³⁾ May only be fished with long-lines.

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**AGREED RECORD OF CONCLUSIONS OF FISHERIES CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN
THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY AND NORWAY ON THE REGULATION OF
FISHERIES IN SKAGERRAK AND KATTEGAT FOR 2007**

BRUSSELS, 1 DECEMBER 2006

1. A Community Delegation headed by Mr. Constantin ALEXANDROU and a Norwegian Delegation headed by Mr. Petter MEIER met in Brussels from 27 November to 1 December 2006 to consult on the regulation of fisheries in Skagerrak and Kattegat in 2007. This meeting was a continuation of a previous meeting held in Bergen.
2. The Heads of Delegations agreed to recommend to their respective authorities the arrangements for the regulation of fisheries in Skagerrak and Kattegat in 2007, outlined in this agreed record including the Annex.

HADDOCK

- 3.1. The Delegations noted that the TAC for haddock includes both a directed fishery for haddock and by-catches in the industrial fisheries.
- 3.2. The Parties shall, during the annual consultations, communicate catch statistics (covering 2006 and preliminary statistics for 2007) specified as catches taken in the directed fishery for haddock and estimates for by-catches in the industrial fisheries.

SHRIMP

- 4.1. In respect of the shrimp stock, the Delegations took note of the ACFM advice for 2007 regarding Divisions IIIa and IVa East, and they took as a point of departure a total allowable catch level of 16,600 tonnes.
- 4.2. Norway informed the Community of its intention to fix within this quantity a quota for shrimp for Division IVa East of 4,980 tonnes.

HERRING

- 5.1. The Delegations noted that the herring fisheries in the Skagerrak and Kattegat areas exploited both the North Sea herring and the Baltic spring-spawning herring. They further noted that the ICES advice for 2007 was that the fisheries on herring in Division IIIa should be managed in accordance with the management advice given on the spring-spawning herring. The Delegations therefore agreed that the TAC should be established in accordance with this advice. However, the Delegations noted that the information from ICES on the total fishing possibilities for herring in

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ICES division IIIa for 2007 consistent with this advice is unclear and difficult to interpret.

- 5.2. The Delegations agreed that as an ad hoc measure for 2007, for the quotas established in the Skagerrak and Kattegat areas, Norway can fish 40% of its quota in the North Sea in the Norwegian economic zone.
- 5.3. The Delegations concluded that the by-catches of herring taken in industrial and sprat fisheries will be limited to 15,396 tonnes in 2007.
- 5.4. The Delegations also agreed on the continuing need for closer co-operation between their respective scientists in order to promote transparency and mutual understanding of the sampling schemes for catches in industrial fisheries.

ROUNDNOSE GRENADIER

6. The Delegations took note of the ICES advice for 2007 for roundnose grenadier in Division IIIa which recommended maximum catches of around 1,000 tonnes. The Delegations agreed to consult on the management measures for roundnose grenadier at a meeting to be convened in early 2007 on the basis of the Agreement between Denmark, Norway and Sweden of 19 December 1966. Pending such consultations, the Delegations agreed that no directed fishery for this stock should be conducted.

TECHNICAL MEASURES

7. Fishing with beam-trawls for vessels with engines above 221kw is prohibited in an area inside 12 nautical miles from the coast between Hirtshals lighthouse to Hanstholm.
8. The Delegations agreed to consider harmonising the technical regulations in Skagerrak with the regulations applicable in the North Sea.
9. With reference to point 3.1.8 of the Agreed Record of Conclusions of Fisheries Consultations between the European Community and Norway for 2007, they noted that the meeting will also cover technical conservation measures relating to fishing gear design in Skagerrak.

WEIGHING OF PELAGIC LANDINGS

10. The Delegations noted that the issue of the weighing of landings of pelagic vessels has been covered under the Agreed Record of Conclusions of Fisheries Consultations between the European Community and Norway for 2007.

SATELLITE-BASED VESSEL MONITORING AND ELECTRONIC REPORTING SYSTEMS

11. The Delegations agreed that the issue of satellite-based vessel monitoring and electronic reporting systems will be dealt with in the framework of the Agreed Record of Conclusions of Fisheries Consultations between the European Community and Norway for 2007.

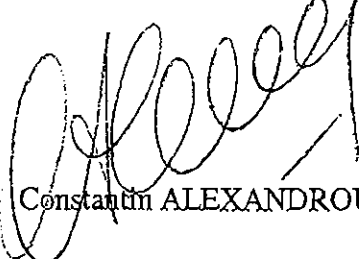
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QUOTA ARRANGEMENTS

12. The Delegations agreed that the negotiated quota arrangements constitute an ad hoc solution and shall be without prejudice to future fishery arrangements between the Parties.

