



Brussels, 5 June 2026
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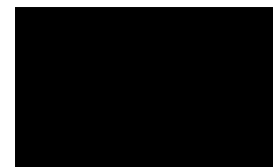
NOTE

From: General Secretariat of the Council
To: Delegations
Subject: Written Record of the EU-UK fisheries consultations on sprat in the English Channel

Delegations will find attached the signed Written Record of the EU-UK fisheries consultations on sprat (*Sprattus sprattus*) in Divisions 7.d and 7.e (English Channel) from 1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027.

Written record of fisheries consultations from 11 to 22 May 2026 between the United Kingdom and the European Union on sprat in divisions 7.d and 7.e (English Channel) from 1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027

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. English Channel sprat (SPR/7DE) is included in that Annex.
2. A Delegation from the European Union, headed by Ms Anabel Andújar Vázquez and a Delegation from the United Kingdom, headed by Dr Emily Hawkes, met in a virtual format from 11 May to 22 May 2026 to consult on fishing opportunities for English Channel sprat (SPR/7DE) from 1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027 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 2026-2027 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 sprat stock listed in Annex 35 to the TCA and agreed to establish a total allowable catch (TAC) from 1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027 of 7,848 tonnes. The TAC and respective Parties' quotas are shown in Annex 1.
5. The other relevant arrangements, including inter-annual quota flexibility, for jointly managed stocks in the Written Record of fisheries consultations between the United Kingdom and the European Union for 2026 signed on the 10th of December 2025 will continue to apply for English Channel sprat.
6. The Delegations reaffirm their commitment to implementing an ecosystem-based approach to fisheries management as set out in the Parties' domestic legislation and in regional and international agreements. The Delegations note the ecological significance of forage fish species such as sprat, Norway pout, herring and sandeel as an important food source for seabirds, other fish species and marine mammals and that their function and role should be considered when setting fishing opportunities, guided by the best available scientific advice. The Delegations



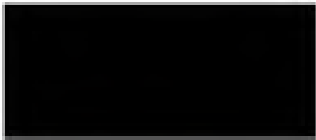
[...]

agreed to continue technical discussions in 2026 and 2027 on ecosystem-based approaches for the management of forage fish and to further exchange views on the scientific and management implications of such approaches, with a view to progress this work.

4 June 2026

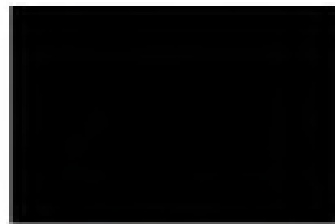
London

Brussels



For the United Kingdom

Emily Hawkes



For the European Union

Anabel Andújar Vázquez



Annex 1

Code	Common Name (Scientific name)	ICES areas	Agreed Total Allowable Catch (tonnes)	UK TCA TAC share (%)	UK TCA quota (tonnes)	UK Transfer to/from EU (tonnes)	UK post-transfer quota (tonnes)	EU TCA TAC share (%)	EU TCA quota (tonnes)	EU Transfer to/from UK (tonnes)	EU post-transfer quota (tonnes)
SPR/7DE	Sprat (English Channel) <i>(Sprattus sprattus)</i>	7d and 7e	7,848 ⁽¹⁾	84.00%	6,592	No transfer	6,592	16.00%	1,256	No transfer	1,256

(1) TAC may only be fished from 1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027.

