

## **AGREED RECORD**

### **OF CONCLUSIONS OF FISHERIES CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN NORWAY, THE EUROPEAN UNION, THE FAROE ISLANDS, ICELAND AND THE UNITED KINGDOM ON THE MANAGEMENT OF BLUE WHITING IN THE NORTH-EAST ATLANTIC IN 2022**

**London, 25-26 OCTOBER 2021**

1. A delegation from Norway, headed by Mr Vidar LANDMARK, a delegation from the European Union, headed by Mr Joost PAARDEKOOPEL, a delegation from the Faroe Islands, headed by Mr Herluf SIGVALDSSON, a delegation from Iceland, headed by Mr Kristján Freyr HELGASON, and a delegation from the United Kingdom, headed by Mr Will FRANCIS, met at NEAFC in London on 25-26 October 2021 to consult on the management of the blue whiting stock in the North-East Atlantic in 2022.
2. A delegation from Greenland, headed by Mr Jákup Emil HANSEN, and a delegation from the Russian Federation, headed by Ms Anna SHULAEVA, attended as observers.
3. The delegations noted that the agreed long-term management strategy for blue whiting, dated 27 October 2016, is regarded by ICES as consistent with the precautionary approach (Annex I). The delegations also noted that the long-term strategy for blue whiting dated 27 October 2016 should have been reviewed after five years. Furthermore the delegations agreed that the existing long-term management strategy shall remain in place until the Parties decide that the necessary information to review it is available.
4. The delegations agreed that the level of total catches of blue whiting in the North-East Atlantic for 2022 should be no more than 752 736 tonnes, as advised by ICES. The delegations also agreed that establishing unilateral quotas for 2022 does not in any way imply acceptance of the level of these quotas by any Party.
5. The delegations recommended that the NEAFC allowable catches for 2022 would be 59 910 tonnes. These catches should not be considered as additional to the level set in Paragraph 4.
6. The delegations agreed that the Parties shall address the issue of quota-sharing arrangement as early as possible in 2022.
7. The delegations encouraged the Parties to develop and coordinate their scientific research activities in order to improve the information available for the assessment and the management of this stock.
8. The delegations agreed to establish a Working Group, chaired by Norway in 2022, to

update the “Report from the NEAFC Working Group on Collating Information on the Distribution of All Life Stages of Blue Whiting in the North-East Atlantic and the Distribution of Catches from the Stock, London, 26 – 28 November 2013”.

9. The delegations exchanged quota and catch information for 2019, 2020 (final) as well as preliminary information for 2021 (Annex II). The delegations also exchanged information with regard to their fishing activities including exchanges and access arrangements (Annex III).
10. The delegations agreed to continue to provide information in the same format as set out in Annex II and Annex III to this Agreed Record. Each Party shall, by 1 May 2022, provide updated information in this regard to the Faroe Islands as host of the consultations on management measures for 2023. The Faroe Islands shall forward this information as soon as possible to all Parties to this Agreed Record.
11. The delegations agreed that the Parties may fish blue whiting within their quotas in their respective zones of fisheries jurisdiction and in international waters.
12. The delegations agreed that further arrangements by the Parties, including arrangements for access, quota transfers and other conditions for fishing in the respective zones of fisheries jurisdiction, are regulated by bilateral arrangements.

London, 26 October 2021

Vidar LANDMARK  
For the Delegation of Norway

JOOST PAARDEKOOPEL  
For the Delegation of the European Union

Herluf SIGVALDSSON  
For the Delegation of the Faroe Islands

Kristján Freyr HELGASON  
For the Delegation of Iceland

Will FRANCIS  
For the Delegation of the United Kingdom

**ARRANGEMENT FOR THE  
LONG-TERM MANAGEMENT  
OF THE BLUE WHITING STOCK**

1. The Parties agree to implement a long-term management strategy for the fisheries on the Blue Whiting stock, which is consistent with the precautionary approach and the MSY approach, aiming at ensuring harvest rates within safe biological limits.
2. For the purpose of this long-term management strategy, in the following text, "TAC" means the sum of the agreed Coastal State quotas and the NEAFC allowable catches.
3. As a priority, the long-term strategy shall ensure with high probability that the size of the stock is maintained above  $B_{lim}$ .
4. In the case that the spawning biomass is forecast to be above or equal to  $B_{trigger}$  ( $=B_{pa}$ ) on 1 January of the year for which the TAC is to be set, the TAC shall be fixed to a fishing mortality of  $F_{MSY}$ .
5. Where the rules in paragraph 4 would lead to a TAC, which deviates by more than 20% below or 25% above the TAC of the preceding year, the Parties shall fix a TAC that is respectively no more than 20% less or 25% more than the TAC of the preceding year.
6. The TAC constraint described in paragraph 5 shall not apply if:
  - a. The spawning biomass at 1 January in the year preceding the year for which the TAC is to be set is less than  $B_{trigger}$ ; or
  - b. The rules in paragraph 4 would lead to a TAC that deviates by more than 40% from the TAC of the preceding year.
7. In the case that the spawning biomass (SSB) is forecast to be less than the precautionary biomass ( $B_{trigger}$ ) on 1 January of the year for which the TAC is to be set, the TAC shall be fixed at a level that is consistent with a fishing mortality given by:
 
