

COMMISSION SERVICES NON PAPER

24 November 2020

This document serves as a basis for discussion at the Working Party on Internal and External Fisheries Policy. It cannot in any circumstances be regarded as the official position of the Commission. It is intended solely for those to whom it is addressed.

Updates to Commission proposal COM(2020) 668 for a Council Regulation fixing for 2020 the fishing opportunities for certain fish stocks and groups of fish stocks, applicable in Union waters and, for Union vessels, in certain non-Union waters

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1. COMMISSION PROPOSAL IN RELATION TO IOTC

CHANGES TO RECITALS

- Recital 35 is replaced by the following:

(35) At its annual meeting in 2020, the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) kept the previously adopted conservation and management measures. Those measures should continue to be implemented in Union law.

CHANGES TO ANNEXES

- Annex IJ is replaced by the following:

“ANNEX IJ

IOTC AREA OF COMPETENCE

Catches of yellowfin tuna by Union vessels fishing with purse seiners shall not exceed the catch limits set out in this Annex.

Species:	Yellowfin tuna <i>Thunnus albacares</i>	Zone:	IOTC Area of Competence (YFT/IOTC)
France	29 501	Analytical TAC	
Italy	2 515	Article 3 of Regulation (EC) No 847/96 shall not apply	
Spain	45 682	Article 4 of Regulation (EC) No 847/96 shall not apply	
Union	77 698		
TAC	Not relevant		

- Annex VIII is replaced by the following:

“ANNEX VIII

IOTC AREA OF COMPETENCE

1. Maximum number of Union fishing vessels authorised to fish for tropical tunas in the IOTC Area of Competence

Member State	Maximum number of vessels	Capacity (gross tonnage)
Spain	22	61 364
France	27	45 383
Portugal	5	1 627
Italy	1	2 137
Union	55	110 511

2. Maximum number of Union fishing vessels authorised to fish for swordfish and albacore in the IOTC Area of Competence

Member State	Maximum number of vessels	Capacity (gross tonnage)
Spain	27	11 590
France	41 ⁽¹⁾	7 882
Portugal	15	6 925
Union	83	26 397
⁽¹⁾ This figure does not include vessels registered in Mayotte; it may be increased in the future in accordance with Mayotte's fleet development plan.		

3. The vessels referred to in point 1 shall also be authorised to fish for swordfish and albacore in the IOTC Area of Competence.
4. The vessels referred to in point 2 shall also be authorised to fish for tropical tunas in the IOTC Area of Competence.

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2. COMMISSION PROPOSAL IN RELATION TO SIOFA

CHANGES TO RECITALS

- Recital 42 is replaced by the following:
- (42) The 7th Meeting of the Parties of the Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement (SIOFA) in 2020 kept the conservation and management measures adopted in 2019 for the stocks under the scope of the Agreement. Those measures should continue to be implemented in Union law.

CHANGES TO ANNEXES

- Annex IK is replaced by the following:

“ANNEX IK
SIOFA AGREEMENT AREA

Species	Toothfish <i>Dissostichus</i> spp.	Zone:	Del Cano Area ⁽¹⁾ (TOT/F517DC)
Union	18,33 ⁽²⁾	Precautionary TAC	
TAC	55 ⁽²⁾		

⁽¹⁾ International waters in FAO Subarea 51.7 bounded between -44° S and -45° S latitude, and the adjacent exclusive economic zones to the east and west.

⁽²⁾ May only be fished by vessels with observers on board and using longlines during the fishing season from 1 December 2020 to 30 November 2021. Longlines shall not exceed 3 000 hooks per line and shall be set at minimum 3 nautical miles from each

other.

Catches of vessels not targeting this species may not exceed 0,5 tonnes per fishing season. When a vessel reaches this limit, it may no longer fish in Del Cano Area.

Species:	Toothfish <i>Dissostichus</i> spp.	Zone:	Williams Ridge ⁽¹⁾ (TOT/F574WR)
TAC	140 ⁽²⁾	Precautionary TAC	

(1) Area of FAO Subarea 57.4 bounded by the following coordinates:

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1	52° 30' 00" S	80° 00' 00" E
2	55° 00' 00" S	80° 00' 00" E
3	55° 00' 00" S	85° 00' 00" E
4	52° 30' 00" S	85° 00' 00" E

(2) The TAC set out above is not allocated between SIOFA Parties, hence the Union's share is undetermined. It may only be fished by vessels with observers on board during the fishing season from 1 December 2020 to 30 November 2021. No more than two longlines not exceeding 6 250 hooks are set per grid cell established by SIOFA and an interval of at least 30 days is applied between fishing trips according to the access conditions established by SIOFA.

