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From: General Secretariat of the Council

To: Delegations

Subject: Signed Agreed Record of Conclusions of Fisheries Consultations between Norway and the European Union on the Regulation of Fisheries in Skagerrak and Kattegat for 2024

DOCUMENT PARTIALLY ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC (11.12.2023)

Delegations will find attached the signed version of the abovementioned document, as received from the European Commission services.

**AGREED RECORD OF CONCLUSIONS OF FISHERIES CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN
NORWAY AND THE EUROPEAN UNION ON THE REGULATION OF FISHERIES IN
SKAGERRAK AND KATTEGAT FOR 2024**

8 DECEMBER 2023

- 1 A Norwegian Delegation, headed by Ms. Ann Kristin WESTBERG, and a European Union Delegation, headed by Mr. Thomas BRÉGEON, met in Oslo from 30th to 31st October and from 27th to 30th November and by means of video-conference on 7th and 8th December to consult on mutual fisheries relations for 2024.
- 2 The Delegations recalled the Agreed Record of Fisheries Consultations between United Kingdom, Norway and the European Union signed on 8 December 2023.
- 3 The Heads of Delegations agreed to recommend to their respective authorities the arrangements for the regulation of fisheries in Skagerrak in 2024, outlined in this Agreed Record, including Annexes I to VII.
- 4 The Delegations reiterated their determination to cooperate, in their mutual interest, in securing continued responsible fisheries and ensuring the long-term conservation and sustainable exploitation of the marine living resources for which they are responsible.
- 5 **Discard ban and landing obligation in the Skagerrak**
 - 5.1 The Delegations acknowledged that although both Parties now have introduced legislation that prohibits most forms of discarding of fish, discards still remain a serious problem and might have contributed to the current poor condition of some stocks. The Delegations agreed to work towards improving the exploitation pattern and reduce the unwanted catches and the discards through the use of technical measures to improve the selectivity of fishing gear, closed seasons and areas, as well as any other appropriate measures.
 - 5.2 The EU Delegation emphasised the usefulness of harmonised technical measures, noting that the aim of such measures should be to have compatibility of fishing gear, leading to the best possible selectivity achieved by the best possible means. Furthermore, the EU Delegation noted that harmonised rules provide legal certainty regarding compliance issues in cross border fishing.
 - 5.3 The Norwegian Delegation pointed out that most regulations related to gear and other technical measures in Skagerrak, are, as far as possible already harmonised. The Norwegian Delegation also stressed that harmonisation as such does not create adequate legal certainty or resolve issues related the inability to control and enforce possible infringements of Norwegian legislation that take place during cross border fishing hauls. The Norwegian Delegation further referred to its statements under paragraphs 18.4-18.6.

- 5.4 In the light of the de minimis and high survivability exemptions contained in the EU landing obligation, the EU Delegation informed the Norwegian Delegation of its intention in 2024 to continue to adjust from the EU quotas the estimated amounts of the discards.

6 Management, including Monitoring, Control and Surveillance

- 6.1 The Delegations noted that the Monitoring, Control and Surveillance Working Group for joint stocks in the North Sea is covered by the Agreed Record of Conclusions of Fisheries Consultations between Norway, the European Union and the United Kingdom for 2024. The Delegations agreed to further cooperate to enhance control, monitoring and surveillance activities in Skagerrak through this working group during 2024.
- 6.2 The Delegations recognised that there is a need to further strengthen cooperation and contact between the control services, both on strategic and operational level, in order to increase the effectiveness of the control.

7 Licencing

- 7.1 The Norwegian Delegation referred to the *Agreed Record of Fisheries Consultations between Norway and the European Union on an electronic licensing scheme for fishing vessels* signed 15 May 2013 and highlighted the necessity of continuously revision and sharing of updated information to the other party in real time, as described in that Agreed Record.
- 7.2 The Delegations referred to the ongoing work between the Parties in updating and modernising the existing systems and emphasised the importance of finalising this work as soon as possible.

