

COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

COM(80) 722 final

Brussels, 13th November 1980

PROPOSAL FOR A COUNCIL REGULATION (EEC)
CONCERNING, FOR CERTAIN FISH STOCKS OCCURRING IN THE COMMUNITY
FISHING ZONE, THE FIXING OF THE TOTAL ALLOWABLE CATCHES FOR
1981 AND THE CONDITIONS FOR TAKING THESE CATCHES
TOGETHER WITH THE SHARES AVAILABLE TO THE COMMUNITY

(presented by the Commission to the Council)

COM(80) 722 final

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

1. The object of this proposal is to fix, for fish stocks occurring in the Community fishing zone, the total allowable catches (TACs) for 1981, the share of these TACs available to the Community when account is taken of its commitments to interested non-member states, and certain conditions regarding by-catches etc., which must be observed in fishing the TACs.
2. This proposal is based on the management policy set out by the Commission in its communication to the Council of 21.11.1979 (COM(79) 687 final). The essence of the policy is to take measures to ensure the continuance of each fish stock as a commercially viable resource, to decrease fishing effort on over-exploited stocks in order to avoid widely fluctuating yields from year to year, and then to move the degree of exploitation of individual stocks towards the level giving the maximum average long-term catch. It was on the basis of these objectives that the Council at its meeting of 29 January, 1980 accepted the TACs proposed for 1980 by the Commission. The policy is, however, a long-term one and has not yet been implemented for a sufficiently long period to have shown obvious results. The levels of exploitation and TACs recommended for 1981 are therefore very similar to those for 1980 for the majority of stocks, the variations that do occur reflecting mainly short-term changes caused by fluctuations in year class strength.
3. In maintaining these proposals the Commission is motivated principally by the socio-economic needs of the fishing industry. The real interests of Community fishermen demand that fishing patterns should be stabilised as quickly as possible and that catch yields and, therefore, profitability should be increased in the face of the rising costs of fishing. The only way to do this is to reduce the fishing mortality rate. In this respect, the Commission wishes to emphasize that it is precisely because it is aware of the socio-economic needs of the fishing industry that it has adopted a gradualist approach in making its TAC proposals because to bring the fishing effort down to the desired level in one step would mean that the majority of TACs would be unacceptably small.
4. Consultations with certain third countries about the determination of reciprocal fishing arrangements for 1980 are now in progress or about to start. The uncertainty resulting from the lack of agreement at present with

these partners may affect the present proposals and especially the eventual amounts available for the Community in respect of certain stocks such as those in the North Sea, Baltic and NAFO 1 zone. When these consultations are completed the Commission will adjust its proposal accordingly . With these exceptions, however, the Commission considers that the evaluation of the overall position which this proposal provides has the comprehensive character which, if the Council adopts the proposal, should allow Community fishermen, without delay, to plan the development of their operations throughout this year's fishing season.

PROPOSAL FOR A
COUNCIL REGULATION (EEC)

concerning, for certain fish stocks occurring in the
Community fishing zone, the fixing of the total allowa-
ble catches for 1981 and the conditions for taking these
catches together with the shares available to the
Community

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community, [and
in particular Article 43 thereof] *)

Having regard to Regulation (EEC) No. / of establishing a Community
system for the conservation and management of fishery resources (1) and in particular
Articles 3 and 4, paragraph 1, thereof;

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission ;

[Having regard to the opinion of the European Parliament (2)] ; *)

whereas in order to ensure the protection of the fishing grounds and stocks
of fish and to ensure thereby a balanced exploitation of the resources of the
sea in the interests of both fishermen and consumers, there should be fixed
each year for each species requiring a limitation of catches, a total allowable
catch (TAC) per stock or group of stocks, the share of the TACs available for
the Community, taking into account commitments to third countries and the condi-
tions governing the carrying out of fishing operations :

HAD ADOPTED THE FOLLOWING REGULATION :

(1) O.J. n°
[(2) O.J. n°] *)

*) The text within square brackets would be included if the Regulation establishing
a Community system for the conservation and management of fishery resources
would not be adopted by the Council in time.

