

**AGREED RECORD OF FISHERIES CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN
THE UNITED KINGDOM AND NORWAY FOR 2023**

24 NOVEMBER 2022

1. A Delegation from the United Kingdom (UK) headed by Colin FAULKNER and a Norwegian Delegation, headed by Ms. Ann Kristin WESTBERG met in Oslo from 31 October to 1 November 2022 and subsequently in Brussels on 23 and 24 November 2022 to consult on mutual fisheries relations for 2023.
2. The Delegations recalled the Fisheries Framework Agreement between the Parties, signed on 30 September 2020. They recalled the principles which underpin their close cooperation as set out in Article 1 of that agreement. They also recalled the Parties' understanding of December 2021 about enhancing cooperation on fisheries in ICES areas I and II. They further recalled their close cooperation in 2022 in international fisheries forums, including Regional Fisheries Management Organisations, the Food & Agriculture Organisation and beyond. They looked forward to deepening their dialogue further in 2023.
3. The Delegations noted that the Fisheries Consultations between the United Kingdom, Norway and the European Union were still on-going.
4. The Delegations noted that the Agreed Record of Fisheries Consultations between the UK and Norway signed in December 2021 marked the start of a new bilateral fisheries arrangement between Norway and the UK. Both Delegations agreed on the successful implementation of the agreement during 2022.
5. The Delegations agreed to meet in May or June 2023 for the annual intersessional process, to ensure the successful implementation of this Agreed Record and to deepen the strategic relationship between the Parties.
6. The Heads of Delegation agreed to recommend to their respective authorities the fishery arrangements for 2023 as outlined in this Agreed Record, including Tables 1 to 5 and Annexes I and II.

7. EXCHANGE OF FISHING POSSIBILITIES

- 7.1 The Delegations agreed to exchange quotas for a number of stocks, as set out in Tables 1 and 2.

8. ZONAL ACCESS

- 8.1 The Delegations agreed for 2023 to establish mutual zonal access of 30,000 tonnes for all demersal/whitefish stocks in ICES Subarea 4. This will be on the basis that if the relevant Party's vessels are entitled to catch demersal/whitefish stocks in their own Exclusive Economic Zone, then that same entitlement will apply in the Exclusive Economic Zone of the other Party up to the maximum overall limit of 30,000 tonnes.
- 8.2 The Delegations committed to continue applying appropriate safeguards to ensure that these access arrangements do not have detrimental consequences for fish stocks and the wider

marine environment. The Delegations noted the importance of suitable and robust monitoring mechanisms to detect and react swiftly to significant changes from historic fishing patterns and catches as a result of these new arrangements. They further agreed that they will formally review catch data quarterly and, where appropriate, implement amended management measures, for example quota management measures, as soon as practicable.

- 8.3 The Delegations agreed that vessels from the UK will be granted zonal access of 20,000 tonnes of Norwegian Spring Spawning (Atlanto-Scandian) herring in Norway's Exclusive Economic Zone North of 62°N and that Norwegian vessels will be granted zonal access of 20,000 tonnes of North Sea herring in the UK's Exclusive Economic Zone in the North Sea (ICES Subarea 4).
- 8.4 The Delegations also noted that opportunities may arise in 2023 to revisit their respective access arrangements to each other's waters.

9. CONTROL AND ENFORCEMENT

- 9.1 The Delegations recalled the longstanding cooperation between the Parties' respective control authorities, which entails both strategic and operational cooperation throughout the entire value chain. The Delegations share the view that efficient and trustworthy Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS) measures are key factors in a comprehensive management regime targeting sustainable exploitation of fisheries resources.
- 9.2 The Delegations noted that the framework of this cooperation had been reviewed in 2022. They welcomed the fact that the Norwegian Directorate of Fisheries and the UK signed on 31 October 2022 a bilateral agreement containing arrangements to improve compliance with fisheries management measures, set out in Annex II. These arrangements mandate cooperation on risk management, sharing information and cooperation on improved MCS measures within the framework of a joint Compliance Forum. The Delegations agreed that the Compliance Forum will meet at least annually and as appropriate.
- 9.3 The Forum should provide to the Delegations an update on its work including any proposals on MCS measures well in advance of their bilateral consultations for 2024.
- 9.4 The Delegations noted the good cooperation this year to implement the relevant technical regulations that apply to vessels fishing in the waters of the other Party. Furthermore, the Delegations agreed to further refine in early 2023 the Technical Annex to the Agreed Record of Consultations on Fisheries between the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Kingdom of Norway. The Delegations aimed to agree revisions to the Technical Annex, which sets out the operational guidance, by the end of February 2023. Those agreed revisions will apply during 2023 where appropriate.

10. ELECTRONIC DATA EXCHANGE

- 10.1 The Delegations noted the ongoing work towards introducing ERS and VMS in NEAFC based on the FLUX UN/CEFACT International Standard (Recommendation 19:2019) and agreed that the NEAFC ERS and VMS should be taken into consideration in the further development of new agreements on position reporting, and electronic catch and activity data.

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10.2 The Delegations agreed to establish a Working Group of Electronic Reporting and Recording Experts in 2023. The Working Group should meet under the Terms of Reference set out in Annex I.