8 Reciprocal access agreement for Skagerrak

- 8.1 The Delegations referred to the Agreement of 15 January 2015 between the Kingdom of Norway and the European Union on Reciprocal Access to Fishing in the Skagerrak for Vessels Flying the Flag of Denmark, Norway and Sweden.
- 8.2 The Delegations agreed to continue the practice of establishing a separate Agreed Record, on an annual basis, for the regulation of fisheries in the Skagerrak.

9 Total allowable catches and quotas

- 9.1 The Delegations agreed that the system of inter-annual quota flexibility should cover plaice, haddock, saithe and herring for 2024. The Delegations noted that the regimes for inter-annual quota flexibility are set out in Annex II.
- 9.2 The Delegations agreed that vessels should have adequate quota or fishing possibilities to cover expected catch composition when fishing in Skagerrak.

10 Cod

- 10.1 The Delegations noted that the Northern Shelf cod advice from ICES establishes a new stock definition merging West of Scotland cod with North Sea and Skagerrak cod forming a single assessment unit with three sub-stocks: northwestern, Viking, and

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southern.

- 10.2 The Delegations referred to paragraph 15.2 of the Agreed Record of fisheries consultations between the EU, the UK and Norway for 2024, signed 8 December 2023, and decision by the Parties to seek to devise a methodology that better aligns ICES sub-stock-based advice with effective TAC area management. The Delegations also agreed that ahead of that longer-term work being concluded, it was important to put in place an interim set of arrangements for the 2024 TAC year.
- 10.3 As part of those interim arrangements for 2024, the Delegations agreed that the TAC for 2024 should be 3,559 tonnes in Skagerrak.
- 10.4 The Delegations agreed that in addition to the TAC level as referred to in paragraph 10.3, joint additional measures aimed at the protection of juvenile and adult cod introduced in 2020 should continue in order to restore the Northern shelf cod stock by reducing unwanted catches and discard and lower fishing pressure.
- 10.5 The European Union Delegation informed the Norwegian Delegation of its intention to continue to apply additional management and control measures aimed at the protection of juvenile and adult cod introduced in 2020.
- 10.6 The Delegations therefore agreed to continue the seasonal closures for the protection of spawning aggregations. The coordinates and timing of such closures are specified in Annex V. The Delegations agreed to prohibit fishing with all gears in these areas with the exception of pelagic trawls and purse seine.
- 10.7 Moreover, the Delegations recalled the report of the Working Group on technical measures of January 2020 and agreed that this report remains a useful basis for cooperation with the view to improve the utilisation of the cod stock.

11 Haddock

- 11.1 The Delegations agreed that the TAC for haddock for 2024 should be no more than 6,233 tonnes.

12 Pandalus

- 12.1 The Delegations recalled the Agreed Record of Fisheries Consultations (about *Pandalus Borealis*) of 29 June 2023 between the European Union and Norway. They further recalled that they had agreed to revise the Long Term Management Strategy (LTMS) as advised by ICES, and to move from a two-step TAC setting approach to a single year TAC running from 1 July to 30 June. The new, temporary Long-Term Management Strategy is attached in Annex III of this Agreed Record.
- 12.2 The Delegations noted that the banking and borrowing aspect of the request to ICES required further methodology development and would be conducted by ICES in the third quarter of 2023. ICES has now completed this evaluation and the Delegations agreed to finalise the revision of the LTMS referred to in Annex III as soon as possible.
- 12.3 The Delegations further recalled that they had agreed to establish a TAC of 6,076 tonnes for the period 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024, and subsequently a TAC of 4,253 tonnes for Skagerrak for that period. They also recalled that Norway had fixed a quota for *Pandalus* for Division 4a East of 1,823 tonnes.

