



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**



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2986th Council meeting

Agriculture and Fisheries

Brussels, 14-16 December 2009

President **Mr Eskil ERLANDSSON**
Minister for Agriculture of Sweden

P R E S S

Main results of the Council

The Council reached political agreement on the total allowable catches (TACs) and quotas for 2010.

*The Council reached a partial political agreement in view of the second reading of a proposal on **illegal logging**.*

The Council held a policy debate on the future of the CAP focusing on rural development, and on the simplification of the CAP.

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- Where declarations, conclusions or resolutions have been formally adopted by the Council, this is indicated in the heading for the item concerned and the text is placed between quotation marks.
- Documents for which references are given in the text are available on the Council's Internet site (<http://www.consilium.europa.eu>).
- Acts adopted with statements for the Council minutes which may be released to the public are indicated by an asterisk; these statements are available on the Council's Internet site or may be obtained from the Press Office.

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Mr Joe BORG

Ms Androulla VASSILIOU

Member

Member

ITEMS DEBATED**TOTAL ALLOWABLE CATCHES (TACS) AND QUOTAS FOR 2010**

The Council reached a political agreement on a draft regulation setting fishing opportunities for 2010 for Community vessels in the waters of the Atlantic, the Channel and the North Sea (TACs and quotas for the Baltic and Black Seas were already adopted on 20 and 27 November).

In line with long-term conservation management plans applicable for certain stocks, the Council agreed to **reductions**, compared to 2009, for the following species:

- 25% for haddock in West Scotland
- 20% sole in Eastern Channel
- between 15% and 35% for all cod stocks depending on the areas and rearrangements of certain TACs. Except for cod in West Scotland and Celtic Sea (roll-over)
- 9 % for Norway lobster in Porcupine bank (with a seasonal closure for all fishing in a smaller area of the Porcupine Bank and supported by scientific advice and the Western waters RAC)
- 15 % for southern anglerfish
- 10 % for whiting in West Scotland and Irish Sea

Following the Commission statement on fisheries policy, an **overall reduction** of 10% was agreed for species where scientific advice is lacking¹.

¹ Corresponding to category 11: see Commission's communication on fishing opportunities for 2010 ([9838/09](#)).

The TACs are set at **zero for porbeagle and spurdog** (except for 10% by-catches for the latter species).

As a consequence of the significant reduction of the EU **bluefin tuna** TAC agreed upon in the ICCAT framework, the Commission will assess with the Member States concerned, the best and most targeted use of financial instruments in order to address the socio-economic impact of such reduction.

In view of the encouraging signs of recovery of certain stocks, the Council agreed an **increase** of TACs:

- by 5% for megrim in the North Sea and West of Scotland.
- by 7 % for northern hake, in conformity with scientific advice and the long-term management plan
- by 7 % for plaice in the Celtic Sea
- by 15% for anglerfish in the Bay of Biscay
- by 14 % for plaice in the Irish Sea
- by 10 % for sole in the Bay of Biscay

Furthermore, in the light of the scientific surveys carried out last Autumn, the **anchovy** fisheries will be temporary re-opened as from 1 January 2010 in the Bay of Biscay. It will be subject to a later adjustment in accordance with a new scientific advice to be provided in Spring 2010.

A 5% flexibility between certain areas for horse mackerel after rearrangement of the TAC areas, was agreed upon.

Fisheries agreement with Norway

The draft regulation does not include final figures for stocks jointly managed with Norway or the Faroe Islands, because agreement between the parties is still pending on those resources. Instead, the political agreement includes provisional figures for shared stocks enabling the continuation of fishing activities early next year.

As a general rule, 65% of the current 2009 TAC as regards stocks jointly managed with Norway and exclusive stocks subject to transfers with Norway as well as those stocks relevant to the Faroese consultations was agreed on a provisional basis.

Incentive catch quota

The joint request from Denmark, the United Kingdom and Germany for an additional 5% incentive quota for cod (and other demersal species) to encourage fishermen reduce discards will be part of the future discussion with Norway.

The following table sets out the indicative values of the principal TACs for 2010 compared with those for 2009 and the Commission proposal¹.

¹ See Commission proposal: [14738/09](#) and [14738/09 ADD 1](#).

| <i>Species Latin name</i> | Species English name | Espèces nom français | ICES fishing zone | COUNCIL TACs 2010 | COUNCIL TACs 2009 | COUNCIL comparison 2010/2009 | COMMISSION Proposal for 2010 | comparison Council 2009 TAC/ Commission prop. 2010 |
|--|----------------------|----------------------|--|----------------------|----------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|
| | | | | | | % | | |
| ANNEX IA SKAGERRAK, KATTEGAT, ICES zones I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VII, VIII, IX, X, XII and XIV, EC Waters of CECAF, French Guyana waters | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Ammodytidae</i> | Sandeel | Lançon | IIa (EC waters), IIIa and IV (EC waters) (SAN/2A3A4) | 115375 | 177500 | -35% | na | na |
| <i>Ammodytidae</i> | Sandeel | Lançon | IV (Norwegian waters) (SAN/04-N) | Not relevant | NR | NR | pm | na |
| <i>Argentina silus</i> | Greater silver smelt | Grande argentine | I & II (EC and internat. waters) (ARU/1/2) | 111 | 116 | -4% | 99 | -15% |
| <i>Argentina silus</i> | Greater silver smelt | Grande argentine | III & IV (EC and internat. waters) (ARU/3/4) | 1.278 | 1.331 | -4% | 1.131 | -15% |
| <i>Argentina silus</i> | Greater silver smelt | Grande argentine | V, VI, VII (EC and internat. waters) (ARU/567) | 5.099 | 5.311 | -4% | 4.514 | -15% |
| <i>Brosme brosme</i> | Tusk | Brosmes | By catches - EC and internat. waters of I, II & XIV (USK/1214EI) | 20 | 24 | -17% | 20 | -17% |
| <i>Brosme brosme</i> | Tusk | Brosmes | EC waters of III (USK/03-C) | 24 | 28 | -14% | 24 | -14% |
| <i>Brosme brosme</i> | Tusk | Brosmes | EC waters of IV (USK/04-CI) | 196 | 231 | -15% | 196 | -15% |
| <i>Brosme brosme</i> | Tusk | Brosmes | EC and internat. waters of V, VI, and VII (USK/567EI) | 283 | 435 | -35% | pm | Not relevant |
| <i>Brosme brosme</i> | Tusk | Brosmes | IV (Norwegian waters) (USK/4AB-N) | Not relevant | 170 | na | pm | na |

| | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|---------|-----------|---|---------------------|--------|------|--------|--------------|
| <i>Clupea harengus</i> | Herring | Hareng | IIIa (HER/03A) | 20.924 | 32.190 | -35% | pm | na |
| <i>Clupea harengus</i> | Herring | Hareng | EC waters of IV north of 53°30' N (HER/04A) (HER/04B) | 63.598 | 97.843 | -35% | pm | na |
| <i>Clupea harengus</i> | Herring | Hareng | Norwegian waters south of 62° N (HER/04-N) | Not relevant | 846 | | pm | na |
| <i>Clupea harengus</i> | Herring | Hareng | by-catches in IIIa (HER/03A-BC) | 5.442 | 8.373 | -35% | pm | na |
| <i>Clupea harengus</i> | Herring | Hareng | by-catches in IV, VIId and in EC waters of IIa(HER/2A47-DX) | 10.390 | 15.985 | -35% | pm | Not relevant |
| <i>Clupea harengus</i> | Herring | Hareng | IVc, VIId (HER/4CXB7D) | 15.319 | 23.567 | -35% | pm | na |
| <i>Clupea harengus</i> | Herring | Hareng | EC and internat. waters of Vb and VIb and VIaN (HER/5B6ANB) | 13.715 | 21.760 | -37% | 21.100 | -3% |
| <i>Clupea harengus</i> | Herring | Hareng | VIaS, VIIbc (HER/6AS7BC) | 7.451 | 9.314 | -20% | 6.986 | -25% |
| <i>Clupea harengus</i> | Herring | Hareng | VIa Clyde (HER/06ACL) | 720 | 800 | -10% | 680 | -15% |
| <i>Clupea harengus</i> | Herring | Hareng | VIIa (HER/07A/MM) | 4.800 | 4.800 | 0% | 4.800 | 0% |
| <i>Clupea harengus</i> | Herring | Hareng | VIIe, f (HER/7EF) | 1.000 | 1.000 | 0% | 1.000 | 0% |
| <i>Clupea harengus</i> | Herring | Hareng | VIIg, h, j, k (HER/7G-K) | 10.150 | 5.918 | 72% | 10.150 | 72% |
| <i>Engraulis encrasicolus</i> | Anchovy | Anchois | VIII (ANE/08.) | 7000 | 0 | 0% | 0 | 0% |
| <i>Engraulis encrasicolus</i> | Anchovy | Anchois | IX, X; EC waters of CEECAF 34.1.1 (ANE/9/3411) | 8.000 | 8.000 | 0% | 6.800 | -15% |
| <i>Gadus morhua</i> | Cod | Cabillaud | Skagerrak (COD/03AN.) | 2.588 | 3.981 | -35% | pm | na |
| <i>Gadus morhua</i> | Cod | Cabillaud | Kattegat (COD/03AN.) | 379 | 505 | -25% | 379 | -25% |

