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NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Council
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Subject:	COUNCIL REGULATION amending Regulation (EU) 2023/194 of 30 January 2023 fixing for 2023 the fishing opportunities for certain fish stocks, applicable in Union waters, for Union fishing vessels, in certain non-Union waters, as well as fixing for 2023 and 2024 such fishing opportunities for certain deep-sea fish stocks (1 st amendment)
	- Statements

Delegations will find attached a joint statement on the above-mentioned subject.

JOINT STATEMENT
BY IRELAND, FRANCE, PORTUGAL AND SPAIN
on exchange of fishing opportunities for certain stocks under ICCAT

Under several ICCAT recommendations, the Union may, upon request, carry over a percentage of its unused quota of certain stocks under ICCAT: Northern albacore (*Thunnus alalunga*) (ALB/AN05N), for Southern albacore (ALB/AS05N), for Bigeye tuna (*Thunnus obesus*) in the Atlantic Ocean (BET/ATLANT), as well as for swordfish (*Xiphias gladius*) in the Atlantic Ocean, north of 5° N (SWO/AN05N) and for swordfish in the Atlantic Ocean, south of 5° N (SWO/AS05N). It is in the interest of the Union to ensure that the EU Member States can use, before respective fishing seasons start, the Union quotas for ICCAT stocks as provided for by ICCAT for year 2023, including any carry-over or deductions.

Ireland, France, Portugal and Spain acknowledge that their respective individual quotas for those stocks should take into account of whether the Member State concerned under-fished or overfished the particular stock in 2021. To this end, they undertake to, after notifying the Commission pursuant to Article 16(8) of the Common Fisheries Policy Regulation, exchange part of the fishing opportunities allocated to them for those ICCAT stocks to ensure that fishing opportunities in 2023 correspond to what their individual quotas are upon taking into account their under-fishing or overfishing in 2021. The exchanges will take place as follows:

South Swordfish	
Member State	Swaps
Spain	-32,36
Portugal	32,36

North Swordfish	
Member State	Swaps
Spain	129,23
Portugal	-125,74
Other	-3,49

Northern Albacore	
Member State	Swaps
Ireland	-70,60
Spain	-549,51
France	232,27
Portugal	387,84

Bigeye tuna	
Member State	Swaps
Spain	74,24
France	208,14
Portugal	-282,38