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- 12.4 The Delegations agreed to meet as soon as possible after ICES has issued its advice and decide on a TAC for the 2024/25 fishing season.
- 12.5 The Delegations also agreed to meet in early 2024 to consult on various management aspects with respect to the Pandalus fishery, including elements of the new LTMS.
- 12.6 The EU Delegation expressed the view that that meeting should also serve to discuss disruptions caused by changed rules for the cross-border fishery in the Skagerrak.

13 Herring

- 13.1 The Delegations referred to paragraph 17.1 and 17.2 of the Agreed Record of fisheries consultations between the EU, the UK and Norway for 2024. They recalled that they had, together with the UK, discussed various potential revisions to the current management regime with the aim of achieving a sustainable and simplified management model. They agreed that the management of NSAS herring should be based on a single TAC, but that further work would be needed before this can be implemented in practice.
- 13.2 The Delegations recalled that EU and Norway in 2014 had agreed on a TAC-setting method for North Sea herring C fleet catches in Skagerrak, which since 2019 is no longer deemed by ICES to be sustainable due to the biological status of the Western Baltic Spring Spawning (WBSS) herring. The method is as follows: 5.7% of the A fleet TAC plus 41% of the WBSS herring advice. When the ICES advice for WBSS herring from 2019 onwards was zero, the Parties used, as an ad hoc approach, the non-zero TAC established by EU, to calculate the TAC for herring in Skagerrak. In addition, the Parties used spatial measures (inter-area flexibility) to reduce the fishing mortality in the Skagerrak to protect WBSS herring.
- 13.3 The Delegations noted the decision by the European Union to establish a TAC for 2024 of 788 tonnes for WBSS herring in Subareas 22-24 exclusively used for bycatch in the Baltic Sea.
- 13.4 In the absence of an agreed, alternative method, the Delegations decided to apply this TAC when calculating the WBSS herring proportion of the TAC for herring in Skagerrak and Kattegat.
- 13.5 The Delegations agreed to establish a TAC of 29,735 tonnes in the Skagerrak and Kattegat for 2024. This is an increase of 27,9% compared to 2023.
- 13.6 The Delegations concluded that the by-catches of herring taken in industrial and sprat fisheries would be limited to 6,659 tonnes in 2024. This represents a rollover compared to the 2023 level.
- 13.7 The Delegations noted their intentions to reduce their fishing activities on NSAS herring in the Skagerrak-Kattegat to reduce the fishing mortality of WBSS herring, when WBSS herring is subject to a bycatch TAC. The Delegations furthermore agreed that for the quotas established for Skagerrak and Kattegat, Norway and the European Union would be able to fish up to 100% of their quotas in the North Sea, subject to any access restrictions.
- 13.8 The EU Delegation noted its intention to set a level of actual catches of herring in the

Skagerrak and Kattegat of no more than 969 tonnes.

- 13.9 The Norwegian Delegation stated that at least 90% of their herring quota for Skagerrak would be transferred to the North Sea.
- 13.10 The Norwegian Delegation indicated that it would also consider taking spatial or seasonal measures in Norwegian waters where NSAS herring and WBSS herring intermix, without impacting the fishing mortality of NSAS herring.

14 Plaice

- 14.1 The Delegations noted that the ICES advice now encompasses both the North Sea and Skagerrak and recalled that they in 2016 had agreed to apply 11.8% as share for Skagerrak of the overall TAC.
- 14.2 The Delegations noted that according to the ICES MSY approach catches of plaice in Subarea 4 and Subdivision 20 in 2024 should be no more than 154,663 tonnes. This represents an increase of 3.1% in the projected catches of plaice in Subarea 4 and Subdivision 20 compared to 2023.
- 14.3 The Delegations agreed to establish a TAC for plaice in ICES Subarea 4 (North Sea) and Subdivision 20 (Skagerrak) in 2024 at 154,663 tonnes. This is an increase of 2,6% compared to 2023.
- 14.4 The Delegations agreed to apply the scheme described in paragraph 14.1 and for 2024 establish a TAC of 18,250 tonnes in Skagerrak (Subdivision 20).