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|---------------------------|-----------|---------------------|--|---------------------|--------|--------------|--------|--------------|
| <i>Gadus morhua</i> | Cod | Cabillaud | EC waters of IIa and IV, the part of IIIa not covered by the Skagerrak and Kattegat (COD/2A3AX4) | 15.536 | 23.902 | -35% | pm | na |
| <i>Gadus morhua</i> | Cod | Cabillaud | Norwegian waters south of 62° N (COD/04-N) | Not relevant | 382 | Not relevant | pm | na |
| <i>Gadus morhua</i> | Cod | Cabillaud | VIb; EC & int. waters of Vb to the west of 12°00W and of XII & XIV (COD/561214) [splitting of TAC] | 80 | 302 | -74% | 80 | -74% |
| <i>Gadus morhua</i> | Cod | Cabillaud | VIa, EC & int. waters of Vb to the east of 12°00W (COD/5B6A-C) | 240 | 240 | 0% | 180 | |
| <i>Gadus morhua</i> | Cod | Cabillaud | VIIa (COD/07A) | 674 | 899 | -25% | 674 | -25% |
| <i>Gadus morhua</i> | Cod | Cabillaud | VIIb-c, VIIe-k, VIII, IX & X; EC waters of CECAF 34.1.1 (COD/7XAD34) | 4.023 | 4.023 | 0% | 3.017 | -25% |
| <i>Gadus morhua</i> | Cod | Cabillaud | VIIId (COD/07D) | 1.091 | 1.678 | -35% | pm | na |
| <i>Lamna nasus</i> | Porbeagle | Requin taupe commun | EC waters of III, IV, V, VI, VII, VIII, IX, X & XII (POR/1-14CI) | 0 | 436 | -100% | pm | Not relevant |
| <i>Lepidorhombus spp.</i> | Megrims | Cardines | EC waters of IIa & IV (LEZ/2AC4-C) | 1.757 | 1.597 | 10% | 1.597 | 0% |
| <i>Lepidorhombus spp.</i> | Megrims | Cardines | EC and intern. waters of Vb; intern. Waters of XII & XIV (LEZ/561214) | 3.079 | 2.799 | 10% | 2.799 | 0% |
| <i>Lepidorhombus spp.</i> | Megrims | Cardines | VII (LEZ/07) | 18.300 | 18.300 | 0% | 18.300 | 0% |
| <i>Lepidorhombus spp.</i> | Megrims | Cardines | VIIIa, VIIIb, VIIIId, VIIIe (LEZ/8ABDE) | 2.125 | 2.125 | 0% | 2.125 | 0% |
| <i>Lepidorhombus spp.</i> | Megrims | Cardines | VIIIc, IX & X; EC waters of CECAF 34.1.1 (LEZ/8C3411) | 1.287 | 1.430 | -10% | 1.216 | -15% |

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|--|-------------------|--------------|---|---------------------|--------|--------------|--------|------|
| <i>Limanda limanda</i> <i>and Platicthys</i> <i>flesus</i> | Dabe and Flounder | dabé et Flet | EC waters of IIa and IV (D/F/2AC4-C) | 18.810 | 18.810 | 0% | 18.810 | 0% |
| <i>Lophiidae</i> | Anglerfish | Baudroie | EC waters of IIa and IV (ANF/2AC4-C) | 11.345 | 11.345 | 0% | 11.345 | 0% |
| <i>Lophiidae</i> | Anglerfish | Baudroie | Norwegian waters of IV (ANF/4AB-N) | Not relevant | 1.550 | Not relevant | pm | na |
| <i>Lophiidae</i> | Anglerfish | Baudroie | VI, EC & int. waters of Vb, int. Waters of XII & XIV (ANF/561214) | 5.567 | 5.567 | 0% | 5.567 | 0% |
| <i>Lophiidae</i> | Anglerfish | Baudroie | VII | 32.292 | 28.080 | 15% | 32.292 | 15% |
| <i>Lophiidae</i> | Anglerfish | Baudroie | VIIIa,b,d,e | 9.108 | 7.920 | 15% | 9.108 | 15% |
| <i>Lophiidae</i> | Anglerfish | Baudroie | VIIIc, IX, X, CECAF 34.1.1 (EC waters) | 1.496 | 1.760 | -15% | 1.320 | -25% |
| <i>Melanogrammus</i> <i>aeglefinus</i> | Haddock | Eglefin | IIIa, IIIbcd (EC waters) | 1.441 | 2.217 | -35% | pm | na |
| <i>Melanogrammus</i> <i>aeglefinus</i> | Haddock | Eglefin | EC waters of IIa and IV | 21.241 | 32.679 | -35% | pm | na |
| <i>Melanogrammus</i> <i>aeglefinus</i> | Haddock | Eglefin | Norwegian waters south of 62° N | Not relevant | 707 | Not relevant | pm | na |
| <i>Melanogrammus</i> <i>aeglefinus</i> | Haddock | Eglefin | Vlb; XII and XIV (EC and internat. waters) (HAD/61214) | 4.997 | 5.879 | -15% | 4.997 | -15% |
| <i>Melanogrammus</i> <i>aeglefinus</i> | Haddock | Eglefin | Vb, VIa (EC and internat. waters) (HAD/5BC6A) | 2.673 | 3.516 | -24% | 1.600 | -54% |
| <i>Melanogrammus</i> <i>aeglefinus</i> | Haddock | Eglefin | VIIb-k, VIII, IX, X; CECAF 34.1.1 (EC waters) | 11.579 | 11.579 | 0% | 11.579 | 0% |
| <i>Melanogrammus</i> <i>aeglefinus</i> | Haddock | Eglefin | VIIa | 1.424 | 1.424 | 0% | 1.424 | 0% |

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|---|---------------------|----------------------|--|---------------------|--------|--------------|--------|------|
| <i>Merlangius merlangus</i> | Whiting | Merlan | IIIa | 168 | 258 | -35% | pm | na |
| <i>Merlangius merlangus</i> | Whiting | Merlan | EC waters of IIa and IV (WHG/2AC4) | 8.185 | 12.593 | -35% | pm | na |
| <i>Merlangius merlangus</i> | Whiting | Merlan | Vb (EC and internat. waters), VI, internat. waters of XII and XIV (WHG/561214) | 431 | 574 | -25% | 431 | -25% |
| <i>Merlangius merlangus</i> | Whiting | Merlan | VIIa | 157 | 209 | -25% | 157 | -25% |
| <i>Merlangius merlangus</i> | Whiting | Merlan | VIIb-k | 14.407 | 16.949 | -15% | 14.407 | -15% |
| <i>Merlangius merlangus</i> | Whiting | Merlan | VIII | 3.240 | 3.600 | -10% | 3.060 | -15% |
| <i>Merlangius merlangus</i> | Whiting | Merlan | IX, X, CECAF 34.1.1 (EC waters) | 588 | 653 | -10% | 555 | -15% |
| <i>Merlangius merlangus and Pollachius pollachius</i> | Whiting and Pollack | Merlan et Lieu jaune | Norwegian waters south of 62° N | Not relevant | 190 | Not relevant | pm | na |
| <i>Merluccius merluccius</i> | Hake | Merlu | IIIa; IIIbcd (EC waters) (HKE/3A/BCD) | 1.661 | 1.552 | 7% | 1.397 | -10% |
| <i>Merluccius merluccius</i> | Hake | Merlu | EC waters of IIa and IV (HKE/2AC4-C) | 1.935 | 1.808 | 7% | 1.627 | -10% |
| <i>Merluccius merluccius</i> | Hake | Merlu | Vb (EC waters), VI, VII; XII, XIV (internat. waters) (HKE/5671214) | 30.900 | 28.879 | 7% | 25.991 | -10% |
| <i>Merluccius merluccius</i> | Hake | Merlu | VIII a, b, d, e (HKE/8ABDE) | 20.609 | 19.261 | 7% | 17.335 | -10% |
| <i>Merluccius merluccius</i> | Hake | Merlu | VIIIc, IX, X, CECAF 34.1.1 (EC waters) | 9.300 | 8.104 | 15% | 9.300 | 15% |
| <i>Micromesistius poutassou</i> | Blue whiting | Merlan bleu | Norwegian waters of II and IV | Not relevant | 4.000 | na | pm | na |

