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COVER NOTE

From:	Secretary-General of the European Commission, signed by Ms Martine DEPREZ, Director
date of receipt:	4 September 2026
To:	Ms Thérèse BLANCHET, Secretary-General of the Council of the European Union

No. Cion doc.:	C(2026) 6205 annex
Subject:	ANNEX to COMMISSION DELEGATED REGULATION (EU) .../.... amending Regulation (EU) 2019/1241 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards measures to reduce incidental catches of common dolphin (<i>Delphinus delphis</i>) and other small cetaceans in the Bay of Biscay

Delegations will find attached document C(2026) 6205 annex.

Encl.: C(2026) 6205 annex



EUROPEAN
COMMISSION

Brussels, 4.9.2026
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ANNEX

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to

COMMISSION DELEGATED REGULATION (EU) .../....

amending Regulation (EU) 2019/1241 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards measures to reduce incidental catches of common dolphin (*Delphinus delphis*) and other small cetaceans in the Bay of Biscay

ANNEX

Part A of Annex XIII is amended as follows:

- (1) in point 1.1(b), the entry for ICES subarea 8 is replaced by the following:

‘Area	Gear
ICES Subarea 8	Mid-water pelagic trawls (OTM, PTM, TM) and bottom pair trawls (PTB)(**)

(**) This measure shall apply until 31 December 2027.’

- (2) point 4 is replaced by the following:

‘4. Special measures in the Bay of Biscay (ICES Subarea 8)

4.1 Fishing closure:

Fishing shall be prohibited in French waters up to the outer limit of the exclusive economic zone of France within ICES Subarea 8 during a period of 30 consecutive days between 15 January and 27 February for vessels above 8 metres carrying on board pelagic trawls (PTM, OTM), bottom pair trawls (PTB), purse seine nets (PS), set (anchored) gillnets (GNS), trammel nets (GTR) or combined gillnets and trammel nets (GTN). The masters of the fishing vessels concerned shall notify to the competent authorities no later than 8 January 2027 the 30 consecutive days during which they will be subject to that closure period. In the absence of that notification, the fishing vessels concerned shall be subject to that closure period from 22 January to 20 February 2027.

4.2 Monitoring measures:

4.2.1 The measures set out in points 4.2.2 to 4.2.5 shall apply until 31 December 2027.

4.2.2 Masters of all Union fishing vessels shall record separately in the fishing logbook incidental catches of common dolphins and other small cetaceans (*), in accordance with Article 14(8) of Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009;

4.2.3 Member States shall collect data on catches of common dolphins and other small cetaceans through on-board observers or electronic monitoring systems incorporating cameras, by covering:

- at least 1 % of the total fishing effort measured in number of days at sea for pelagic trawls (PTM), bottom pair trawls (PTB), midwater otter trawls (OTM),

trammel nets (GTR), set (anchored) gillnets (GNS) and purse seine (PS) fishing all year long,

- at least 5 % of the total fishing effort measured in number of days at sea for pelagic pair trawls (PTM), bottom pair trawls (PTB) and midwater otter trawls (OTM) fishing from January to March 2027, and
- at least 7 % of the total fishing effort measured in number of days at sea for trammel nets (GTR) and set (anchored) gillnets (GNS) from January to March 2027.

4.2.4. Masters of Union vessels may equip their vessels with electronic monitoring systems incorporating cameras.

4.2.5 The Member States concerned shall review and assess all available and most recent data and information on incidental catches of common dolphin in waters of the Bay of Biscay of ICES subarea 8 with a view to a possible adjustment of the fishing closure referred to in point 4.1.

(*) Species of the family *Delphinidae* and the family *Phocoenidae* that are present (permanently or temporally) in ICES subarea 8’.