15 Sprat

- 15.1 The Delegations noted that the ICES advice for Sprat now encompasses both the North Sea and Skagerrak, and recalled that they on 12 June 2020 had agreed to apply 18.3% as share for Skagerrak and Kattegat of the overall TAC (Agreed Record of Fisheries Consultations between the European Union and Norway for sprat for the period from 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021).
- 15.2 The Delegations recalled that ICES, based on its MSY approach, advised that total catches in July 2023 – June 2024 should be no more than 143,598 tonnes. The Delegations also recalled that, based on this advice, on 16 May 2023 Norway, EU and UK had agreed to establish a TAC of 143,598 tonnes. Applying the agreed ratio, the TAC for Skagerrak and Kattegat for the period 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024 was set to 26,278 tonnes.
- 15.3 The Delegations agreed to meet in May 2024 to consider the TAC for 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025.

16 Whiting

- 16.1 The Delegations agreed to establish a TAC of 676 tonnes in 2024 for the Skagerrak and Kattegat, in accordance with the two-year ICES advice issued in 2022.
- 16.2 The EU Delegation would propose to meet in 2024 to revise this TAC in case it leads to choke issues in other fisheries where whiting is caught as a bycatch.

17 "Others" quota

- 17.1 The Norwegian Delegation informed the EU Delegation that Norway would set an "others" quota of 2,000 tonnes for the EU vessels fishing in the Norwegian zone. Norway also informed the EU Delegation that Norwegian vessels catch of "others" species in the EU zone, will be restricted to 2,000 tonnes. Jointly managed stocks (cod, haddock, whiting, saithe, plaice, Pandalus, herring and sprat) as well as blue whiting, Norway pout, sandeel, mackerel and horse mackerel are not to be counted against the "others" quotas.
- 17.2 The EU Delegation was not yet in a position to set an "others" quota for Norwegian vessels in the EU zone, and therefore only require that all vessels continue to report the catches taken in each Party's waters.

18 Technical measures

- 18.1 The Delegations referred to the Agreed Record of Fisheries Consultations between the European Union and Norway on Technical Measures in Skagerrak, signed in Gothenburg 6 September 2018, and in particular to Annex I in that Agreed Record related to a joint Real Time Closure scheme for Pandalus in Skagerrak.
- 18.2 The European Union Delegation informed the Norwegian Delegation that the Regulation (EU) 2019/2201 on certain rules for the implementation of real-time closures for Northern prawn fisheries in the Skagerrak has been amended on 15 September 2021 through Regulation (EU) 2021/1473. For the sake of legal certainty, 'juveniles of Northern Prawn' is now used throughout the text for the same concept instead of any synonym thereof. Other amendments include a catch trigger level based on number compared to the overall number in a sample and a minimum sample size of 1 kilogram by weight or 2 litres by volume, in line with the Agreed Record of the Consultations between the European Union and Norway of 6 September 2018 on technical measures in the Skagerrak.
- 18.3 The Delegations noted that since 2004, fishing with beam-trawls in an area inside 12 nautical miles from the coast between Hirtshals Lighthouse to Hanstholm has been prohibited for fishing vessels whose engine power exceeds 221 kW. The European Union delegation informed the Norwegian Delegation that this measure is currently established in Regulation (EU) 2019/1241 on Technical Measures.
- 18.4 The Norwegian Delegation reminded the EU Delegation that cross-border fishing in Skagerrak, and issues related to weak control and enforcement in this area, has been subject for discussion between Norway and the EU over the course of several years, as well as in a joint technical working group in 2015 that resulted in a report on cross border fishing in Skagerrak. It was also recalled that since March 2022 and until present day, Norway's intention to enhance control and enforcement in the Norwegian Exclusive Economic Zone in Skagerrak had been discussed in no less than nine meetings, at political and administrative or technical level. Despite all these efforts, no technical solution that ensures adequate control and enforcement in Norwegian jurisdiction, while maintaining the current practice of cross-border fishing, has been identified. The Norwegian Delegation recalled its announcement of November 2022, during last year's bilateral consultations, that cross-border fishing will no longer be allowed when entering or exiting areas under Norwegian jurisdiction in Skagerrak from 1 January 2024. As of this date, and as a first step in the implementation of this