| | | | | | | | | |
|--|----------------------|----------------------------|--|---------------------|--------|--------------|--------|------|
| <i>Micromesistius poutassou</i> | Blue whiting | Merlan bleu | EC and international waters of I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VII, VIIIa,b,d,e, XII and XIV (WHB/1X14) | 48.138 | 74.058 | -35% | pm | na |
| <i>Micromesistius poutassou</i> | Blue whiting | Merlan bleu | VIIIc, IX and X; EC waters of CECAF 34.1.1 (WHB/8C3411) | 9.851 | 15.155 | -35% | pm | na |
| <i>Micromesistius poutassou</i> | Blue whiting | Merlan bleu | EC waters of II, IVa, V, VI north of 56°30N and VII west of 12°W (WHB/24A567) | Not relevant | | Not relevant | pm | |
| <i>Microstomus kitt & Glyptocephalus cynoglossus</i> | Lemon sole and Witch | Limande sole et plie grise | IIa and IV (EC waters) | 6.521 | 6.793 | -4% | 5.774 | -15% |
| <i>Molva dyptergia</i> | Blue ling | Lingue bleue | EC waters and internat. waters of VI, VII | 2032 | 2309 | -12% | 1732 | -25% |
| <i>Molva molva</i> | Ling | Lingue | I, II (EC and internat, waters) | 38 | 45 | -16% | 38 | -16% |
| <i>Molva molva</i> | Ling | Lingue | IIIa, IIIb-d (EC waters) (LIN/03) | 90 | 100 | -10% | 85 | -15% |
| <i>Molva molva</i> | Ling | Lingue | IV (EC waters) (LIN/04) | 2.428 | 2.856 | -15% | 2.428 | -15% |
| <i>Molva molva</i> | Ling | Lingue | V (EC and internat, waters) (LIN/05) | 34 | 34 | 0% | 34 | 0% |
| <i>Molva molva</i> | Ling | Lingue | VI, VII, VIII, IX, X, XII, XIV (EC waters and internat, waters) (LIN/6X14) | 7.003 | 10.776 | -35% | 14.164 | 31% |
| <i>Molva molva</i> | Ling | Lingue | IV (Norwegian waters) | Not relevant | 850 | Not relevant | pm | na |
| <i>Nephrops norvegicus</i> | Norway lobster | Langoustine | IIIa; IIIbcd (EC waters) | 5.170 | 5.170 | 0% | 5.170 | 0% |
| <i>Nephrops norvegicus</i> | Norway lobster | Langoustine | IIa (EC waters), IV (EC waters) (NEP/2AC4-C) | 23.188 | 24.837 | -7% | 23.188 | -7% |

| | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|---|---------------------|--------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| <i>Nephrops norvegicus</i> | Norway lobster | Langoustine | IV (Norwegian waters) (NEP/4AB-N) | Not relevant | 1.210 | Not relevant | Not relevant | Not relevant |
| <i>Nephrops norvegicus</i> | Norway lobster | Langoustine | Vb (EC and internat. waters), VI (NEP/5BC6) | 16.057 | 18.891 | -15% | 16.057 | -15% |
| <i>Nephrops norvegicus</i> | Norway lobster | Langoustine | VII | 22.432 | 24.650 | -9% | 17.160 | -30% |
| <i>Nephrops norvegicus</i> | Norway lobster | Langoustine | VIII a, b, d, e (NEP/8ABDE) | 3.899 | 4.104 | -5% | 3.488 | -15% |
| <i>Nephrops norvegicus</i> | Norway lobster | Langoustine | VIIIc | 95 | 112 | -15% | 95 | -15% |
| <i>Nephrops norvegicus</i> | Norway lobster | Langoustine | IX, X, CEEAF 34.1.1 (EC waters) | 337 | 374 | -10% | 337 | -10% |
| <i>Pandalus borealis</i> | Northern prawn | Crevette nordique | IIIa | 4.033 | 6.205 | -35% | pm | na |
| <i>Pandalus borealis</i> | Northern prawn | Crevette nordique | IIa (EC waters), IV (EC waters) | Not relevant | 4.980 | Not relevant | pm | na |
| <i>Pandalus borealis</i> | Northern prawn | Crevette nordique | Norwegian waters south of 62°00' N | Not relevant | 664 | Not relevant | Not relevant | na |
| <i>Penaeus spp.</i> | 'Penaeus' shrimps | Crevette royale | French Guyana | 4.108 | 4.108 | 0% | 4.108 | 0% |
| <i>Pleuronectes platessa</i> | Plaice | Plie | Skagerrak (PLE/03AN) | 5.956 | 9.163 | -35% | pm | na |
| <i>Pleuronectes platessa</i> | Plaice | Plie | Kattegat (PLE/03AS) | 1.520 | 2.338 | -35% | pm | na |
| <i>Pleuronectes platessa</i> | Plaice | Plie | EC waters of Iia and IV; that part of IIIa not covered by the Skagerrak and Kattegat (PLE/2A3AX4) | 34.120 | 47.875 | -29% | pm | na |
| <i>Pleuronectes platessa</i> | Plaice | Plie | Vb (EC and internat. waters), VI; XII and XIV (internat. waters) (PLE/561214) | 707 | 668 | 6% | 668 | 0% |

| | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------|---------|------------|--|---------------------|--------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| <i>Pleuronectes platessa</i> | Plaice | Plie | VIIa | 1.627 | 1.430 | 14% | 1.627 | 14% |
| <i>Pleuronectes platessa</i> | Plaice | Plie | VII b, c | 80 | 94 | -15% | 80 | -15% |
| <i>Pleuronectes platessa</i> | Plaice | Plie | VII d, e | 4.274 | 4.646 | -8% | 3.949 | -15% |
| <i>Pleuronectes platessa</i> | Plaice | Plie | VII f, g | 451 | 422 | 7% | 451 | 7% |
| <i>Pleuronectes platessa</i> | Plaice | Plie | VII h, j, k | 218 | 256 | -15% | 218 | -15% |
| <i>Pleuronectes platessa</i> | Plaice | Plie | VIII, IX, X, CEECAF 34.1.1 (EC waters) | 403 | 448 | -10% | 381 | -15% |
| <i>Pollachius virens</i> | Pollack | Lieu jaune | Vb (EC and internat. waters), VI, XII, XIV (internat. waters) (POL/561214) | 405 | 450 | -10% | 383 | -15% |
| <i>Pollachius pollachius</i> | Pollack | Lieu jaune | VII (POL/07) | 13.770 | 15.300 | -10% | 13.005 | -15% |
| <i>Pollachius pollachius</i> | Pollack | Lieu jaune | VIII a, b, d, e | 1.512 | 1.680 | -10% | 1.680 | 0% |
| <i>Pollachius pollachius</i> | Pollack | Lieu jaune | VIIIc (POL/08C) | 236 | 262 | -10% | 223 | -15% |
| <i>Pollachius pollachius</i> | Pollack | Lieu jaune | IX, X, CEECAF 34.1.1 (EC waters) (POL/9/3411) | 288 | 288 | 0% | 288 | 0% |
| <i>Pollachius virens</i> | Saithe | Lieu noir | IIIa; EC waters of IIa,b,c,d and IV (POK/2A34) | 39.291 | 60.448 | -35% | pm | na |
| <i>Pollachius virens</i> | Saithe | Lieu noir | VI; EC and internat. waters of Vb, XII and XIV (POK/561214) | 8.493 | 13.066 | -35% | pm | Not relevant |
| <i>Pollachius virens</i> | Saithe | Lieu noir | Norwegian waters south of 62° N | Not relevant | 880 | Not relevant | Not relevant | na |