Article 1

The total allowable catches (TACs) fixed for 1981, on the basis of stocks or groups of stocks, in the waters under the sovereignty or jurisdiction of the Member States and subject to Community fishing regulations, together with the shares of these TACs available for the Community and the conditions governing the taking of these potential catches, are set out in the annex hereto.

Article 2

The Council, acting by a qualified majority on a proposal from the Commission, may modify the annex of this Regulation in order, if necessary, to take account of new scientific advice becoming available, changes in any other of the factors on which the provisions of this Regulation are based and any subsequent modifications in the agreements reached with interested non-member States about the allocation to them of quotas for fishing in the Community fishing zone in 1981⁷*)

Article 3

This Regulation shall enter into force on the 3rd day after publication in the Official Journal of the European Communities.

It is applicable from 1.1.1981.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and shall be directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at

For the Council
The President

*) The text within square brackets would be included if the Regulation establishing a Community system for the conservation and management of fishery resources would not be adopted, by the Council, in time.

ANNEX

TACs by stock and by sector envisaged for 1981- Proportions available to the Community.

SPECIES	ICES Division or-NAFO Zone	TAC 1981 (in tonnes)	Proportions available to the Community for 1981
Cod	IIIa North Skagerrak	16.000 *	13.500
Cod	IIIa South Kattegat	16.400	10.400
Cod	IIIb,c,d	120.000 **	123.000
Cod	IV	190.000	170.850
Cod	VI	10.000 (1)	10.000
Cod	VII except VIIa	9.000 (+)	9.000
Cod	VIIa	5.000	5.000
Cod	XIV	Not yet established	
Cod	NAFO 1	Not yet established	
Cod	NAFO 3Ps	28.000	4.500
Haddock	IIIa Skagerrak + Kattegat	5.100 (+)	4.500
Haddock	IV	120.000	107.800
Haddock	VI	18.000 (2)	18.000 (2)
Haddock	VII	9.000 (+)	9.000
Saithe	IIIa, IV	127.000	67.000
Saithe	VI	27.000	27.000
Saithe	VII	4.880 (+)	4.880
Whiting	IIIa North Skagerrak	4.650 (+)	3.850
Whiting	IIIa South Kattegat	17.350 (+)	16.150
Whiting	IIIb,c,d, ; Community zone only	3.850 (+)	3.850
Whiting	IV	150.000	134.980
Whiting	VI	14.000	14.000
Whiting	VIIa	8.000	8.000
Whiting	VII except VIIa	18.000 (+)	18.000
Plaice	IIIa North Skagerrak	14.000 (+)	13.400
Plaice	IIIa South Kattegat	8.000 (+)	7.000
Plaice	IIIb,c,d, Community zone only	4.150 (+)	4.150
Plaice	IV	105.000	103.980
Plaice	VI	1.680 (+)	1.680
Plaice	VIIa	2.000	2.000
Plaice	VIIb,c	320 (+)	320
Plaice	VIIId,e	3.000 (+)	3.000
Plaice	VIIIf,g	600	600
Plaice	VIII	190 (+)	190

