

AGREED RECORD OF FISHERIES CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN THE FAROE ISLANDS AND THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND FOR 2024

1. A Delegation from the Faroe Islands, headed by Herluf Sigvaldsson, and a Delegation from the United Kingdom, headed by Will Francis, met in Tórshavn on 5 and 6 December 2023, in London on 14 December 2023 and subsequently on 2 February 2024 by means of videoconference, to consult on mutual fisheries relations for 2024. A list of participants is attached in Annex 4.
2. The Delegations recalled the Framework Agreement on Fisheries between the Government of the Faroe Islands and the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland signed in Copenhagen on 29 October 2020 ("the Framework Agreement"). They recalled the principles which underpin their close cooperation as set out in Article 1 of that agreement. They further recalled their close cooperation in 2023 in international fisheries forums, including Regional Fisheries Management Organisations, and looked forward to continuing their dialogue on the management of shared stocks in 2024.
3. The Delegations decided to recommend to their respective authorities the fishery arrangements for 2024 as outlined in this Agreed Record, including Annex 1.
4. In this Agreed Record, references to a "Party" are references to the Faroe Islands and the United Kingdom as Contracting Parties to the Framework Agreement, and references to the waters of a Party are references to the Parties' respective areas of fisheries jurisdiction as defined in Article 2(3) of the Framework Agreement.
5. The Delegations reiterated their determination to cooperate, in their mutual interest, in securing continued responsible fisheries and ensuring the long-term conservation and sustainable use of marine living resources.
6. The Delegations restated the importance of cooperating on scientific research with regards to marine biology and the marine environment.
7. The Delegations decided to meet during 2024 and as part of an annual intersessional process, to ensure the successful implementation of this Agreed Record and to deepen the strategic relationship between the Parties.
- 8. Exchange of Opportunities**
 - 8.1 The Delegations decided to exchange quotas for a number of stocks, as set out in Annex 1.
 - 8.2 The Delegations decided that the Faroe Islands may request a quota review meeting once they have fished at least 90% of the UK's initial haddock transfer of 400 tonnes.
 - 8.3 The Delegations decided that, if requested by the Faroe Islands no later than 15 June 2024, the Parties will reconvene to discuss an additional transfer of up to 1,600 tonnes of haddock in UK waters to the Faroe Islands (bringing the total transfer to 2,000 tonnes), and commensurate further transfers of stocks in Faroese waters to the UK.

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8.4 The Delegations noted that the transfer of haddock from the UK was to be fished by longline vessels only. The Delegations further noted that this transfer was made with the intention that no more than four Faroese vessels will target haddock in UK waters of ICES area 4 at any one time. This does not limit the total number of vessels that may target the quota over the course of the year. The Delegations decided to review and discuss this further as part of the annual intersessional process.

9. Monitoring, Control and Surveillance

9.1 The Delegations recognised the importance of cooperation in regard to the monitoring, control and surveillance measures that are stipulated in the Technical Annexes to this Agreed Record as set out in Annex 5. They acknowledged that there are significant benefits for both sides in sharing relevant information and intelligence and in enhancing co-operation in areas of mutual interest. The Delegations decided to strive to meet as required during 2024 to discuss relevant topics and evaluate the cooperation regarding the Special Area.

9.2 The Delegations noted the good cooperation this year in implementing the relevant technical arrangements that apply to vessels fishing in the waters of the other Party, as set out in the Technical Annexes. They further decided that, as those measures have shown themselves to be effective during 2023, only minimal revision was required for the 2024 Technical Annex. The Technical Annexes applicable for 2024 are set out in Annex 5. They also decided to review implementation of the Technical Annexes during 2024 to ensure measures are being followed and are resulting in effective monitoring, control and surveillance.

9.3 The Delegations noted the positive discussions on data exchange that had taken place during 2023 and the ongoing work towards introducing ERS and VMS in NEAFC based on the FLUX UN/CEFACT International Standard (Recommendation 19:2019). They recognised that there would be benefit to both Parties if an agreement on using a common transportation layer could be reached and decided to scope the feasibility of this during 2024 to allow an update and potential work plan to be produced prior to the annual consultations for 2025.

10. Catch information

10.1 The Delegations reviewed the final catch data for 2023 as set out in Annex 2 and final catch data for 2022 as set out in Annex 3. They decided to work together in 2024 to monitor and further develop their relevant catch information data exchange processes.

10.2 For 2024, the Delegations decided that an intersessional meeting would consider data to date on the catch composition of each Party's fleet fishing in the other's waters. The Delegations decided to share per set or haul catch data, at a kg-per-species-caught level of detail, at least five working days before the intersessional meeting, and provide any updates to this data immediately before the meeting.

11. Scientific Cooperation

11.1 The Delegations decided that the UK and the Faroe Islands would continue to co-operate on scientific matters of mutual interest related to commercially exploited fish stocks and their associated ecosystems. The species and stocks of interest include pelagic, demersal

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and deep-sea stocks. Potential research topics could range from stock structure to shifts in distribution due to changes in climate and ecosystem productivity. The research cooperation would include discussions on current and future research surveys and their objectives and scope within the area of adjacent UK and Faroese waters.

12. New Legislation and Technical Measures

12.1 The Delegations decided to communicate in a timely manner the introduction of new fisheries legislation and technical measures recognising, in particular, the need to provide such information in an expeditious manner to fishers from both Parties.

