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European Union

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'I/A' ITEM NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee/Council
Subject:	Proposal for a COUNCIL REGULATION fixing the fishing opportunities for certain fish stocks and groups of fish stocks applicable in the Baltic Sea for 2024 and amending Regulation (EU) 2023/194 as regards certain fishing opportunities in other waters - Adoption

1. The Commission submitted the proposal to the Council on 28 August 2023¹. It submitted non-papers on 19 September containing updates to the proposal regarding Gulf of Bothnia herring, western and central Baltic herring, eastern and western Baltic cod, as well as plaice and sprat²; on 17 October to introduce an inter-area flexibility for haddock from the North Sea to EU waters of the Skagerrak/Kattegat³; and on 20 October containing updates to the proposal regarding the Norway pout TAC⁴.
2. The Working Party on Fisheries Policy examined the proposal at its meetings on 7 and 21 September, as well as on 5 and 19 October 2023. Delegations' written comments can be consulted in docs. 13056/23 + ADD 1-4.
3. On 20 October 2023, the Permanent Representatives Committee prepared the item by addressing the outstanding issues with a view to finding a political agreement in Council.

¹ Doc. 12451/23 + ADD 1.

² Doc. 12996/23.

³ Doc. 14189/23.

⁴ Doc. 14254/23.

4. The Agriculture and Fisheries Council reached a political agreement⁵ at its session on 23-24 October 2023.
5. In light of the above, it is suggested that Permanent Representatives Committee invites the Council, at one of its forthcoming sessions, to adopt the Regulation as finalised by the legal-linguistic experts and set out in doc. ST 14771/23 and to take note of the statements set out in doc. 14816/23.

⁵ Doc. 14499/1/23 REV 1