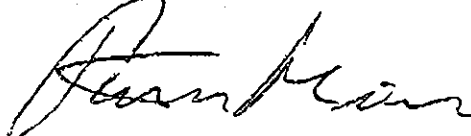
Brussels, 1 December 2006

For the Community Delegation



Constantin ALEXANDROU

For the Norwegian Delegation



Petter MEIER

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ANNEX

I. TACs AND ALLOCATIONS

Catches taken, during the period 1 January to 31 December 2007 in the Skagerrak and the Kattegat of the species mentioned below, shall be limited as follows (metric tonnes, fresh round weight):

SPECIES	AREA ⁽¹⁾	TAC 2007	ALLOCATION TO NORWAY	ALLOCATION TO EUROPEAN COMMUNITY
COD	S	2,851	92 ⁽²⁾	2,759
HADDOCK ⁽³⁾	S + K	3,360	141	3,219
WHITING	S + K	1,500	27	1,473
PLAICE	S	8,500	170	8,330
MACKEREL	S + K		⁽⁴⁾	
SERIMPS	S	11,620	5,415	6,205
HERRING	S + K	69,360	9,251	60,109
SPRAT	S + K	52,000	3,900	48,100

- ⁽¹⁾ Skagerrak (S): the area defined in Article 1 of the Agreement of 19.12.1966. Skagerrak and Kattegat (S + K): the area defined in Article 1 of the Agreement of 10.12.1966, extended to the southern boundary of Kattegat, and defined as a straight line from Hasenøre to Gribens spids, from Korshage to Spodsbjerg and from Gilbjerg Hoved to Kullen.
- ⁽²⁾ This quantity does not include catches to be taken with passive gear inside the Norwegian baselines.
- ⁽³⁾ The TAC for haddock includes both a directed fishery for haddock and by-catches in the industrial fisheries.
- ⁽⁴⁾ A part of Norway's quota in the North Sea may be fished in the Skagerrak by vessels not exceeding 90 feet.

II. GEAR

The use of trawl and purse-seine for the capture of pelagic species in the Skagerrak shall be prohibited from Saturday midnight to Sunday midnight.

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III. SPRAT

Based on scientific information regarding the prevailing abundance of herring in relation to sprat in the Skagerrak and Kattegat, the Delegations agreed that it would be impractical to apply in 2007 the provisions in the Agreement of 4 May 1982 relating to by-catch and minimum size of herring in a fishery for sprat.

IV. CATCH STATISTICS

The Parties shall communicate to each other, on a monthly basis, catch statistics for fishing by their own vessels for the species referred to in paragraph I.

This monthly information shall be communicated not later than the end of the following month.

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**PROTOCOL OF FISHERIES CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN THE EUROPEAN
COMMUNITY, ON BEHALF OF SWEDEN, AND NORWAY FOR 2007**

BRUSSELS, 1 DECEMBER 2006

Consultations on the Swedish fishery in the Norwegian Economic Zone south of 62° North for 2007, within the framework of the fisheries agreement between Norway and Sweden of 9 December 1976, took place in Brussels on 1 December 2006 between a Community Delegation on behalf of Sweden, headed by Mr Constantin ALEXANDROU and a Norwegian Delegation, headed by Mr. Petter MEIER.

1. REPORT ON THE SWEDISH FISHERY IN THE NORWEGIAN ECONOMIC ZONE

1.1. The Community Delegation, on behalf of Sweden, reported on the Swedish fishery during 2005 and 2006.

It was concluded that the official catch statistics were in conformity with the catch reports submitted by Swedish vessels to the Norwegian fisheries authorities.

1.2. In order to increase transparency, the Delegations agreed to further discuss co-operation in the field of catch statistics. In this context, it was agreed that monthly catch statistics for the preceding month, broken down by species for fisheries regulated under section 2.1 in the Norwegian Economic Zone will be forwarded.

2. QUOTAS AND LICENCES FOR A SWEDISH FISHERY IN THE NORWEGIAN ECONOMIC ZONE FOR 2007

2.1. Quotas

The Norwegian Delegation informed the Community Delegation, on behalf of Sweden, that the following quotas would be allocated to Sweden in the Norwegian Economic Zone in 2007:

	Tonnes
Cod	382
Haddock	707
Saithe	880
Pollack and Whiting	190
Herring	846
Mackerel	242
Shrimps	164
Industrial species, of which a maximum of 400 tonnes of horse mackerel	800
Other species:	At a traditional level

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By-catches of Cod, Saithe, Haddock, Pollack and Whiting shall be counted against the quotas for these species.

2.2. Licences

The Norwegian Delegation informed the Community Delegation, on behalf of Sweden, that the licences for Swedish vessels in 2007 will be issued on the same basis as previously, in line with established practice.

Regarding mackerel licences, applications shall be forwarded no later than 31 July 2007 and will be processed and issued before the mackerel fishery is opened in the Norwegian Economic Zone.

The two Delegations agreed that licences issued for fishing under this arrangement in the Norwegian Economic Zone may only be used by vessels flying the flag of Sweden.

Brussels, 1 December 2006.

For the Community Delegation,
on behalf of Sweden



Constantin ALEXANDROU

For the Norwegian Delegation



Petter MEIER