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|-------------------|---------------------|---|----------------|---------|------|--------|------|
| <i>Pollachius virens</i> | Saithe | Lieu noir | VII, VIII, IX, X, CEEAF 34.1.1 (EC waters) (POK/7/3411) | 3.411 | 3.790 | -10% | 3.222 | -15% |
| <i>Psetta maxima & Scophthalmus rhombus</i> | Turbot and brill | Turbot et barbue | IIa (EC waters), IV (EC waters) (T/B/2AC4-C) | 4737 | 5.263 | -10% | 4.474 | -15% |
| <i>Rajidae</i> | Skates and rays | Requins et Raies | IIa (EC waters), IV (EC waters) | 1.397 | 1.643 | -15% | 1.397 | -15% |
| <i>Rajidae</i> | Skates and rays | Requins et Raies | IIIa (EC waters) (SRX/03-C) | 58 | 68 | -15% | 58 | -15% |
| <i>Rajidae</i> | Skates and rays | Requins et Raies | VIab (EC waters), VIIa-c, e-k (EC waters) (SRX/67AKXD) | 13.387 | 15.748 | -15% | 13.387 | -15% |
| <i>Rajidae</i> | Skates and rays | Requins et Raies | VIIId (EC waters) (SRX/07D) | 887 | 1.044 | -15% | 887 | -15% |
| <i>Rajidae</i> | Skates and rays | Requins et Raies | VIII et IX (EC waters) (SRX/89-C) | 5.459 | 6.423 | -15% | 5.459 | -15% |
| <i>Reinhardtius hippoglossoides</i> | Greenland halibut | Flétan du Groenland | IIa (EC waters), IV; Vb and VI (EC and internat. waters) (GHL/2A-C46) | 612 | 720 | -15% | 612 | -15% |
| <i>Scomber scombrus</i> | Mackerel | Maquereau | IIIa; EC waters of IIa, IIIb, c, d and IV (MAC/2A34) | 15.243 | 23.450 | -35% | pm | na |
| <i>Scomber scombrus</i> | Mackerel | Maquereau | IIa (non-EC waters), Vb (EC and internat. waters), VI, VII, VIII a, b, d, e, XII, XIV (MAC/2CX14) | 202.495 | 311.531 | -35% | pm | na |
| <i>Scomber scombrus</i> | Mackerel | Maquereau | VIIIc, IX, X, CEEAF 34.1.1 (EC waters) (MAC/8C3411) | 28.663 | 35.829 | -20% | pm | na |
| <i>Solea solea</i> | Common sole | Sole commune | IIIa, IIIb,c,d (EC waters) | 700 | 800 | -13% | 680 | -15% |
| <i>Solea solea</i> | Common sole | Sole commune | EC waters of II and IV (SOL/24) | 14.100 | 14.000 | 1% | 14.100 | 1% |
| <i>Solea solea</i> | Common sole | Sole commune | Vb (EC and internat. waters), VI, XII, XIV (SOL/561214) | 61 | 68 | -10% | 58 | -15% |

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|--------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|---|----------------|---------|-------|---------|-------|
| <i>Solea solea</i> | Common sole | Sole commune | VIIa | 402 | 502 | -20% | 377 | -25% |
| <i>Solea solea</i> | Common sole | Sole commune | VIIb, c | 45 | 50 | -10% | 43 | -14% |
| <i>Solea solea</i> | Common sole | Sole commune | VIIId | 4.219 | 5.274 | -20% | 3.650 | -31% |
| <i>Solea solea</i> | Common sole | Sole commune | VIIe | 618 | 650 | -5% | 553 | -15% |
| <i>Solea solea</i> | Common sole | Sole commune | VIIIf, g | 993 | 993 | 0% | 920 | -7% |
| <i>Solea solea</i> | Common sole | Sole commune | VIIh, j, k | 498 | 553 | -10% | 470 | -15% |
| <i>Solea solea</i> | Common sole | Sole commune | VIIIa, b (SOL/8AB) | 4.829 | 4.390 | 10% | 4.490 | 2% |
| <i>Solea spp.</i> | | | VIIIc, d, e, IX, X, CEECAF 34.1.1 (EC waters) (SOX/8CDE34) | 1.094 | 1.216 | -10% | 1.034 | -15% |
| <i>Sprattus sprattus</i> | Sprat | Sprat | IIIa | 31.265 | 48.100 | -35% | pm | na |
| <i>Sprattus sprattus</i> | Sprat | Sprat | IIa (EC waters), IV (EC waters) | 170.000 | 170.000 | -35% | 170.000 | 0% |
| <i>Sprattus sprattus</i> | Sprat | Sprat | VIIId, e | 5.532 | 6.144 | -10% | 5.223 | -15% |
| <i>Squalus acanthias</i> | Spurdog dogfish | Aiguillat chien de mer | IIIa (EC waters) (DGS/03A- C) | 0 | 104 | -100% | 0 | -100% |
| <i>Squalus acanthias</i> | Spurdog / dogfish | Aiguillat chien de mer | IIa & IV (EC waters) (DGS/2AC4-C) | 0 | 266 | -100% | 0 | -100% |
| <i>Squalus acanthias</i> | Spurdog dogfish | Aiguillat chien de mer | IIIa, EC & Int. Waters of I, V, VI, VII, VIII, XII & XIV (DGS/15X14) | 0 | 1.002 | -100% | 0 | -100% |
| <i>Trachurus spp.</i> | Horse mackerel | Chinchard | EC waters of IVb, IVc, VIIId (JAX/47D) | 30.144 | | | pm | |
| <i>Trachurus spp.</i> | Horse mackerel | Chinchard | EC waters of Iia, Iva, VI, VIIa-c, VIIe-k, VIIIa,b,d,e; Vb (EC and internat. Waters); internat. waters of XII and XIV (JAX/2AX14) | 98.986 | | | pm | |
| <i>Trachurus spp.</i> | Horse mackerel | Chinchard | VIIIc (JAX/08c) | 25.310 | | | 25310 | |

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|--|----------------|------------------|--|---------------------|---------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| <i>Trachurus spp.</i> | Horse mackerel | Chinchard | IX (JAX/09) | 31.142 | | | 27574 | |
| <i>Trachurus spp.</i> | Horse mackerel | Chinchard | X, CECAF Azores (JAX/X34PRT) | 3.072 | 3.200 | -4% | 2.720 | -15% |
| <i>Trachurus spp.</i> | Horse mackerel | Chinchard | CECAF Madeira Islands JAX/341PRT | 1.229 | 1.280 | -4% | 1.088 | -15% |
| <i>Trachurus spp.</i> | Horse mackerel | Chinchard | CECAF Canary Islands (JAX/341 SPN) | 1.229 | 1.280 | -4% | 1.088 | -15% |
| <i>Trisopterus esmarki</i> | Norway pout | Tacaud norvégien | Ila (EC waters), IIIa, IV (EC waters) (NOP/2A3A4) | 75.888 | 26.250 | 189% | Not relevant | Not relevant |
| <i>Trisopterus esmarki</i> | Norway pout | Tacaud norvégien | IV (Norwegian waters) (NOP/4AB-N) | Not relevant | 1.000 | Not relevant | Not relevant | na |
| | | Industrial fish | IV (Norwegian waters) (I/F/4AB-N) | Not relevant | 800 | Not relevant | Not relevant | na |
| | | Combined quota | EC waters of Vb; VI and VII (R/G/5B67-C) | Not relevant | | | Not relevant | |
| | | Other species | IV (Norwegian waters) (OTH/4AB-N) | Not relevant | 5.000 | Not relevant | Not relevant | na |
| | | Other species | EC waters of Iia, IV and Via north of 56°30N (OTH/2A46AN) | Not relevant | | | Not relevant | |
| ANNEX IB NORTH EAST ATLANTIC AND GREENLAND AND ICES zones I, II, V, XII, XIV and Greenland Waters of NAFO 0 and 1 | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Chionoecetes spp.</i> | Crabe | Snow crab | Greenland waters of NAFO 0 and 1 | 500 | 500 | 0% | 500 | 0% |
| <i>Clupea harengus</i> | Herring | Hareng | EC and International waters of I and II (HER/1/2) | 96.543 | 106.959 | -10% | pm | na |
| <i>Gadus morhua</i> | Cod | Cabillaud | Norwegian waters of I and II (COD/1N2AB) | Not relevant | 19.324 | Not relevant | pm | na |
| <i>Gadus morhua</i> | Cod | Cabillaud | Greenland waters of NAFO 0 and 1, Greenland waters of V and XIV (COD/NO1514) | 2.500 | 3.500 | -29% | Not relevant | Not relevant |