* Not including 1.600 tonnes attributed to Norwegian coastal area

** Community zone only

(+) Precautionary TAC

(1) 9.500 tonnes in zone VIa, 500 tonnes in area VIb

(2) 15.500 ts in area VIa, 2.500 ts in area VIb

SPECIES	ICES Division or NAFO Zone	TAC 1981 (in tonnes)	Proportions available to the Community for 1981
American Plaice	NAFO 3Ps	5.000	500
Witch	NAFO 3Ps	3.000	400
Sole	IIIa	800(+)	800
Sole	IV	15.000	15.000
Sole	VIa	50(+)	50
Sole	VIIa	1.500	1.500
Sole	VIIb,c	50(+)	50
Sole	VIIId	1.200(+)	1.200
Sole	VIIe	1.000(+)	1.000
Sole	VIIIf,g	1.000	1.000
Sole	VIII	3.070	3.070
Mackerel	IIIa, IV	37.500	10.700 (6)
Mackerel	VI, VII, VIII	335.500(1)(2)	299.500
Sprat	IIIa	72.000(+)	49.000 (6)
Sprat	IIIb,c,d ; Community zone only	3.700(+)	3.700
Sprat	IV	400.000(+)(3)	311.000
Horse Mackerel	IV, VI, VII, VIII	250.000	241.000
Hake	IIIa	1.365(+)	1.365
Hake	IV, VI, VII, VIIIa,b	30.000(+)	22.500
Anchovies	VIII	32.000(+)	3.000
Norway Pout	IIIa, IV	540.000	500.000(4)
Blue Whiting	IV, VI, VII, XIV; Community zone only	580.000(+)(x)	426.000 (x)
Anglerfish	VI, VII, VIII	26.800(+)	24.800
Megrim	VI, VII, VIII	14.090(+)	12.590
Sandeel	IIIa, IV	571.000	526.000(4)
Sandeel	XIV	0	(5)
Sandeel	NAFO 1	0	(5)
Squid, octopus, cuttlefish	VI, VII, VIII	12.100	12.100
Squid, octopus, cuttlefish	NAFO 3-4	150.000	7.000

(+) Precautionary TAC. - (x) Provisional.

(1) To protect the 'eastern' stock, fishing for mackerel is forbidden in ICES division VIa) north of latitude 56°00'N from 1 March 1981 to 30 April 1981.

(2) Fishing for mackerel carried out with towed gears whose trawl doors and/or footropes or bobbins are not in contact with the sea-bed at all times when in use and/or whose mesh is smaller than those specified in Annex I of Council Regulation (EEC) No. 2527/80 of 30.9.1980, or with purse seines and similar gears shall be prohibited in that part of ICES division VIIe west of 05°00'W and in that part of ICES division VIIIf south of 50°30'N during the period 15 February 1981 to 14 December 1981.

(3) The by-catch of herring in the sprat fishery shall not exceed 3%

(4) A maximum of 20.000t of Norway pout, blue whiting included, is interchangeable with the catch possibilities for sandeel in the Norwegian zone of the North Sea, ICES zone IV.

(5) Apart from certain catch possibilities for experimental purposes.

(6) Trawling and purse seining is prohibited in the Skagerrak from Saturday midnight to Sunday midnight and in the Kattegat from Friday midnight to Sunday midnight.

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SPECIES	ICES Division or NAFO Zone	TAC 1981 (in tonnes)	Proportions available to the Community for 1981
Redfish	V, XIV	85.000(+)	42.500
Redfish	NAFO 1	10.000(+)	9.800 (1)
Redfish	NAFO 3 Ps	18.000	2.000
Greenland halibut	V, XIV	15.000	15.000
Greenland halibut	NAFO 0-1	25.000	19.650 (2)
Halibut	XIV	200	200 (3)
Halibut	NAFO 1	500	500 (3)
Roundnose grenadier	NAFO 0-1	8.000	7.200 (4)
Shrimp	XIV	Not yet established	(5)
Shrimp	NAFO 0-1:north of 68°00'N south of 68°00'N	Not yet established	(5)
Shrimp	French Guyana	(6)	(6)
Herring	IIIa north: Skagerrak	15.200	6.300 (7) (8) (9)
Herring	IIIa south: Kattegat	37.800	18.900 (7) (10)
Herring	IIIb,c,d	31.800 *	30.800 (8)
Herring	IV, VIId	0	0 (11)
Herring	VIa, incl. Donegal Bay, excl. Clyde	0	0 (11)
Herring	VIa Clyde stock (a)	2.000	2.000 (8)
Herring	VIIa (b) Mourne stock (c)	0	0 (11)
Herring	VIIa (b) Manx stock (d)	6.000	6.000 (8) (12)
Herring	VIIb,c (Donegal Bay excepted)	7.000 (+)	7.000 (8)
Herring	VIIe,f	0	0 (11)
Herring	VIIg-k(e) (Bantry Bay excepted)	0	0
Herring	VIIj (Bantry Bay only)	6.000 (+)	6.000 (8)
Catfish	NAFO 1	6.000	6.000
Capelin	XIV	600.000 (x)	10.000 (x)
Salmon	IIIb,c,d: Community zone only	Not yet establ.	Not yet establ.
Salmon	NAFO 1: west of 44° west	Not yet established	