prohibition, EU vessels *above* 12 meters will be required to haul the gear before entering or exiting the Norwegian Exclusive Economic Zone in Skagerrak. Masters of fishing vessels above 12 meters shall also send Catch on Entry (COE) and Catch on Exit (COX) reports before entering or exiting the Norwegian Exclusive Economic Zone in Skagerrak. The deadline for the reporting requirements is removed for vessels operating in Skagerrak, which entails that vessels flying the flag of Denmark and Sweden need to send the COE reports prior to entering Norwegian waters. Fishing activities can commence after the master of the vessel has received a return message with the status ACK (acknowledged) in the electronic reporting system.

- 18.5 The Norwegian Delegation informed the EU Delegation that a general ban on cross-border fishing that include all vessels of any size will be sent on public consultation the first quarter of 2024, with the aim of this prohibition to enter into force 1 January 2025.
- 18.6 The Norwegian Delegation emphasised that the prohibition on cross-border fishing activities will not alter the access arrangement as it is stipulated in the Agreement between the European Union and the Kingdom of Norway on reciprocal access to fishing in the Skagerrak for vessels flying the flag of Denmark, Norway and Sweden of 24 October 2013, where Danish, Norwegian and Swedish vessels are granted reciprocal access to fishing in Skagerrak, and furthermore that it does not hampers harmonisation of technical measures in Skagerrak.
- 18.7 The EU Delegation regretted the unilateral decision by Norway and referred to their statement in paragraph 18.5 of the Agreed Record of fisheries consultations between the EU and Norway for the Skagerrak for 2023, where it called on Norway not to adopt any measures negatively affecting traditional fisheries in the Skagerrak until both Parties agree on common arrangements for the cross border fishery. The EU referred to a meeting organised on 1st November 2023 in Oslo, where the EU explained that the intended measure, insofar introduced without prior, formal consultation of the EU, deviates from the modus operandus for solving similar management issues in the Skagerrak. The EU Delegation also explained that it had proposed the establishment of a joint technical working group to report on possible solutions to the issues raised by Norway. While Parties have the regulatory autonomy to decide on measures in their waters, article 3 of the 2014 Skagerrak Agreement between the EU and Norway provides that they “shall cooperate in order to establish, insofar as possible, harmonised rules and regulations in respect of fishing in the Skagerrak”. The ban on cross border fishery undermines the incentive for harmonisation of technical rules in the Skagerrak, such as a joint Atlantic halibut closure period. By doing so, it risks undermining the sustainable management in the Skagerrak area as a whole. The EU Delegation noted that a ban on cross-border fishing would, in their view, likely not solve the technical control issues raised by Norway and furthermore have severe and disproportionate impacts on traditional fisheries in the Skagerrak. The EU will analyse the effects of the Norwegian measures in the Skagerrak, and reiterated its readiness to engage in consultations on alternatives to the measures.
- 18.8 The EU Delegation recalled the importance of working towards the harmonisation of technical measures in the Skagerrak. The EU Delegation informed Norway that an EU-wide seasonal closure for Atlantic halibut in the Skagerrak is in the process of being introduced in EU legislation in order to solve previous challenges to enforce illegal catches of halibut in the cross-border fishery in the Skagerrak. The EU noted that, despite the prospect of a joint halibut closure period, Norway decided to

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unilaterally close the cross-border fishery.