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|--|--------------------|------------------------|---|---------------------|--------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| <i>Gadus morhua</i> | Cod | Cabillaud | Internat. waters of I and IIb (COD/1/2B) | 22.356 | 19.793 | 13% | pm | Not relevant |
| <i>Gadus morhua and Melanogrammus aeglefinus</i> | Cod and haddock | Cabillaud et églefin | Vb (Faroese waters) | Not relevant | 500 | Not relevant | Not relevant | na |
| <i>Hippoglossus hippoglossus</i> | Atlantic halibut | Flétan | V, XIV (Greenland waters) | Not relevant | 1.075 | Not relevant | Not relevant | na |
| <i>Hippoglossus hippoglossus</i> | Atlantic halibut | Flétan | NAFO 0 and 1 (Greenland waters) | 49 | 75 | -35% | Not relevant | na |
| <i>Mallotus villosus</i> | Capelin | Capelan | IIb | 0 | 0 | 0% | pm | 0% |
| <i>Mallotus villosus</i> | Capelin | Capelan | V, XIV (Greenland waters) | 0 | 0 | 0% | Not relevant | 0% |
| <i>Melanogrammus aeglefinus</i> | Haddock | Eglefin | I, II (Norwegian waters) | Not relevant | 2.500 | Not relevant | Not relevant | na |
| <i>Micromesistius poutassou</i> | Blue whiting | Merlan bleu | Faroese waters | Not relevant | 3.000 | Not relevant | pm | na |
| <i>Molva molva and Molva dypterygia</i> | Ling and Blue ling | Lingue et lingue bleue | Vb (Faroese waters) | Not relevant | 3.065 | Not relevant | Not relevant | na |
| <i>Pandalus borealis</i> | Northern prawn | Crevette nordique | Greenland waters of V and XIV (PRA/514GRN) | Not relevant | 7.000 | Not relevant | Not relevant | Not relevant |
| <i>Pandalus borealis</i> | Northern prawn | Crevette nordique | Greenland waters of NAFO 0 and 1 (PRA/N01GRN) | 4.000 | 4.000 | 0% | Not relevant | Not relevant |
| <i>Pollachius virens</i> | Saithe | Lieu noir | I, II (Norwegian waters) | Not relevant | 3.000 | Not relevant | Not relevant | na |
| <i>Pollachius virens</i> | Saithe | Lieu noir | International waters of I and II | Not relevant | 0 | na | Not relevant | na |
| <i>Pollachius virens</i> | Saithe | Lieu noir | Vb (Faroese waters) | Not relevant | 2.425 | Not relevant | Not relevant | na |
| <i>Reinhardtius hippoglossoides</i> | Greenland halibut | Flétan du Groenland | Norwegian waters of I and II | Not relevant | 50 | Not relevant | Not relevant | na |
| <i>Reinhardtius hippoglossoides</i> | Greenland halibut | Flétan du Groenland | International waters of I and II (GHL/12/INT) | Not relevant | 0 | 0% | Not relevant | 0% |

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|--|-------------------|---------------------|---|---------------------|--------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| <i>Reinhardtius hippoglossoides</i> | Greenland halibut | Flétan du Groenland | Greenland waters of V and XIV | Not relevant | 7.500 | Not relevant | Not relevant | Not relevant |
| <i>Reinhardtius hippoglossoides</i> | Greenland halibut | Flétan du Groenland | Greenland waters of NAFO 0 an 1 | Not relevant | 2.500 | Not relevant | Not relevant | Not relevant |
| <i>Scomber scombrus</i> | Mackerel | Maquereau | IIa (Norwegian waters) | pm | 12.300 | Not relevant | pm | na |
| <i>Scomber scombrus</i> | Mackerel | Maquereau | Vb (Faroese waters) | pm | 3.001 | Not relevant | pm | na |
| <i>Sebastes spp.</i> | Redfish | Sébaste | V (EC and internat. waters); XII and XIV (internat. waters) (RED/51214) | 6992 | 0 | 0% | 6992 | 0% |
| <i>Sebastes spp.</i> | Redfish | Sébaste | I and II (Norwegian waters) | Not relevant | 1.500 | Not relevant | Not relevant | na |
| <i>Sebastes spp.</i> | Redfish | Sébaste | I and II (internat. waters) | Not relevant | | | pm | |
| <i>Sebastes spp.</i> | Redfish | Sébaste | V, XIV (Greenland waters) | Not relevant | 0 | na | Not relevant | na |
| <i>Sebastes spp.</i> | Redfish | Sébaste | Va (Icelandic waters) | Not relevant | 0 | na | Not relevant | na |
| <i>Sebastes spp.</i> | Redfish | Sébaste | Vb (Faroese waters) | Not relevant | 1.600 | Not relevant | Not relevant | na |
| | By-catches | | NAFO 0, 1 (Greenland waters) | Not relevant | 2.300 | Not relevant | Not relevant | Not relevant |
| | Other species | | I, II (Norwegian waters) | Not relevant | 350 | Not relevant | Not relevant | na |
| | Other species | | Vb (Faroese waters) | Not relevant | 760 | Not relevant | Not relevant | na |
| | Flatfish | | Vb (Faroese waters) | Not relevant | | | Not relevant | |
| ANNEX IC NORTH WEST ATLANTIC Area of NAFO | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Gadus morhua</i> | Cod | Cabillaud | NAFO 2J3KL | 0 | 0 | 0% | 0 | 0% |
| <i>Gadus morhua</i> | Cod | Cabillaud | NAFO 3NO | 0 | 0 | 0% | 0 | 0% |
| <i>Gadus morhua</i> | Cod | Cabillaud | NAFO 3M | 5500 | 0 | 0% | 5500 | 0% |
| <i>Glyptocephalus cynoglossus</i> | Witch flounder | Plie grise | NAFO 2J3KL | 0 | 0 | 0% | 0 | 0% |
| <i>Glyptocephalus cynoglossus</i> | Witch flounder | Plie grise | NAFO 3NO | 0 | 0 | 0% | 0 | 0% |

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---------------------|----------------------------|---|---------------|--------|------|--------|-------|
| <i>Hippoglossoides platessoides</i> | American Plaice | Faux Flétan | NAFO 3M | 0 | 0 | 0% | 0 | 0% |
| <i>Hippoglossoides platessoides</i> | American Plaice | Faux Flétan | NAFO 3LNO | 0 | 0 | 0% | 0 | 0% |
| <i>Illex illecebrosus</i> | Short fin squid | Calmar à nageoires courtes | NAFO sub-zones 3 and 4 | 34.000 | 34.000 | 0% | 34.000 | 0% |
| <i>Limanda ferruginea</i> | Yellowtail flounder | Limande à queue jaune | NAFO 3LNO | 17000 | 17000 | 0% | 17000 | 0% |
| <i>Mallotus villosus</i> | Capelin | Capelan | NAFO 3NO | 0 | 0 | 0% | 0 | 0% |
| <i>Pandalus borealis</i> | Northern prawn | Crevette nordique | NAFO 3L | 334 | 334 | 0% | 30000 | 8882% |
| <i>Pandalus borealis</i> | Nothern prawn | Crevette nordique | NAFO 3M | pm | | | pm | |
| <i>Reinhardtius hippoglossoides</i> | Greenland halibut | Flétan du Groenland | NAFO 3LMNO | 6.951 | 6.951 | 0% | 11.856 | 71% |
| <i>Rajidae</i> | Skate | Raie cendrée | NAFO 3LNO | 8.500 | 8.500 | 0% | 12.000 | 41% |
| <i>Sebastes spp.</i> | Redfish | Sébaste | NAFO 3LN | 638 | 0 | 0% | 3.500 | 0% |
| <i>Sebastes spp.</i> | Redfish | Sébaste | NAFO 3M | 7.813 | 7.813 | 0% | 10.000 | 28% |
| <i>Sebastes spp.</i> | Redfish | Sébaste | NAFO 3O | 7.000 | 7.000 | 0% | 20.000 | 186% |
| <i>Sebastes spp.</i> | Redfish | Sébaste | NAFO Subarea 2, divisions 1F and 3K | 2.503 | 2.503 | 0% | 2.503 | 0% |
| <i>Urophycis tenuis</i> | White hake | Merluche blanche | NAFO 3NO | 5.000 | 5.000 | 0% | 6.000 | 20% |
| ANNEX ID HIGHLY MIGRATORY FISH - All AREAS | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Thunnus thynnus</i> | Bluefin tuna | Thon rouge | Atlantic Ocean, east of longitude 45°W and Mediterranean (BFT/AE045W) | 7.113 | 11.907 | -40% | 7.113 | -40% |
| <i>Xiphias gladius</i> | Swordfish | Espadon | Atlantic Ocean (north of latitude 5° N) | 8.636 | 8.232 | 5% | 8.636 | 5% |