1 March 2024

For the Delegation of the Faroe Islands

For the Delegation of the United Kingdom



Herluf SIGVALDSSON



Will FRANCIS

EXCHANGE OF STOCKS FOR 2024

SPECIES	ICES AREA	UK STOCKS FOR TRANSFER TO FAROES (TONNES)	FAROE STOCKS FOR TRANSFER TO UK (TONNES)
Greenland Halibut	2a, 4, 5b, 6	850	-
Bycatch stock	2a, 4, 5b, 6	50 ¹	-
Cod	NAFO 3M	0	-
Horse Mackerel	6, 7	0	-
Hake	-	0	-
Saithe	-	0	-
Haddock	4	400 (2,000) ^{2,3}	-
Ling	4	100	-
Tusk	4	25	-
Bycatch stock	4	50 ⁴	-
Cod (West of Scotland)	6a	5 ⁵	-
Pollack	6	5 ⁶	-
Blue Ling (Western)	6, 7	250	-
North Sea Autumn Spawning Herring	4	0	-
Cod and Haddock	5b ⁷	-	920 ⁸
Saithe	5b	-	600
Redfish	5b	-	10
Blue Ling and Ling	5b	-	180

¹ Miscellaneous species exclusively for bycatch in Greenland halibut fisheries, excluding catches of species of which the UK has transferred quota to the Faroe Islands. Catches of these stocks should be counted against the relevant quota. All species caught must be entered into the elog.

² Targeted fishery by longline only.

³ To increase up to the bracketed amount if so decided by the UK and Faroe Islands at a review meeting in accordance with paragraphs 8.2-8.3 of this Agreed Record. If the quota is increased, there will also be a commensurate quota increase for transfer to the UK.

⁴ Miscellaneous species exclusively for bycatch in North Sea fisheries, excluding catches of species of which the UK has transferred quota to the Faroe Islands. Catches of these stocks should be counted against the relevant quota. All species caught must be entered into the elog.

⁵ Exclusively for bycatch purposes in the western blue ling fishery.

⁶ Bycatch only.

⁷ Excluding the Faroe Bank area that was previously closed to UK vessels before 2023.

⁸ Of which no more than 276 tonnes may consist of cod, and as bycatch only. No directed fisheries for cod are permitted under this quota.

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Flatfish	5b	-	40
Other Species	5b	-	475
Atlanto-Scandian Herring	Faroese Waters North of 62° N	-	0
Mackerel	Faroese Waters	-	0

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FINAL CATCH DATA FOR EXCHANGE OF STOCKS FOR 2023

FAROES LANDINGS OF QUOTA TRANSFERRED FROM UK (TONNES)

SPECIES	ICES	AREA QUOTA	LANDINGS
Greenland Halibut	2a, 4, 5b, 6	750	134
Bycatch stock	2a, 4, 5b, 6	50	3
Cod	NAFO 3M	284	284
Horse Mackerel	6, 7	0	0
Hake (Western)	6, 7	0	0
Haddock	4	400	7
Ling	4	250	19
Tusk	4	25	2
Bycatch stock	4	50	-
Cod (West of Scotland)	6a	5	2
Blue Ling (Western)	6, 7	250	5
North Sea Autumn Spawning Herring	4	0	0

UK LANDINGS OF QUOTA TRANSFERRED FROM FAROES (TONNES)

SPECIES	ICES	AREA QUOTA	LANDINGS
Cod and Haddock	5b	1200	914
Saithe	5b	600	510
Redfish	5b	10	1
Blue Ling and Ling	5b	180	141
Flatfish	5b	40	20
Other Species	5b	475	340
Atlanto-Scandian Herring	Faroese Waters North of 62° N	0	0
Mackerel	Faroese Waters	0	0

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FINAL CATCH DATA FOR EXCHANGE OF STOCKS FOR 2022
FAROES LANDINGS OF QUOTA TRANSFERRED FROM UK (TONNES)

SPECIES	ICES	AREA QUOTA	LANDINGS
Greenland Halibut	2a, 4, 5b, 6	750	470
Bycatch stock	2a, 4, 5b, 6	-	5
Cod	NAFO 3M	186	186
Horse Mackerel	6, 7	1,000	0
Hake (Western)	6, 7	10	0
Haddock	4	400	0
Ling	4	300	2
Tusk	4	30	2
Bycatch stock	4		0
Cod (West of Scotland)	6a	10	0
Blue Ling (Western)	6, 7	500	33
North Sea Autumn Spawning Herring	4	0	0

UK LANDINGS OF QUOTA TRANSFERRED FROM FAROES (TONNES)

SPECIES	ICES	AREA QUOTA	LANDINGS
Cod and Haddock	5b	1,000	1013
Saithe	5b	1,250	752
Redfish	5b	10	2
Blue Ling and Ling	5b	225	159
Flatfish	5b	75	17
Other Species	5b	500	198
Atlanto-Scandian Herring	Faroese Waters North of 62° N	0	0
Mackerel	Faroese Waters	0	0

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LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

UNITED KINGDOM

Will Francis (Head of Delegation)

Catherine Perez

Lauren Reid

Catherine Whitby

Kate Smithers

FAROE ISLANDS

Herluf Sigvaldsson (Head of Delegation)

Ingibjörg Petersen

Hans Ellefsen

Hugo Lamhauge Hansen

Jan Arge Jacobsen

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Jan Klein Olsen

Kate Sanderson

Háldan Gudmundsen

Hanus Hansen

Jógvan Jespersen

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TECHNICAL ANNEXES

The Technical Annexes for 2024 are under consideration on the basis of the Technical Annexes for 2023 and will be published separately.

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