



Council of the  
European Union

Brussels, 16 March 2022  
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PECHE 88  
UK 51

**NOTE**

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From: General Secretariat of the Council  
To: Delegations  
Subject: Bilateral EU-UK consultations on fishing opportunities for 2022

- Signed Written Record on sandeels

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Delegations will find in Annex the above-mentioned document, as received from the European Commission services.

## Written Record of fisheries consultations on 11 March 2022 between the United Kingdom and the European Union about sandeels in 2022

1. The Trade and Cooperation Agreement ('the TCA') between the United Kingdom (UK) and the European Union (EU) includes the objective of cooperating with a view to ensuring that fishing activities for shared stocks in their waters are environmentally sustainable in the long term and contribute to achieving economic and social benefits, and requires the Parties to hold consultations annually to agree the total allowable catches (TACs) for the following year for the stocks listed in Annex 35 to the TCA. Sandeels are included in that Annex.

2. A Delegation from the United Kingdom, headed by Mr Mike DOWELL, and a Delegation from the European Union, headed by Mr Joost PAARDEKOOPEL, met in a virtual format on the 11 March 2022 to consult on fishing opportunities for sandeels in 2022 in accordance with Article 498 (Fishing Opportunities) of the TCA. This Written Record documents the outcome of those consultations.

3. The Heads of Delegations agreed to recommend to their respective authorities the fishery arrangements for 2022 outlined in this Written Record, including Annex 1. Accordingly, where this Written Record refers to the Delegations (or the Parties) having agreed on a matter, it should be read as an agreement to recommend to the Delegations' respective authorities to implement the arrangements in this Written Record, including annex 1.

4. The Delegations considered the sandeel stocks listed in Annex 35 to the TCA and agreed to establish the total allowable catches (TACs) for 2022, and the associated special conditions, flexibilities and footnotes, shown in Annex 1.

5. The other relevant arrangements for jointly managed stocks in paragraph 5 of the Written Record of fisheries consultations between the United Kingdom and the European Union for 2022 signed on the 21st of December 2021 ("the Written Record of 21 December 2021") will continue to apply for sandeels.

6. The Delegations agreed to amend paragraph 14 the Written Record of 21 December 2021 as shown in red below:

"14. Inter-annual quota flexibility

a) Underlining the need for flexibility in quota management, the Delegations agreed that inter-annual flexibility can increase the effectiveness of fisheries management, whereby certain quota shares can be carried forward to, or borrowed from, the following management period. They therefore notified the following arrangements for 2022 to 2023:

i. Each Party may transfer to the following year unutilised quantities of up to 10% of its quota of a particular TAC. The quantity carried forward can then be used in

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addition to that Party's quota in the following year. Quota transferred in this way cannot be carried forward to subsequent years. This year-to-year flexibility does not apply to the stocks listed in Annex 2, where no such flexibility will be available.

ii. Each Party may authorise fishing by vessels of up to 10% beyond its quota of a particular TAC. All quantities fished beyond its quota for the year will be deducted from the Party's quota for the following year. This year-to-year flexibility does not apply to the stocks listed in Annex 2, where no such flexibility will be available.

iii. For the avoidance of doubt, where a TAC is split into constituent parts, the arrangements in this paragraph can only be applied to each part separately and not across the whole TAC (e.g. North Sea sandeels).

iv. The Parties agree to determine a format for, and to arrange for, complete catch statistics and quotas for the previous year to be made available to the other Party via the SCF.

v. These arrangements apply to all the eligible stocks listed in Annexes 35 and 36 to the TCA. However, if other international arrangements or obligations are put in place which conflict with these arrangements, those other arrangements and obligations will prevail."