| | | | | | | | | |
|--|---------------------|--------------------------------|---|------------------|-----------|-------|-----------|-------|
| <i>Xiphias gladius</i> | Swordfish | Espadon | Atlantic Ocean (south of latitude 5° N) | 6.638 | 5.717 | 16% | 6.638 | 16% |
| <i>Germo alalunga</i> | Northern Albacore | Thon blanc | Atlantic Ocean (north of latitude 5° N) | 27.917 | 38.193 | -27% | 27.917 | -27% |
| <i>Germo alalunga</i> | Southern Albacore | Thon blanc | Atlantic Ocean (south of latitude 5° N) | 1.915 | 1.915 | 0% | 1.915 | 0% |
| <i>Thunnus obesus</i> | Bigeye tuna | Thon obèse | Atlantic Ocean | 31.200 | 31.200 | 0% | 31.200 | 0% |
| <i>Makaira nigricans</i> | Blue marlin | Makaire bleu | Atlantic Ocean | 103 | 103 | 0% | 103 | 0% |
| <i>Lamna nasus</i> | Portbeagle | Requin-taupe | EC and internat. waters of I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VII, VIII, IX, X, XII and XIV | | | | | |
| <i>Tetrapturus alba</i> | White marlin | Makaire blanc | Atlantic Ocean | 47 | 47 | 0% | 47 | 0% |
| ANNEX IE ANTARCTIC Area of CCAMLR | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Champocephalus gunnari</i> | Antarctic icefish | Poisson des glaces antarctique | FAO 48.3 Anatarctic ANI/F483 | 1.548 | 3834 | -60% | 1.548 | -60% |
| <i>Champocephalus gunnari</i> | Antarctic icefish | Poisson des glaces antarctique | FAO 58.5.2 Antarctic ANI/F5852 | 1.658 | 102 | 1525% | 1.658 | 1525% |
| <i>Dissostichus eleginoides</i> | Antarctic toothfish | Léginés | FAO 48.3 Antarctic TOP/F483 | 3.000 | 3920 | -23% | 3000 | -23% |
| <i>Dissostichus eleginoides</i> | Antarctic toothfish | Léginés | FAO 48.4 Antarctic TOP/F484 | 75 | 75 | 0% | 75 | 0% |
| <i>Dissostichus eleginoides</i> | Antarctic toothfish | Léginés | FAO 58.5.2 Antarctic TOP/F5852 | 2550 | 2500 | 2% | 2.550 | 2% |
| <i>Euphausia superba</i> | Krill | Krill | FAO 48 KRI/F48 | 3 470 000 | 3 470 000 | 0% | 3.470.00 | 0% |
| <i>Euphausia superba</i> | Krill | Krill | FAO 58.4.1 Antarctic KRI/F5841 | 440 000 | 440 000 | 0% | 440.000 | 0% |
| <i>Euphausia superba</i> | Krill | Krill | FAO 58.4.2 Antarctic KRI/F5842 | 2 645 000 | 2 645 000 | 0% | 2.645.000 | 0% |

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|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|---|---------------|------|-------|---------|-------|
| <i>Lepidonotothen squamifrons</i> | Grey rockcod | Colin austral | FAO 58.5.2 Antarctic NOS/F5852 | 80 | 80 | 0% | 80 | 0% |
| <i>Paralomis spp.</i> | Crab | Crabe | FAO 48.3 Anatarctic PAI/F483 | 1600 | 1600 | 0% | 1600 | 0% |
| <i>Macrourus spp.</i> | Grenadier | Grenadier | FAO 58.5.2 Antarctic GRV/F5852 | 360 | 360 | 0% | 360 | 0% |
| | Other species | Autres espèces | FAO 58.5.2 Antarctic OTH/F5852 | 50 | 50 | 0% | 50 | 0% |
| <i>Rajidae</i> | Skates and rays | Requins et raies | FAO 58.5.2 Anarctic SRX/F5852 | 120 | 120 | 0% | 120 | 0% |
| ANNEX IF SOUTH-EAST ATLANTIC OCEAN Area of SEAFO | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Beryx spp.</i> | Alfonsinos | Béryx | SEAFO | 200 | 200 | 0% | 200 | 0% |
| <i>Chaceon spp.</i> | Deep-sea Red crab | Gérion ouest-africain | SEAFO Sub Division B1 | 0 | 200 | -100% | 0 | -100% |
| <i>Chaceon spp.</i> | Deep-sea Red crab | Gérion ouest-africain | SEAFO excluding Sub division B1 | 200 | 200 | 0% | 200 | 0% |
| <i>Dissostichus eleginoides</i> | Patagonian Toothfish | Léginge australe | SEAFO | 200 | 260 | -23% | 200 | -23% |
| <i>Hoplostethus atlanticus</i> | Orange roughy | Hoplosthète orange | SEAFO Sub Division B1 | 0 | 260 | | pm | |
| <i>Hoplostethus atlanticus</i> | Orange roughy | Hoplosthète orange | SEAFO, excluding Sub Division B1 (ORY/F47X) | 50 | 260 | | pm | |
| ANNEX IG SOUTHERN BLUEFIN TUNA - All Areas | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Thunnus maccoyii</i> | Bluefin tuna footnote | Thon rouge | By-catches in all areas (SBF/F41-81) | 10 | 10 | 0% | 10 | 0% |
| ANNEX IH WCFPC Area | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Xiphias gladius</i> | Swordfish | Espadon | WCFPC area south of 20° S | | | | pm | |
| ANNEX IJ SPFO Area | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Trachurus murphyi</i> | Jack mackerel | Chinchard du Chili | SPFO (CJM) | 179000 | | | 179.000 | |

ANIMAL WELFARE LABELLING SCHEME & ESTABLISHMENT OF A EUROPEAN NETWORK OF REFERENCE CENTRES FOR THE PROTECTION AND WELFARE OF ANIMALS

The Council took note of the presentation by the Commission of its report on options for animal welfare labelling and the establishment of a European Network of Reference Centres for the protection and welfare of animals ([15307/09](#)).

While one Member State requested that further work is carried out on the basis of this report, other Member States recalled the need to avoid extra burden and/or to ensure that distortion of competition with third countries is avoided.

Background information:

The debate on how to improve the communication to consumers regarding animal welfare in livestock production has been running in the EU for several years.

The conference: "*Animal Welfare – Improving by Labelling?*" organised in Brussels on 28 March 2007 by the European Economic and Social Committee, the European Commission and the German Presidency enabled a first broad discussion to take place with representatives of all stakeholder groups.

The report identifies various issues concerning animal welfare labelling and communication, and the possible establishment of a European Network of Reference Centres for the protection and welfare of animals, based on the results of an external study provided to the Commission in January 2009.

Following that conference the Council adopted in May 2007 conclusions on animal welfare labelling ([9151/07](#)), inviting the Commission to assess further the issue of animal welfare labelling and to submit a report to the Council in order to allow an in-depth debate on the issue.

The impact assessment accompanying the report does not conclude on any definitive option neither for animal welfare labelling nor for the possible establishment of a European Network of Reference Centres for the protection and welfare of animals. In relation to welfare labelling, it does however identify the legislative and non-legislative options that are considered the most feasible at this stage (harmonised requirements for voluntary animal welfare claims and/or a Community animal welfare label).