10.3 The Delegations highlighted that well-functioning and reliable reporting systems are essential for science, management, control and enforcement of fisheries regulations.

11. CATCH INFORMATION

11.1 The Delegations reviewed the preliminary catch data for 2022, as set out in Tables 4 and 5, and committed to providing final 2022 data by spring 2023. They agreed to work together in 2023 to further develop their relevant catch information data exchange processes.

12. SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION

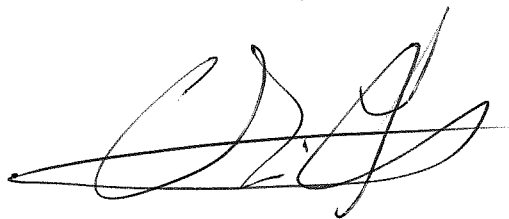
12.1 The Delegations recognised the value in scientific cooperation and noted that their respective scientists have been successfully collaborating on issues of shared interest for many years. They agreed to explore the potential to strengthen and formalise those bilateral working arrangements. The Delegations also noted that there could be particular benefit in the Parties increasing their joint working on the science underpinning shared stocks.

13. NOTIFICATION OF NEW LEGISLATION

13.1 The Delegations agreed to communicate to one another in a timely manner the introduction of any new fisheries legislation of relevance to the vessels of the other Party.

24 November 2022

For the United Kingdom Delegation



Colin FAULKNER

For the Norwegian Delegation



Ann Kristin WESTBERG

TABLE 1

QUOTAS TO THE UK OF NORWEGIAN EXCLUSIVE STOCKS FOR 2023

| STOCKS | ICES AREA | QUANTITY (TONNES) |
|---------------------|-----------|-------------------|
| Arcto-Norwegian cod | 1; 2 | 750 |
| Bycatch stocks | 1; 2 | 120 |

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EXCHANGE OF OTHER STOCKS FOR 2023

| SPECIES | ICES AREA | STOCKS IN UK WATERS FOR TRANSFER TO NORWAY (TONNES) | STOCKS IN NORWEGIAN WATERS FOR TRANSFER TO THE UK (TONNES) |
|--------------------------------|-----------|---|--|
| Cod | NAFO 3M | 285 | |
| Cod ¹ | 6 | 15 | |
| Greenland Halibut | 2a, 5b, 6 | 700 | |
| Bycatch stock ² | 2a, 5, 6 | 40 | |
| Ling ³ | 6 | 1,300 | |
| Bycatch stock ⁴ | 6 | 20 | |
| Tusk ² | 6 | 380 | |
| Greater forkbeard ¹ | 6 | 100 | |
| Blue ling ¹ | 6 | 70 | |
| Anglerfish | 4 | | 1,075 |

¹ Bycatch only

² Miscellaneous species exclusively for bycatch of Greenland halibut fisheries, excluding cod in area 6, which shall be counted against the transfer to Norway.

³ Long-line only

⁴ Miscellaneous species exclusively for bycatch of ling fisheries, excluding cod in area 6, which shall be counted against the transfer to Norway.

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| | | | |
|-----------|---|--|----|
| Blue ling | 4 | | 20 |
| Hake | 4 | | 25 |
| Whiting | 4 | | 25 |

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TABLE 3

ZONAL ACCESS FOR NORTH SEA AUTUMN SPAWNING HERRING AND NORWEGIAN SPRING SPAWNING HERRING

| SPECIES | ICES AREA | ACCESS FOR UK VESSELS IN NORWEGIAN EEZ | ACCESS FOR NORWEGIAN VESSELS IN UK EEZ |
|-----------------------------------|--|--|--|
| North Sea Autumn Spawning Herring | 4 | | 20,000 |
| Norwegian Spring Spawning Herring | Norway's Exclusive Economic Zone North of 62 North | 20,000 | |

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**TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR A WORKING GROUP ON
ELECTRONIC REPORTING AND RECORDING EXPERTS FOR 2023**

The Delegations agreed that the Working Group on Electronic Reporting should meet before 31 May 2023 under the Terms of Reference described below. After that the Working Group should meet as appropriate.

The Working Group will:

- 1) Revise the arrangements on ERS set down in the Technical Annex, with a view to:
 - a) Establishing technical procedures and specifications taking into account the use of the UN/FLUX standards, based on the arrangements of the new NEAFC ERS.
 - b) Identifying additional reporting needs, outstanding issues and elements that can improve performance of the current system for electronic exchange of catch and activity data (ERS) between the United Kingdom and Norway to be implemented in the new ERS system based on UN/FLUX standards, including automatic forwarding of return messages from the coastal State to the vessel, to secure satisfactory exchange and increased quality of catch and activity data.
 - c) Establishing technical procedures and specifications to implement the possibility to pull data covering fishing activities before entering and after exiting the economic zone of the other Party, to be implemented in the new ERS system based on UN/FLUX standards.
- 2) Review the arrangements on VMS set down in the Technical Annex.
- 3) The Working Group should submit its report to the Parties well in advance of the annual consultations for 2023.

