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**NOTE**

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Delegations
No. prev. doc.:	14270/23 + ADD 1-2
Subject:	Proposal for a COUNCIL REGULATION fixing for 2024, 2025 and 2026 the fishing opportunities for certain fish stocks, applicable in Union waters and, for Union fishing vessels, in certain non-Union waters, and amending Regulation (EU) 2023/194 as regards deep-sea stocks (COM(2023)587) - Commission services non-paper

Delegations will find attached a non paper as received from the Commission services.

# COMMISSION SERVICES NON-PAPER

27 NOVEMBER 2023

*This document serves as a basis for discussion at the Working Party on Fisheries Policy.*

*It cannot in any circumstances be regarded as the official position of the Commission.*

*It is intended solely for those to whom it is addressed.*

**Updates to Commission proposal for a Council Regulation fixing for 2024, 2025 and 2026 the fishing opportunities for certain fish stocks, applicable in Union waters and, for Union fishing vessels, in certain non-Union waters, and amending Regulation (EU) 2023/194 as regards deep-sea stocks [COM(2023) 587]**

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## 1. AMENDMENTS IN RELATION TO EU QUOTAS FOR AUTONOMOUS EU STOCKS

### EXPLANATORY NOTE

Pending the entry into force of the delegated regulations specifying details of the implementation of the landing obligation for certain fisheries in the period from 2024 to 2027, EU and Member States quotas for autonomous EU stocks were marked as 'pm' (*pro memoria*) in the Commission proposal.

Following the entry into force of those delegated regulations<sup>1</sup>, on 7 and 22 November 2023, it is proposed to set EU quotas for those autonomous EU stocks, taking into account: (i) the total allowable catches (TACs) proposed for 2024, and where relevant for 2025 and 2026; and (ii) the relevant landing obligation exemption deductions. The EU quotas for those stocks should be allocated among the Member States in accordance with the principle of relative stability.

Those landing obligation exemption deductions were calculated by the Commission services as follows. First, they are based on Fisheries Dependent Information (FDI) data submitted by Member States in response to a Data Collection Framework (DCF)<sup>2</sup> data call<sup>3</sup> and a subsequent analysis of that data, including in relation to the exemptions from the landing obligation by a Scientific, Technical and Economic Committee for Fisheries (STECF) Expert Working Group (EWG)<sup>4</sup>, as reviewed by the STECF. The FDI data includes data on landings and discards in 2022, which is the most recent data available. Second, the calculations took into account: (i) the contribution to total catches of the fleet segment subject to the exemption to the landing obligation; (ii) for *de minimis* exemptions, the corresponding *de minimis* percentage of the exemption for that fleet segment; and (iii) for survivability exemptions, the discard rate and the species survival rate (the latter based on scientific evidence<sup>5</sup>). Third, where FDI data was not of sufficient quality, ICES data was, if possible, used in lieu of the FDI data. Fourth, if data of sufficient quality was unavailable altogether, the deduction applied for 2023 was rolled over.

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<sup>1</sup> Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2023/2459 of 22 August 2023 supplementing Regulation (EU) 2018/973 of the European Parliament and of the Council by specifying details of the landing obligation for certain fisheries in the North Sea for the period 2024-2027 (OJ L, 2023/2459, 06.11.2023).

Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2023/2623 of 22 August 2023 supplementing Regulation (EU) 2019/472 of the European Parliament and of the Council by specifying details of the landing obligation for certain fisheries in Western Waters for the period 2024-2027 (OJ L, 2023/2623, 22.11.2023).

<sup>2</sup> Regulation (EU) 2017/1004 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 May 2017 on the establishment of a Union framework for the collection, management and use of data in the fisheries sector and support for scientific advice regarding the common fisheries policy and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 199/2008 (recast) (OJ L 157, 20.6.2017, p. 1).

<sup>3</sup> <https://datacollection.jrc.ec.europa.eu/documents/d/dcf/fdi-datacall-letter-2023>

<sup>4</sup> <https://stecf.jrc.ec.europa.eu/ewg2310>

<sup>5</sup> Including scientific evidence referred to in the evaluation by the STECF of the landing obligation exemptions proposed by the Member States Regional Groups in their joint recommendations and respective supporting information.

## AMENDMENTS TO THE ANNEXES

In Annex IA, Part A, Tables 4 to 7, 9, 11 to 12, and 14 to 24 are replaced by the following:

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Table 4			
Species:	Megrim	Zone:	8c, 9 and 10; Union waters of CECAF 34.1.1
	<i>Lepidorhombus spp.</i>		(LEZ/8C3411)
Spain	3 210	Analytical TAC	
France	160	Article 7(2) of this Regulation applies	
Portugal	107		
Union	3 477		
TAC	3 622		

Table 5			
Species:	Anglerfishes	Zone:	8c, 9 and 10; Union waters of CECAF 34.1.1
	<i>Lophiidae</i>		(ANF/8C3411)
Spain	3 715	Analytical TAC	
France	4	Article 7(2) of this Regulation applies	
Portugal	739		
Union	4 458		
TAC	4 650		

Table 6			
Species:	Whiting	Zone:	8
	<i>Merlangius merlangus</i>		(WHG/08.)
<b>Year</b>	<b>Each 2024 and 2025</b>		
Spain	535	Analytical TAC	
France	802		
Union	1 337		
TAC	1 347		