Currently there is no EU legislation on specific animal welfare labelling of products of animal origin. As a consequence there are no harmonized requirements for labelling of animal welfare standards in the EU. However, a number of private schemes have emerged in recent years . Among these can be mentioned:

- Schemes that focus only on animal welfare (e.g. Freedom Food (UK), Neuland (DE), Animal Index System (AT))
- Schemes that focus on various aspects including animal welfare (e.g. organic farming, Label Rouge (FR))
- Schemes that focus on aspects other than animal welfare but have positive side effects on animal welfare (e.g. PDO/PGI schemes)

Freedom Food (UK)

Freedom Food is a farm assurance and food labelling scheme set up by the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (RSPCA) in 1994 to improve farm animal welfare and to address growing consumer demand for food produced to higher animal welfare standards.

For further information:

<http://www.rspca.org.uk/freedomfood>

Label Rouge (France)

Label Rouge is a French national quality assurance scheme for food products managed by the Ministry of Agriculture. Participation is open to groups of producers and processors of food products after demonstration of their ability to comply with the *notices techniques*, the minimum technical requirements of the label. Animal welfare specifications relate to the type of rearing, the genetics, maximum stock densities, the origin and type of feed, the slaughter age and the transport. "Label Rouge" logo was created in 1965. French law governs the use of the label.

The final product is not only marked with a logo, but also provides more detailed information on the production, the so-called "*caractéristiques certifiées*". The most important product segment of Label Rouge is poultry.

For further information:

<http://www.poultrylabelrouge.com/>

Egg marketing legislation (EU)

The egg marketing legislation is designed to inform consumers of the production system used to produce eggs. It provides minimum standards, but Member States are free to go beyond this should they wish to. One example is the UK's Lion code. Legislation on the general labelling of eggs was first established in 1990 under a Council Regulation.

Although the labelling scheme is derived from EU legislation, the views of stakeholders including producer organisations and animal welfare organisations were considered in the drafting of the legislation. Egg labelling is not designed to be an animal welfare label, although consumers are able to purchase eggs from the system which they feel offers the best animal welfare, if this is an important factor in their purchase decision.

There are four permitted production system labels: eggs from caged hens, barn eggs, freerange eggs and organic eggs. The mandatory labelling scheme for eggs was introduced in 2004 following the optional ability to label eggs produced from caged hens as "eggs from caged hens" which had been in operation since 1995.

A necessary precondition of the optional labelling was that this was meaningful to consumers and that they were prepared to pay a price premium for eggs produced in systems which they associated with higher animal welfare criteria.

Since the implementation of the legislation, the percentage of non-caged egg production has increased significantly in nearly all Member States.

OBLIGATIONS OF OPERATORS WHO PLACE TIMBER AND TIMBER PRODUCTS ON THE MARKET

The Council reached a partial political agreement on the text of a draft Regulation¹ laying down the obligations of operators who place **timber and timber products** on the market ([14482/08](#)).

The political agreement on the entire text could be reached during one of the Council forthcoming meeting².

The European Parliament adopted its opinion on 22 April 2009.

The Council adopted the FLEGT (Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade) Regulation in December 2005 and gave the Commission mandate to open negotiations with third countries willing to enter voluntary partnership agreements³ (VPA).

¹ Except certain parts of the text relating to Articles 290 and 291 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union which still need to be assessed in light of the entry into force of the Lisbon Treaty.

² Possibly on 22 December, without discussion.

³ The first VPA was signed on 20 November this year with the Republic of Ghana (see [15913/09](#)).

PROTECTION OF ANIMALS USED FOR SCIENTIFIC PURPOSES

The Council took note of the oral presentation given by the Presidency regarding the state of play regarding the proposal for a Directive on the protection of animals used for scientific purposes ([15546/08](#)).

Thanking in particular the Czech Presidency for its important role in the progress achieved, the Presidency informed the Council that a tentative agreement on the content of the proposal had been reached with the European Parliament. This agreement did not however include the provisions related to comitology which were to be finalised under the Spanish Presidency.

The Parliament delivered its opinion at first reading on 5 May 2009.

STATE AIDS FOR HUNGARY, ITALY, LATVIA AND LITHUANIA

The Council adopted two decisions stating that the exceptional aid granted between 1 January 2010 and 31 December 2013 by the Latvian and Lithuanian authorities, for the purchase of agricultural land, were to be considered compatible with the internal market.

The Council reached political agreement on a similar decision concerning Hungary and agreed to adopt it at one of its forthcoming session¹.

Under the Community Guidelines for State aid in the agriculture sector applied during the period 2000-2006, it was possible to grant state aid for purchase of land costing up to 40%-50% of the eligible expenses of the investment. Using this possibility, the Lithuanian and the Hungarian national legislations provided for state aid consisting in different forms of subsidies. Latvia had a State aid scheme in force between 2002 and 2007.

Such possibility was ruled out under the 2007-2013 Guidelines, with a foreseen phasing out by 31 December 2009.

Hungary, Latvia and Lithuania have each addressed an application to the Council requesting that the Council declares their state aid for the purchase of agricultural land between 1 January 2010 and 31 December 2013, compatible with the common market.

In application of Article 108(2), third subparagraph of the Treaty, the Council must, acting unanimously², make known its attitude within three months of the application being made by a Member State for authorisation to grant such aid.

¹ The Italian request will be dealt with in a forthcoming meeting.

² Under the unanimity rule, abstentions by Members present in person or represented shall not prevent the adoption by the Council of acts which require unanimity (Article 238(4) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the EU).

Total exceptional aid for the period 2010-2013, amounts to:

- HUF¹ 4 000 million for Hungary ([16848/09](#));
- LVL² 8 million for Latvia ([16846/09](#)); and
- LTL³ 55 million for Lithuania ([16843/09](#)).

DAIRY MARKET QUARTERLY REPORT

The Council took note of a quarterly report of the situation on the dairy market.

Latest figures show further improvement in dairy prices in recent weeks and stabilisation of the "farm gate" prices in member states, even if at relatively low level ([16813/09](#)).

¹ Hungarian forints (about EUR 14,83 million).

² Latvian lats (about EUR 11,22 million).

³ Lithuanian litas (about EUR 15,93 million).

SIMPLIFICATION OF THE CAP

The Council took note of the views expressed by ministers on the Simplification of the Common agricultural policy (CAP) based on a Commission staff working document ([16208/09](#)).

Under the Swedish Presidency, which had made a priority of it, the topic has been addressed in different ways and from different angles, in particular by the Chief Veterinary Officers and by the Conference of the Paying Agencies, as well as during a workshop organised in Brussels in September.

The Council had adopted conclusions on simplification of the CAP in May, inviting the Commission to examine and assess by the end of the year a list of 39 concrete simplification suggestions submitted by 16 Member States.

Today, several member states have expressed satisfaction on the outcome of the Commission's assessment of the 39 suggestions for simplification, and have in particular welcomed the Commission's commitment to prepare in the coming months a number of draft acts and proposals to follow up on a number of suggestions made, including alternative solutions.

Others, however, pointed out that the Commission's assessment did not lead to a positive follow-up on a number of suggestions made and would like to see those suggestions being reviewed through a political process.

Moreover, several delegations have indicated areas where they see scope for further simplification, and have asked the Commission in particular to take a more proportionate and risk-based approach to carrying out controls, conducting compliance audits and imposing financial corrections.

As regards the functioning of the Commission's Simplification Experts Group, a number of suggestions for improvement have been made. The Commissioner has noted those carefully.

For the near future, the Council would like to invite the Commission services to come forward with the draft acts and proposals indicated in the working document, and to continue working on the various ongoing simplification projects, in particular through the Simplification Experts Group.

At the Council meeting on 24 April, several delegations jointly submitted a list of 39 concrete suggestions for simplifying the CAP ([9103/09](#)).

FUTURE OF THE CAP: RURAL DEVELOPMENT POLICY

The Council held a policy debate on the future of the CAP, with a particular focus on rural development policy ([15372/09](#)). The Council debate on the future of rural development policy is the continuation of previous discussions under the Czech¹ and French² Presidencies, which focused on the first pillar of the CAP.

Member states were invited to reflect on the future challenges they consider to be most relevant for European agriculture and rural areas and on what changes were needed in the rural development programme in order to tackle these challenges, while respecting the principles of subsidiarity and proportionality.