7. The Delegations agreed to amend paragraph 14 the Written Record of fisheries consultations between the United Kingdom and the European Union for 2021, signed on 11 June 2021, as shown in red below:

" 14. Inter-annual quota flexibility

Underlining the need for flexibility in quota management, the Delegations agreed that inter-annual flexibility can increase the effectiveness of fisheries management, whereby certain quota shares can be carried forward to, or borrowed from, the following management period. They therefore notified the following arrangements for 2020 to 2021 and 2021 to 2022:

i. Each Party may transfer to the following year unutilised quantities of up to 10% of its quota of a particular TAC. The quantity carried forward can then be used in addition to that Party's quota in the following year. Quota transferred in this way cannot be carried forward to subsequent years. This year-to-year flexibility does not apply to the stocks listed in Annex 3, where no carry-over will be available.

ii. Each Party may authorise fishing by vessels of up to 10% beyond its quota of its quota of a particular TAC. All quantities fished beyond its quota for the year will be deducted from the Party's quota for the following year.

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iii. For 2021 to 2022 only: for the avoidance of doubt, where a TAC is split into constituent parts, the arrangements in this paragraph can only be applied to each part separately and not across the whole TAC (e.g. sandeels).

iv. The Parties agree to determine a format for, and to arrange for, complete catch statistics and quotas for the previous year to be made available to the other Party via the SCF

v. These arrangements apply to all the eligible stocks listed in Annexes 35 and 36 to the TCA. However, if other international arrangements or obligations are put in place which conflict with these arrangements, those other arrangements and obligations will prevail."

London

16/03/22



For the United Kingdom  
Mike DOWELL

Brussels

16 March 2022



For the European Union  
Joost PAARDEKOOPER

Annex 1

Code	Common Name	ICES areas	Agreed Total Allowable Catch (tonnes)	UK allocation				EU allocation			
				TCA share (%)	TCA quota (tonnes)	Transfer to/from EU (tonnes)	UK post-transfer quota (tonnes)	TCA share (%)	TCA quota (tonnes)	Transfer to/from UK (tonnes)	EU post-transfer quota (tonnes)
SAN/2A3A4	Sandeels (North Sea, All Banks) <i>Ammodytes</i> spp.	United Kingdom and European Union waters of 4; United Kingdom waters of 2a; European Union waters of 3a	88,844 (1) (3)	2.86%	2,541		2,541	97.14%	86,303		86,303 (2)
<p>1. In management areas 1r and 4 the TACs may only be fished as a monitoring TAC with an associated sampling protocol for the fishery.</p> <p>2. Up to 2 % of the quota may consist of by catches of whiting and mackerel (OT1/*2A3A4). By catches of whiting and mackerel counted against the quota pursuant to this provision and by catches of species counted against the quota pursuant to Article 15(8) of regulation (EU) No 1380/2013 shall, together, not exceed 9 % of the quota.</p> <p>3. Special condition: within the limits of the abovementioned TAC, no more than the quantities indicated below may be taken in the following sandeels management areas:</p>											
SAN/234_1R	Sandeels (North Sea, Bank 1r)	Sandeel bank 1r	5,000	2.86%	143		143	97.14%	4,857		4,857
SAN/234_2R	Sandeels (North Sea, Bank 2r)	Sandeel bank 2r	71,859	2.86%	2,055		2,055	97.14%	69,804		69,804
SAN/234_3R	Sandeels (North Sea, Bank 3r)	Sandeel bank 3r	6,845	2.86%	196		196	97.14%	6,649		6,649



Code	Common Name	ICES areas	Agreed Total Allowable Catch (tonnes)	UK allocation				EU allocation			
				TCA TAC share (%)	TCA quota (tonnes)	Transfer to/from EU (tonnes)	UK post-transfer quota (tonnes)	TCA TAC share (%)	TCA quota (tonnes)	Transfer to/from UK (tonnes)	EU post-transfer quota (tonnes)
SAN/234_4	Sandeels (North Sea, Bank 4)	Sandeel bank 4	5,000	2.86%	143		143	97.14%	4,857		4,857
SAN/234_5R	Sandeels (North Sea, Bank 5r)	Sandeel bank 5r	0	2.86%	0		0	97.14%	0		0
SAN/234_6	Sandeels (North Sea, Bank 6)	Sandeel bank 6	140	2.86%	4		4	97.14%	136		136
SAN/234_7R	Sandeels (North Sea, Bank 7r)	Sandeel bank 7r	0	2.86%	0		0	97.14%	0		0