Table 7			
Species:	Hake	Zone:	8c, 9 and 10; Union waters of CECAF 34.1.1
	<i>Merluccius merluccius</i>		(HKE/8C3411)

Spain	10 921	Analytical TAC
France	1 048	Article 7(2) of this Regulation applies
Portugal	5 096	
Union	17 065	
TAC	17 445	

**Table 9**

Species:	Norway lobster <i>Nephrops norvegicus</i>	Zone:	8a, 8b, 8d and 8e (NEP/8ABDE.)
Spain	239	Analytical TAC	
France	3 738		
Union	3 977		
TAC	5 786		

**Table 11**

Species:	Norway lobster <i>Nephrops norvegicus</i>	Zone:	8c, functional unit 31 (NEP/8CU31)
Spain	12,40	Analytical TAC	
France	0,00		
Union	12,40		
TAC	12,40		

**Table 12**

Species:	Norway lobster <i>Nephrops norvegicus</i>	Zone:	9 and 10; Union waters of CECAF 34.1.1 (NEP/9/3411)
Spain	60 <sup>(1)</sup>	Precautionary TAC	
Portugal	179 <sup>(1)</sup>		
Union	239 <sup>(1)(2)</sup>		
TAC	239 <sup>(1)(2)</sup>		

<sup>(1)</sup> Shall not be taken in functional units 26 and 27 of division 9a.

<sup>(2)</sup> Within the limit of this quota, no more than the following amount may be taken in functional unit 30 of division 9a (NEP/\*9U30):

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**Table 14**

Species:	Plaice <i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>	Zone:	Kattegat (PLE/03AS.)
Denmark	1 116	Analytical TAC	
Germany	13	Article 7(2) of this Regulation applies	

Sweden	126
Union	1 255
TAC	2 349

**Table 15**

Species:	Plaice <i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>	Zone:	7b and 7c (PLE/7BC.)
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<b>Year</b>	<b>Each 2024, 2025 and 2026</b>	
France	3	Precautionary TAC
Ireland	12	
Union	15	
TAC	15	

**Table 16**

Species:	Plaice <i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>	Zone:	8, 9 and 10; Union waters of CECAF 34.1.1 (PLE/8/3411)
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<b>Year</b>	<b>Each 2024 and 2025</b>	
Spain	21	Precautionary TAC
France	82	
Portugal	21	
Union	124	
TAC	124	

**Table 17**

Species:	Pollack <i>Pollachius pollachius</i>	Zone:	8a, 8b, 8d and 8e (POL/8ABDE.)
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<b>Year</b>	<b>Each 2024 and 2025</b>	
Spain	119	Analytical TAC
France	579	
Union	698	
TAC	698	

**Table 18**

Species:	Pollack <i>Pollachius pollachius</i>	Zone:	8c (POL/08C.)
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<b>Year</b>	<b>Each 2024 and 2025</b>	
Spain	70	Analytical TAC
France	8	
Union	78	

TAC	78
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**Table 19**

Species:	Pollack <i>Pollachius pollachius</i>	Zone:	9 and 10; Union waters of CECAF 34.1.1 (POL/9/3411)
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Year	Each 2024 and 2025		
Spain	93	(1)	Analytical TAC
Portugal	3	(1)(2)	
Union	96	(1)	
TAC	96	(2)	

- (1) Special condition: of which up to 5% may be fished in 8c (POL/\*08C.).
- (2) In addition to this TAC, Portugal may fish quantities of pollack not exceeding 98 tonnes (POL/93411P).

**Table 20**

Species:	Common sole <i>Solea solea</i>	Zone:	3a; Union waters of subdivisions 22-24 (SOL/3ABC24)
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Denmark	102		Analytical TAC
Germany	6	(1)	
Netherlands	10	(1)	
Sweden	4		
Union	122		
TAC	123		

- (1) This quota may only be fished in Union waters of 3a and of subdivisions 22-24.

**Table 21**

Species:	Common sole <i>Solea solea</i>	Zone:	7b and 7c (SOL/7BC.)
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Year	Each 2024, 2025 and 2026		
France	3		Precautionary TAC
Ireland	12		
Union	15		
TAC	15		

**Table 22**

Species:	Common sole <i>Solea solea</i>	Zone:	8a and 8b (SOL/8AB.)
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Belgium	30		Analytical TAC
Spain	5		
France	2 227		

Netherlands	167
Union	2 429
TAC	2 489

**Table 23**

Species:	Sole	Zone:	8c, 8d, 8e, 9 and 10; Union waters of CECAF 34.1.1 (SOO/8CDE34)
	<i>Solea spp.</i>		

<b>Year</b>	<b>Each 2024 and 2025</b>	
Spain	164	Precautionary TAC
Portugal	271	
Union	435 <sup>(1)</sup>	
TAC	435 <sup>(1)</sup>	

<sup>(1)</sup> Within the limits of these quotas, no more than the following quantity of common sole (*Solea solea*) shall be taken (SOL/8CDE34):

209

**Table 24**

Species:	Horse mackerel	Zone:	9
	<i>Trachurus spp.</i>		(JAX/09.)

Spain	40 838 <sup>(1)</sup>	Analytical TAC
Portugal	117 010 <sup>(1)</sup>	Article 7(2) of this Regulation applies
Union	157 848	
TAC	173 873	

<sup>(1)</sup> Special condition: up to 0% of this quota may be fished in 8c (JAX/\*08C.).

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