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**BILATERAL ARRANGEMENT
BETWEEN NORWAY AND THE UNITED KINGDOM TO IMPROVE COMPLIANCE
WITH FISHERY MANAGEMENT MEASURES**

The Norwegian Directorate of Fisheries and Fisheries Administrations of the United Kingdom (hereafter “the Parties”) *share* the view that efficient and trustworthy Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS) measures are key factors in a comprehensive management regime targeting sustainable exploitation of fisheries resources.

Noting that the objective of MCS measures is to ensure compliance with the applicable national and international fisheries regulations and management measures, and thereby secure a level playing field within the fishing industry.

Recognising that sharing stocks, managing a global fishery industry, and to prevent and eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU)⁵ fishing and criminal activity in the fisheries sector throughout the value chain for fisheries resources and products thereof, requires cooperation on all measures that will improve compliance with fishery management measures.

Knowing that increased sharing of information and data will lead to transparency and improved understanding, and thereby improved compliance.

Recalling the longstanding cooperation between the Parties on MCS measures.

Understanding that this arrangement expresses the will of the Parties to cooperate on measures that will improve compliance as outlined in this arrangement.

Recognising that this arrangement does not limit the opportunities of the Parties to table proposals for other, and possibly stricter measures both in this and other forums.

The following specific arrangements between the Parties are agreed:

1. RISK BASED MCS MEASURES

The Parties recognise that MCS measures must be introduced on a risk-based approach and therefore agree to cooperate on risk management both on a strategic and operational level.

Dependent on the priorities of the Compliance Forum, cooperation on risk management include, but are not limited to, risk assessment, risk handling/treatment and monitoring and review as a planned part of the risk management process.

Cooperation on risk management also includes the options of:

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⁵ As defined in FAO’s International plan of action against IUU-fishing (IPOA-IUU), point 3

- Cooperating on planning of inspection and control activities at sea, by air or in port, and throughout the value chain for fisheries resources and products thereof.
- Allowing observers (inspection and control officials) of one Party to accompany the other Parties inspection and control officials during the conduct of control activities at sea, in air or in port.

2. SHARING INFORMATION

To facilitate efficient risk management, the Parties agree to share relevant data and information on fishing activities throughout the value chain. In this arrangement fishing activities means fishing, including joint fishing operations, fish processing operations on board, the transshipment or landing of fisheries resources or products thereof and any other commercial activity in preparation for, or related to, fishing; including *inter alia*, packaging, transporting, refuelling or re-supplying. Other relevant data and information throughout the value chain, *inter alia* processing and export data can also be shared.

The Parties also agree to share relevant information about inspections at sea, in air or in port, and violations of fisheries regulations.

The Parties agree to exchange relevant intelligence, information, data, or knowledge concerning possible IUU fishing activities or crime in the fisheries sector by companies or individuals based in the other Party's country. Furthermore, the Parties will as far possible, pursuant to national legislation assist each other by making efforts to access relevant or MCS related information from other control bodies within their country about companies involved in IUU fisheries and associated activities.

The Party providing the information listed above, could share it on its own initiative or the other Party may request the information.

Upon request, the other Party will verify information in writing and provide certified copies of documents. Such exchange may, due to law enforcement, be subject to specific formal requirements agreed between the Parties.

The Parties recognise that national regulations may limit the sharing of information, and undertake that all commercially sensitive and personal data obtained under this arrangement will be exchanged and treated in accordance with the applicable principles of confidentiality and data protection.

3. IMPROVED MCS MEASURES

To ensure and improve compliance with fishery management measures, the Parties recognise that cooperation is necessary, including on the further development and introduction of new MCS measures.

Hence, the Parties may share ideas, knowledge and experience on any developments of new and existing MCS measures, *inter alia* catch identification technologies, remote electronic monitoring, sensor technologies, and electronic reporting systems. This also include MCS methodologies.

The Parties agree to improve the efficiency of MCS measures through industry involvement, education and guidance.

The Parties will cooperate on training of personnel where relevant.

4. COMPLIANCE FORUM

To facilitate a risk-based approach, efficient sharing of information and improved and enhanced MCS measures, the Parties agree to establish a Compliance Forum that will identify, prioritise, review and follow up areas of cooperation on a strategic level.

The Compliance Forum will meet at least annually and as appropriate. To ensure the efficiency of the Compliance Forum the Parties will be represented by personnel with decision-making authority who have the knowledge and seniority to make decisions as required by the work of the Compliance Forum.

The Parties will provide lists of names of UK and Norwegian personnel engaged in the implementation of this arrangement. Such lists may be revised and exchanged when appropriate.

The Compliance Forum may establish and task ad hoc project-based sub forums to operationalise the priorities of the Compliance Forum, *inter alia* risk management on an operational level. All sub forums will report to the Compliance Forum and may identify needs or requirements and suggest joint or harmonised measures to be considered by the Compliance Forum.

These revised arrangements replace the earlier protocol signed between the United Kingdom Fisheries Authorities and the Norwegian Directorate of Fisheries on May 12, 2015.

Oslo,

Bergen,

On behalf of the United Kingdom

On behalf of Norway

Colin FAULKNER

Thord MONSEN