18.9 The Norwegian Delegation reiterated that Norway has had a prohibition on the fishing of halibut during the spawning season (20 December-31 March) for more than 50 years. This management measure is in itself a suitable measure that protects the stock in a vulnerable period of the year. This measure is unrelated to the inability to enforce illegal activity in the Norwegian EEZ and cross-border fishing. The Norwegian Delegation expressed its appreciation that EU is working to harmonise protectional measures for halibut during the spawning period in EU waters.

18.10 The Norwegian Delegation recalled that several technical measures have been harmonised in Skagerrak from 2013 onwards, particularly in the Pandalus fishery, the directed Nephrops fishery and in the mixed demersal and Nephrops fishery in the Skagerrak. This means that technical measures for the main fisheries in Skagerrak are already harmonised.

19 Catch statistics

19.1 The Delegations agreed to communicate to each other, on a monthly basis, catch statistics for fishing by their own vessels for all species. This monthly information shall be communicated not later than the end of the following month.

19.2 The Delegations agreed that catch statistics, including inter-annual quota flexibility, should be attached to future Agreed Records.

20 Quota arrangements

20.1 The Delegations agreed that the negotiated quota arrangements constitute an ad hoc solution and shall be without prejudice to future fishery arrangements between the Parties.

20.2 The Norwegian Delegation stated that the ad hoc sharing arrangement for 2024 is greatly imbalanced in Norway's disfavour. Norway will therefore invite the European Union for consultations during 2024 with the purpose of establishing a sharing arrangement closer to zonal attachment of the main species.

8 December 2023

For the Norwegian Delegation

For the European Union Delegation


Ms. Ann Kristin WESTBERG


Mr. Thomas BRÉGEON

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TACs AND ALLOCATIONS IN 2024

Catches taken, during the period 1 January to 31 December 2024 in the Skagerrak and the Kattegat of the species mentioned below, shall be limited as follows (metric tonnes, fresh round weight):

SPECIES	AREA ⁽¹⁾	TAC 2024	ALLOCATION TO NORWAY	ALLOCATION TO EUROPEAN UNION
COD	S	3,559	115 ⁽²⁾	3,444
HADDOCK ^{(3),(4)}	S + K	6,233	262	5,971
WHITING	S + K	676	12	664
PLAICE	S	18,250	365	17,885
MACKEREL	S + K	pm	pm	pm
PANDALUS ⁽⁵⁾	S	4,253	1,982	2,271
HERRING	S + K	29,735	3,964	25,771
SPRAT ⁽⁶⁾	S + K	26,278	1,971	24,307

- ⁽¹⁾ Skagerrak (S): the area bounded on the west by a straight line running through the Hanstholm lighthouse and the Lindesnes lighthouse and on the south by a straight line running through the Skagen lighthouse and the Tistlarna lighthouse. Skagerrak and Kattegat (S + K): the area defined as Skagerrak, extended to the southern boundary of Kattegat, and defined as a straight line from Hasenøre to Gribens spids, from Korshage to Spodsbjerg and from Gilbjerg Hoved to Kullen.
- ⁽²⁾ This quantity does not include catches to be taken with passive gear inside the Norwegian baselines.
- ⁽³⁾ The TAC for haddock includes both a directed fishery for haddock and by-catches in the industrial fisheries.
- ⁽⁴⁾ In addition, up to 5% of the haddock quotas of the Parties in ICES subarea 4 (North Sea) in 2024 can be fished in ICES division 3a (Skagerrak-Kattegat).
- ⁽⁵⁾ To be fished in the period from 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024.
- ⁽⁶⁾ To be fished in the period from 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024.

INTER-ANNUAL QUOTA FLEXIBILITY

The inter-annual quota flexibility scheme applicable to the jointly managed stocks discussed during these consultations shall be terminated if:

- The spawning stock biomass is estimated to be below the precautionary reference point Bpa in the TAC year and the fishing mortality is estimated to be above the precautionary reference point Fpa in the intermediate year; or
- the SSB is estimated to be below Bpa in both the TAC year and the year thereafter.

