



Council of the
European Union

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NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Delegations
Subject:	Fishing opportunities 2022: Fish stocks shared with the UK
	• Information from the Presidency

Delegations will find attached a note from the Presidency on the abovementioned subject, to be discussed under “Any other business” at the session of the Council (Agriculture and Fisheries) on 15 November 2021.

EU-UK fisheries consultations for 2022

Information note from the Presidency

1. As stipulated in the Trade and Cooperation Agreement (Article 498), the European Union and the United Kingdom are to hold annual consultations to determine the total allowed catch limit for each fish species and their respective fishing rights for approximately 100 fish stocks which are considered as a shared resource in the Atlantic and North Sea.
2. The EU position for the consultations with the UK on fish stocks is determined in three stages. The first one is a Council Decision, under Art. 218 TFEU, which creates the framework of general principles and orientations for the annual consultations in the coming five years. Following discussion in the WP on fisheries, the WP on UK and Coreper, the Council Decision was adopted by written procedure on 22 October 2021 (ST 12596/21).
3. The second stage is a more detailed position specifying the elements relevant for each annual consultation with concrete TACs and quotas for species under shared management. The Commission transmitted to the Council on 18 October a non-paper with the proposed detailed position on TACs and quotas for the year 2022 covering the bilateral EU-UK, EU-Norway and the trilateral EU-UK-Norway. Following discussions in the WP on fisheries, the EU position for the EU-UK consultation was endorsed by written consultation on 9 November (ST 13511/1/21 REV 1).
4. The EU-UK consultations started on 11 November with the aim to finalise them as soon as possible, at the latest by 1 December. Several rounds of consultation are planned, as well as several coordination meetings with delegations (the first one took place on 10 November).
5. Reaching an agreement with UK by the beginning of December would give time for the Council to examine and approve the draft Written Record before it is formally signed by the Commission and the UK, marking the third and final stage in the process. According to the TCA, the parties should seek to sign the Written Record by 10 December.
6. The outcome of the consultation EU-UK will then be fed into the Fishing Opportunities Regulation for 2022. This Regulation will also fix the TACs and quotas for the stocks managed only by the EU, which will be subject to discussion and political agreement at the Agriculture and Fisheries Council on 13 and 14 December.