Catches of vessels not targeting this species may not exceed 0,5 tonnes per fishing season. When a vessel reaches this limit, it may no longer fish in Williams Ridge.

Interim Protected Areas

Atlantis Bank

Point	Latitude (S)	Longitude (E)
1	32° 00'	57° 00'
2	32° 50'	57° 00'
3	32° 50'	58° 00'
4	32° 00'	58° 00'

Coral

Point	Latitude (S)	Longitude (E)
1	41° 00'	42° 00'
2	41° 40'	42° 00'
3	41° 40'	44° 00'
4	41° 00'	44° 00'

Fools Flat

Point	Latitude (S)	Longitude (E)
1	31° 30'	94° 40'
2	31° 40'	94° 40'
3	31° 40'	95° 00'
4	31° 30'	95° 00'

Middle of What

Point	Latitude (S)	Longitude (E)
1	37° 54'	50° 23'
2	37° 56.5'	50° 23'
3	37° 56.5'	50° 27'
4	37° 54'	50° 27'

Walter's Shoal

Point	Latitude (S)	Longitude (E)
1	33° 00'	43° 10'
2	33° 20'	43° 10'
3	33° 20'	44° 10'
4	33° 00'	44° 10'

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3. COMMISSION PROPOSAL IN RELATION TO CCAMLR

CHANGES TO RECITALS

- Recital 34 is replaced by the following:

(34) At its annual meeting in 2020, the Parties to the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR) adopted catch limits for both target and

by-catch species for the period from 1 December 2020 to 30 November 2021. The uptake of the quotas during 2020 should be considered when setting fishing opportunities for 2021.

CHANGES TO ANNEXES

- Annex VII is replaced by the following:

“ANNEX VII

CCAMLR CONVENTION AREA

Exploratory fishing for toothfish in the CCAMLR Convention Area in 2020/2021 shall be limited to the following:

Table A

Authorised Member States, subareas and maximum number of vessels

Member State	Area	Maximum number of vessels
Spain	48.6	1
Spain	88.1	1

Table B

TACs and by-catch limits

The TACs set out below, which are adopted by CCAMLR, are not allocated to CCAMLR members and hence the Union's share is undetermined. Catches are monitored by the CCAMLR Secretariat which will communicate to the Contracting Parties when fishing is to be ceased due to TAC exhaustion

Subarea	Region	Season	SSRUs (48.6) or research blocks (88.1)	<i>Dissostichus mawsoni</i> catch limit (in tonnes)/SSRUs (48.6) or research blocks (88.1)	<i>Dissostichus mawsoni</i> catch limit (in tonnes)/whole subarea	By-catch limit (in tonnes)/SSRUs (48.6) or research blocks (88.1)		
						Skates and rays	<i>Macrourus</i> spp. ¹	Other species
48.6	Whole subarea	1 December 2020 to 30 November 2021	48.6_2	112	586	6	18	18
			48.6_3	30		2	5	5
			48.6_4	163		8	26	26
			48.6_5	263		13	42	42

¹ In area 88.1, where the catch of *Macrourus* spp. taken by a single vessel in any two 10-day periods (i.e. from day 1 to day 10, day 11 to day 20, or day 21 to the last day of the month) in any SSRU exceeds 1 500 kg in each 10-day period and exceeds 16 % of the catch of *Dissostichus* spp. by that vessel in that SSRU, the vessel shall cease fishing in that SSRU for the remainder of the season.

Subarea	Region	Season	SSRUs (48.6) or research blocks (88.1)	<i>Dissostichus mawsoni</i> catch limit (in tonnes)/SSRUs (48.6) or research blocks (88.1)	<i>Dissostichus mawsoni</i> catch limit (in tonnes)/whole subarea	By-catch limit (in tonnes)/SSRUs (48.6) or research blocks (88.1)		
						Skates and rays	<i>Macrourus</i> spp. ¹	Other species
88.1.	Whole subarea	1 December 2020 to 31 August 2021	A, B, C, G ²	597	3 140 ³	30	96	30
			G, H, I, J, K ⁴	2 072		104	317	104
			Special Research Zone of the Ross Sea Region marine protected area	406		20	72	20

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² All areas outside the Ross Sea region marine protected area and north of 70° S.

³ The target species is *Dissostichus mawsoni*. Any *Dissostichus eleginoides* caught shall be counted towards the overall catch limit for *Dissostichus mawsoni*.

⁴ All areas outside the Ross Sea region marine protected area and south of 70° S.

4. COMMISSION PROPOSAL IN RELATION TO SPRFMO

CHANGES TO RECITALS

- Recital 36 is replaced by the following:
 - (36) The annual meeting of the South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation (SPRFMO) will be held from 21 January to 1 February 2021. The current measures in the SPRFMO Convention Area should be provisionally maintained until such annual meeting is held.