$$\text{Target } F = 0.05 + [(SSB - B_{lim}) * (F_{MSY} - 0.05) / (B_{trigger} - B_{lim})]$$
8. In the case that the spawning biomass is forecast to be less than  $B_{lim}$  on 1 January of the year for which the TAC is to be set, the TAC will be fixed corresponding to a fishing mortality  $F=0.05$ .
9. Each Party may transfer to the following year unutilised quantities of up to 10% of the quota allocated to it. The quantity transferred shall be in addition to the quota allocated to the Party concerned in the following year.
10. Each Party may authorise fishing by its vessels of up to 10% beyond the quota allocated. All

quantities fished beyond the allocated quota for one year shall be deducted from the Party's quota allocated for the following year.

11. The inter-annual quota flexibility scheme in paragraphs 9 and 10 should be suspended in the year following the TAC year, if the stock is forecast to be under  $B_{\text{trigger}}$  at the end of the TAC year.
12. The Parties, on the basis of ICES advice, shall review this long-term management strategy at intervals not exceeding five years. The first such review shall take place no later than by December 2021.

## Annex II

## Reporting of quotas and catches of blue whiting in the North-East Atlantic - 2019 to 2021

2019															
Party	QUOTAS (tonnes)				CATCHES (tonnes)										
	Quota established	Balance from 2018	Quota exchange	Quotas after transfers and flexibility	NEAFC Regulatory Area	European Union Zone	Faroese Fishing Zone	Greenland fishing zone	Icelandic Exclusive Economic Zone	Norwegian Economic Zone	Fishery Zone around Jan Mayen	Fishery Protection Zone around Svalbard	Russian Economic Zone	TOTAL CATCH	Balance
European Union	473 691	57 484	-107 400	423 775	1 615	345 090	1 963	0	0	44	0	0	0	348 713	75 062
Faroe Islands	406 307	64 064	-87 000	383 371	70 321	29 900	237 514	0	1 878	0	0	0	0	339 613	43 758
Iceland	241 000	23 227	-2 000	262 227	95 191	0	164 098	0	3 695	0	0	0	0	262 984	-757
Norway	276 257	-43 734	79 994	312 517	59 690	267 251	2 452	0	0	21 582	0	0	0	350 974	-38 457
<b>Total CS</b>	<b>1 397 255</b>	<b>101 041</b>	<b>-116 406</b>	<b>1 381 890</b>	<b>226 817</b>	<b>642 241</b>	<b>406 027</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5 573</b>	<b>21 626</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1 302 284</b>	<b>79 606</b>
Russian Federation	84 828	10 295	102 135	197 258	90 316		79 262			18 428				188 006	9 252
Greenland	6 192	334	13 500	20 026	134	0	19 640							19 774	252
<b>Total all Parties</b>	<b>1 488 275</b>	<b>111 670</b>	<b>-771</b>	<b>1 599 174</b>	<b>317 267</b>	<b>642 241</b>	<b>504 929</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5 573</b>	<b>40 054</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1 510 064</b>	<b>89 110</b>
2020															
Party	QUOTAS (tonnes)				CATCHES (tonnes)										
	Coastal State share/share	Balance from 2019	Quota exchange	Quotas after transfers and flexibility	NEAFC Regulatory Area	European Union Zone	Faroese Fishing Zone	Greenland fishing zone	Icelandic Exclusive Economic Zone	Norwegian Economic Zone	Fishery Zone around Jan Mayen	Fishery Protection Zone around Svalbard	Russian Economic Zone	TOTAL CATCH	Balance
European Union	481 141	47 369	-107 400	421 110	5 904	337 046	7 121	0	0	41	0	0	0	350 112	70 998
Faroe Islands	412 697	43 758	-98 000	358 455	39 849	44 644	258 681	0	3 131	0	0	0	0	346 305	12 150
Iceland	245 101	-757	-2 000	242 344	43 475	0	184 537	0	10 839	0	0	0	0	238 851	3 493
Norway	280 602	-38 457	79 681	321 826	58 114	267 822	878	0	0	27 219	0	0	0	354 033	-32 207
<b>Total Coastal States</b>	<b>1 419 541</b>	<b>51 913</b>	<b>-127 719</b>	<b>1 343 735</b>	<b>147 342</b>	<b>649 512</b>	<b>451 217</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>13 970</b>	<b>27 260</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1 289 301</b>	<b>54 434</b>