(+) Precautionary TAC.
 * Community zone only.
 (x) Provisional.
 See footnotes on the following page.

- (1) Subject to the introduction of a zone in which fishing for this stock would be prohibited, or of any other appropriate measure taking into account the experience acquired from applying by-catch provisions.
- (2) 7.500 tonnes exclusively reserved to coastal fishermen of Greenland.
- (3) Special allocation exclusively reserved for coastal fishermen of Greenland, by-catch not included. By-catches of halibut from this zone shall not exceed 3% by weight of catches of other species for which a TAC has been fixed. The detailed rules of implementation to ensure compliance with the rates of by-catches will be adopted by the Council before 31.12.1980.
- (4) 1.000 tonnes exclusively reserved to coastal fishermen of Greenland.
- (5) Not yet established.
- (6) See Regulation (EEC) No. /80.
- (7) Trawling and purse seining is prohibited in the Skagerrak from Saturday midnight to Sunday midnight and in the Kattegat from Friday midnight to Sunday midnight.
- (8) By-catches of herring shall not exceed 10% by weight of the catches of sprats and 5% by weight of the catches of other species. The by-catch landed will be deducted from the quantities to be allocated to each Member State. When this TAC is exhausted, no further by-catches of herring may be landed.
- (9) Fishing for herring is forbidden in the Skagerrak from 1 January to 31 March 1981 and from 1 October to 31 December 1981.
- (10) By-catches of herring landed from the Kattegat shall not exceed 10% by weight of the catches of sprats and 5% by weight of the catches of other species. The by-catches landed will be deducted from the quantities allocated to each Member State.
- (11) By-catches of herring shall not exceed 5% by weight of the catches of other species except in the North Sea, ICES zone IV and in ICES zone VIIId where by-catches of herring shall not exceed 3% by weight of catches of other species.
- (12) Fishing for herring is forbidden in the Irish Sea (ICES division VIIa) throughout the whole year within 12 miles of the coasts of England, Scotland and Wales between latitudes 53°20'N and 55°00'N and from 22 September to 16 November 1981 in that part of the Irish Sea (ICES VIIa) north of latitude 52°30'N.
 - (a) Maritime area situated to the north-east of a line drawn between the Mull of Kintyre and Corsewall Point.
 - (b) ICES zone VIIa) is reduced by the zone added to the Celtic Sea bounded:
 - to the north by latitude 52°30'N,
 - to the south by latitude 52°00'N,
 - to the west by the coast of Ireland,
 - to the east by the coast of the United Kingdom.
 - (c) Fishing prohibited within 12 miles zone from the base-lines off the east coast of Ireland and Northern Ireland between 53°00'N and 55°00'N throughout the whole year.

(d) Reference is to the herring stock in the Irish sea (ICES zone VIIa) excluding the zones referred to in footnotes (b) and (c).

(e) Increased by zone bounded:

- to the north by latitude $52^{\circ}30'N$,
- to the south by latitude $52^{\circ}00'N$,
- to the west by the coast of Ireland,
- to the east by the coast of the United Kingdom.