Each Party may transfer unutilised quota from the TAC year to be caught in the following year. Each Party may transfer up to 10% of its total quota allocation. This quantity cannot be transferred further in subsequent years.

Each Party may authorise fishing by its vessels beyond its total quota allocation for the TAC year by up to 10%. The quantity fished beyond the allocated quota shall be deducted from the Party's allocation for the year after the TAC year.

The Delegations agreed that in order to ensure transparency in the operation of inter-annual quota flexibility, more detailed information on catch utilisation shall be exchanged.

The TAC year is the year for which the agreed TAC applies, and the intermediate year is the year prior to the TAC year.

LONG TERM MANAGEMENT STRATEGY FOR NORTHERN SHRIMP (*PANDALUS BOREALIS*) IN DIVISIONS 3.A. AND 4.A.EAST (SKAGERRAK AND KATTEGAT AND NORTHERN NORTH SEA IN THE NORWEGIAN DEEP)

The Parties agree to implement a Long Term Management Strategy (LTMS) for the Northern shrimp in the Northern North Sea (Norwegian Deep) and in the Skagerrak and Kattegat.

The objective of this LTMS is to provide for sustainable fisheries with high and sustainable yields in conformity with the precautionary approach.

For the purpose of this long term management strategy, the following definitions shall apply:

- "SSB" means the estimate according to ICES of the Spawning Stock Biomass at the beginning of the TAC year.
- $B_{TRIGGER}$ is the value of spawning stock biomass (SSB) that triggers a specific management action.
- F_{TARGET} is the fishing mortality to be included in the algorithm for the agreed long-term management strategy as a function of variables related to the status of the stock.

The value for $B_{TRIGGER}$ is fixed in the light of the latest available ICES advice. The value of F_{TARGET} is fixed by ICES and fulfilling the following criteria:

1. The Parties shall set a 12 month TAC for northern shrimp for a period between 1 July to 30 June that is consistent with fishing at F_{TARGET} provided that SSB at the start of the TAC year is equal to or greater than $MSY_{B_{TRIGGER}}$.
2. Where the SSB at the start of the TAC year is estimated to be below $MSY_{B_{TRIGGER}}$ the Parties agree that the fishing mortality referred to in paragraph 1 is reduced linearly from $F_{TARGET} \times$ at SSB equal to $MSY_{B_{TRIGGER}}$ to F equal to zero at SSB equal to zero.
3. Overriding the rules set out in paragraphs 1 and 2, the F_{TARGET} should be in line with the criteria specified in the ICES MSY approach for SSB falling below B_{lim} in the year following the TAC year.

SEASONAL AREA TO PROTECT SPAWNING COD

The following areas in the table below will be closed for all gears excluding pelagic gears (purse seine and trawl), for the identified time period:

Time Limited Closures				
No	Area Name	Coordinates	Time period	Additional Comment
1	Stanhope ground	60° 25N - 001° 45E 60° 25N - 002° 00E 60° 10N - 002° 00E 60° 10N - 001° 45E	01 January to 30 April	
2	Long Hole	59° 07.35N - 0° 31.04W 59° 03.60N - 0° 22.25W 58° 59.35N - 0° 17.85W 58° 56.00N - 0° 11.01W 58° 56.60N - 0° 08.85W 58° 59.86N - 0° 15.65W 59° 03.50N - 0° 20.00W 59° 08.15N - 0° 29.07W	01 January to 31 March	
3	Coral edge	58° 51.70N - 03° 26.70E 58° 40.66N - 03° 34.60E 58° 24 00N - 03° 12.40E 58° 24 00N - 02° 55.00E 58° 35 65N - 02° 56.30E	01 January to 28 February	
4	Papa Bank	59° 56N - 03° 08W 59° 56N - 02° 45W 59° 35N - 03° 15W 59° 35N - 03° 35W	01 January to 15 March	
5	Foula Deep	60° 17.5N - 01° 45W 60° 11.0N - 01° 45W 60° 11.0N - 02° 10W 60° 20.0N - 02° 00W 60° 20.0N - 01° 50W	01 November to 31 December	
6	Egersund Bank	58° 07.40N - 04° 33.0E 57° 53.00N - 05° 12.0.E 57° 40.00N - 05° 10.9E 57° 57.90N - 04° 31.9E	01 January to 31 March	(10 x 25 nm)
7	East of Fair Isle	59° 40N - 01° 23W 59° 40N - 01° 13W 59° 30N - 01° 20W 59° 10N - 01° 20W 59° 10N - 01° 28W 59° 30N - 01° 28W	01 January to 15 March	