Russian Federation	86 162	4 808	104 219	195 189	83 780		80 337			17 379				181 496	13 693
Greenland	6 273	252	13 500	20 025	1 874		17 676							19 550	475
<b>Total all Parties</b>	<b>1 511 976</b>	<b>56 973</b>	<b>-10 000</b>	<b>1 558 949</b>	<b>232 996</b>	<b>649 512</b>	<b>549 230</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>13 970</b>	<b>44 639</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1 490 347</b>	<b>68 602</b>
2021 (Provisional)															
Party	QUOTAS (tonnes)				CATCHES (tonnes)										
	Coastal State share/share	Balance from 2020	Quota exchange	Quotas after transfers and flexibility	NEAFC Regulatory Area	European Union Zone	Faroese Fishing Zone	Greenland fishing zone	Icelandic Exclusive Economic Zone	Norwegian Economic Zone	Fishery Zone around Jan Mayen	Fishery Protection Zone around Svalbard	United Kingdom Zone	Russian Economic Zone	TOTAL CATCH
European Union	313 232	48 114	-37 500	323 846	16 073	149 413				0			43 393	208 879	114 967
Faroe Islands	330 158	12 150	-96 700	245 608	28 143		163 761		30	85				192 019	53 589
Iceland	196 081	3 493	-2 000	197 574	30 638		111 247		19 500					161 385	36 189
Norway	224 482	-32 207	21 325	213 600	99 043	99 441				27 473				225 957	-12 357
United Kingdom	71 670	760	0	72 430		42 780						29 323		72 103	327
<b>Total Coastal States</b>	<b>1 135 623</b>	<b>32 310</b>	<b>-114 875</b>	<b>1 053 058</b>	<b>173 897</b>	<b>291 634</b>	<b>275 008</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>19 530</b>	<b>27 558</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>72 716</b>	<b>860 343</b>	<b>192 715</b>
Russian Federation	68 929	7 350	100 175	176 454	68 535		76 056			13 737				158 328	18 126
Greenland	5 032	475	14 700	20 207	40		17 000							17 040	3 167
<b>Total all Parties</b>	<b>1 209 584</b>	<b>40 135</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1 249 719</b>	<b>242 472</b>	<b>291 634</b>	<b>368 064</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>19 530</b>	<b>41 295</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>72 716</b>	<b>1 035 711</b>	<b>214 008</b>
<b>Guideline for the spreadsheet</b>															
Coastal state share/share	Quota allocated to the Party														
Balance	Unutilised/fishing beyond the quota from last year. Includes unused quantity related to transfers between countries														
Quota exchange	Transfers between countries														
Quotas after transfers and flexibility	New quota														

Transfers in 2021<sup>1</sup>

Party	Quotas	Balance from 2020	Total available	Transfer to						
				European Union	Faroe Islands	Iceland	Norway	United Kingdom	Russian Federation	Greenland
<b>European Union</b>	313 232	48 114	361 346	---			37 500			
<b>Faroe Islands</b>	330 158	12 150	342 308		---				82 000	14 700
<b>Iceland</b>	196 081	3 493	199 574	-		---			2000 <sup>2</sup>	
<b>Norway</b>	224 482	-32 207	192 275	-			---		16 175	
<b>United Kingdom</b>	71 670	760	72 430	-				---		
<b>Russian Federation</b>	68 929	7 350	76 279						---	
<b>Greenland</b>	5 032	475	5 507							---

1 Transfer imply full access

2 Transfer does not imply full access

## Access arrangements in 2021

Party	Access to						
	European Union	Faroe Islands	Iceland	Norway	United Kingdom	Russian Federation	Greenland
<b>European Union</b>	---			141 648	full access		
<b>Faroe Islands</b>		---	full access	34 800		25%*	5 032
<b>Iceland</b>		full access	---				
<b>Norway</b>	141 648			---			
<b>United Kingdom</b>	full access				---		
<b>Russian Federation</b>			-			---	
<b>Greenland</b>							---

\*of the NEAFC quota allocated to the Russian Federation