Time Limited Closures				
No	Area Name	Coordinates	Time period	Additional Comment
8	West Bank	57° 15N - 05° 01E 56° 56N - 05° 00E 56° 56N - 06° 20E 57° 15N - 06° 20E	01 February to 15 March	(18 x 4 nm)
9	Revet	57° 28.43N - 08° 05.66E 57° 27.44N - 08° 07.20E 57° 51.77N - 09° 26.33E 57° 52.88N - 09° 25.00E	01 February to 15 March	(1.5 x 49 nm)
10	Rabarberen	57° 47.00N - 11° 04.00E 57° 43.00N - 11° 04.00E 57° 43.00N - 11° 09.00E 57° 47.00N - 11° 09.00E	01 February to 15 March	East of Skagen (2.7x4 nm)

FINAL 2021 CATCH STATISTICS

Species	Area	Final catch statistics 2021					
		Norway			EU		
		Fisheries jurisdiction			Fisheries jurisdiction		
		EU	Norway	Total	EU	Norway	Total
Cod	S	2	22	24	1,771	104	1,874
Haddock	S+K		8	8	1,835	79	1,913
Whiting	S+K		2	2	107	5	112
Plaice	S		2	2	6,528	11	6,538
Mackerel	S+K				0	2	2
Pandalus (*)	S	70	4173	4243	1,660	566	2,225
Herring	S+K	85	1037	1122	11,401	87	11,489
Sprat	S+K		541	541	894	0	894

*Of Norwegian quota in North Sea and Skagerrak combined

FINAL 2022 CATCH STATISTICS

Species	Area	Final catch statistics 2022					
		Norway			EU		
		Fisheries jurisdiction			Fisheries jurisdiction		
		EU	Norway	Total	EU	Norway	Total
Cod	S	12	87	99	1,665	141	1,807
Haddock	S+K	122	93	215	2,905	217	3,122
Whiting	S+K		3	3	191	30	221
Plaice	S		4	4	3,816	21	3,836
Mackerel	S+K				0	1	1
Pandalus (*)	S	271	4,375	4,646	2,391	487	2,877
Herring	S+K	120	117	238	476	0	476
Sprat	S+K		342	342	379	0	379

*Of Norwegian quota in North Sea and Skagerrak combined

PRELIMINARY 2023 CATCH STATISTICS

Species	Area	Provisional catch statistics 2023					
		Norway ¹			EU ²		
		Fisheries jurisdiction			Fisheries jurisdiction		
		EU	Norway	Total	EU	Norway	Total
Cod	S	11	78	89	1,806	98	1,904
Haddock	S+K	176	32	208	2,846	103	2,948
Whiting	S+K	1	4	5	206	11	217
Plaice	S	5	2	7	2,753	8	2,761
Pandalus (*)	S	71	4,185	4,256	1,504	719	2,223
Herring	S+K		560	560	221	1	222
Sprat	S+K		692	692	69	0	69

*Of Norwegian quota in North Sea and Skagerrak combined

¹ January – 29. November (landing notes)

² January – October 2023 (aggregated catch data based on landed weight)