Several Ministers emphasised that although there is already quite a good existing policy, there is still room for improvement because a central banner is needed, which in their view, could be Green Growth. Some urged structural changes; the replacement of the axes-structure with a new clearer one with more focused targets. Some others pointed out the need to redesign some of the individual measures, and establish balance between targeting and simplification.

In its introductory words, the Commission representative highlighted that strengthening competitiveness, protecting the environment and creating new jobs are the three most important challenges we face when we talk about the future of rural development.

After the discussion, she estimated too early to mention any figures and invited Member States to reflect on several issues that most delegates touched upon, such as the criteria to be defined for the distribution of money intending to replace historical grounds.

The Swedish Presidency concluded that there is a need to keep rural development as part of the common policy, in order to face several important challenges such as sustainable development, climatic change, water management, and biodiversity.

¹ See the Czech Presidency conclusions of 23 June 2009, on the future of the CAP after 2013 and especially direct payments ([10713/09](#)).

² See the conclusions of the French Presidency of 28 November 2008, on the future of the CAP after 2013 ([16287/2/08 REV2](#)).

The current regulation on rural development policy for the period 2007 to 2013 states that member states and regions rural development funding shall aim at improving:

- the competitiveness of the agricultural and forestry sector;
- the environment and the countryside;
- the quality of life in rural areas and encouraging diversification of the rural economy.

A BETTER FUNCTIONING FOOD SUPPLY CHAIN IN EUROPE

The Council took note of the presentation by the Commission of the Communication "A better functioning food supply chain in Europe", and of the Commission's commitment to report by the end of 2010 on the advancement of the concrete proposals outlined therein.

The Council looks forward to discussing further work on this issue and has in particular taken note of the Commission's commitment.

In the second half of 2007, agricultural commodity price increases accelerated and by early 2008 reached exceptional levels. The European Council of June 2008 asked the Commission to report back on these issues by December 2008.

In response, the Commission proposed to better monitor developments in agricultural commodity and food prices, to analyse the impact of speculation on agricultural commodity prices and to investigate the functioning of the food supply chain.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- a) Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the provision of food information to consumers

- Information from the Presidency

The Council took note of a Presidency progress report ([16594/09](#)) outlining the state of play in the negotiations on a Commission proposal for a regulation on the provision of food information to consumers. The examination of the draft regulation should continue during the incoming Spanish Presidency. The first reading opinion of the European Parliament is expected in June 2010.

- (b) Negotiations with Russia in the veterinary and phytosanitary field

- Information from the Commission

The Council took note of the information given by the Commission representative regarding the veterinary and phytosanitary negotiations with the Russian Federation.

There is no formal veterinary or phytosanitary agreement between the EU and the Russian Federation: the negotiations are based on arrangements such as export certificates and Memoranda of Understanding. The negotiation is led by the Commission, based on several mandates granted by the Council¹.

¹ See [10252/07 ADD1](#)

(c) International Conference on GMOs in European Agriculture and Food Production (The Hague, 25-16 November 2009)

– Information from the delegation of Netherlands

The Council took note of the information given by the delegation of the Netherlands regarding the conclusions of the *Internal Conference on GMOs in European Agriculture and Food Production policy in Europe* ([17129/09](#))

Some delegations warmly thanked Gerda Verburg, Minister for Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality and her colleague, Jacqueline Cramer Minister for Housing, Spatial Planning and the Environment who jointly organised the event.

The Austrian and Hungarian delegations welcomed the idea to have a Commission's proposal allowing individual Member States to adopt national measures leading to regulate and/or prohibit the cultivation of GMOs on their own territory¹.

Commissioner Vassiliou reminded ministers of President Barroso's political guidelines regarding GMOs: "In an area like GMOs, for example, it should be possible to combine a Community authorisation system, based on science, with freedom for Member States to decide whether or not they wish to cultivate GM crops on their territory."

At the Agriculture Council in November 2009 (see press release [16290/09](#)), in the context of an authorisation procedure for a GM product, the delegation of Netherlands favoured an urgent change of the EU legislation in order to overcome the problem of the asynchronous approvals of GMOs. In addition, the Dutch Minister seized this opportunity and invited delegations to participate in the International Conference on GMOs which was to take place in the Hague, upon her Ministry's initiative.

¹ See Council conclusions of December 2008 (press release [16585/09](#)) and the exchange of views of June 2009 on the same subject (press release [11259/09](#)).

(e) Abolition of production levy for sugar producers by repealing Article 51 of Council Regulation (EC) No 1234/2007

– Request from the Polish delegation

The Council took note of the request made by the Polish delegation, supported by the Belgian, Czech, Danish, German, Lithuanian, Austrian, Romanian and Slovak delegations, to abolish the production charge for sugar producers ([16995/09](#)) and of the comments made by the Portuguese and United Kingdom delegations.

The Commission representative recalled that the production charge had been introduced principally to ensure that the sugar reform remained neutral for the EU budget over the period 2007-2013. The introduction by the reform of decoupled direct payments for beet growers partially compensated for the price reduction.

Mariann Fischer Boel also emphasised that as a source of revenue for the EU budget, the production charge could only be discussed in the appropriate forum.

(f) Transitional Community aid for the sugar beet producers in the Member States applying the single area payment scheme (SAPS)

– Request from the Slovak delegation

The Council took note of the request made by the Slovak delegation, supported by the Hungarian, Polish and Slovenian delegations, to exclude the transitional Community aid scheme for sugar beet producers from the Single Area Payment Scheme (SAPS) envelope in those Member States applying the SAPS ([17370/09](#)).

The Commission representative stated that there was a possibility of granting state aid to sugar beet growers under the single CMO regulation.

(g) WTO - Agreement on Trade in Bananas

– Information from the Commission

The Commission representative informed delegations about the successful outcome of the negotiations on trade in bananas between the European Union, the Latin American MFN banana suppliers, the ACP Countries, as well as the United States, which allowed the "Geneva Agreement on Trade in Bananas" with the Latin American suppliers and the settlement agreement with the United States to be initialled in Geneva on 15 December 2009.

Marian Fischer Boel also indicated the Commission's intention to submit to Council the appropriate proposals for decision in due course.

OTHER ITEMS APPROVED

FISHERIES

Convention for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna - *Council conclusions*

The Council adopted the conclusions set out in document [16936/09](#).

AGRICULTURE

European Union food aid for deprived persons - *Council conclusions*

The Council adopted the conclusions set out in document [17150/1/09 REV 1](#).

Maximum levels for contaminants in food - committee procedure

The Council decided not to oppose the adoption of a Commission's regulation concerning maximum levels for certain contaminants in foodstuffs. The new regulation is aimed at amending regulation 1881/2006 as regards ochratoxin A in the light of a recent scientific opinion of the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA).

Under the regulatory procedure with scrutiny, the Council can oppose an act which exceeds the implementing powers of the Commission, is not compatible with the aim or content of the basic instrument or does not respect subsidiarity or proportionality if the regulatory committee previously supported the envisaged measures.

GENERAL AFFAIRS

Implementation of Lisbon Treaty: Delegated acts

The Council adopted a declaration on the implementation of Article 290 of the Lisbon Treaty concerning delegated acts. The Council underlines, in particular, the importance of the Commission's commitment to, in the preparatory phase, systematically consult experts from the national authorities of all the member states, which will be responsible for implementing the delegated acts once they have been adopted.

Under Article 290 of the Lisbon Treaty the Council and the European Parliament may delegate to the Commission the power to adopt non-legislative acts of general application to supplement or amend certain non-essential elements of the legislative act.

EXTERNAL RELATIONS

EU special representative for the crisis in Georgia - new financial reference amount

The Council adopted a decision amending Joint Action on the appointment of a special representative for the crisis in Georgia in order to provide the financial reference amount covering the expenditure related to the mandate of the special representative until 28 February 2010.

EU police mission for Palestine

The Council adopted a decision amending Joint Action on the EU police mission for Palestine as regards the financial reference amounts intended to cover the expenditure for this mission in 2010 ([16068/09](#)).

COMMON FOREIGN AND SECURITY POLICY

Restrictive measures (Belarus - Iran - Uzbekistan)

- Belarus

The Council adopted a decision extending, until 31 October 2010, the restrictive measures against certain officials of Belarus laid down in common position 2006/276/CFSP, due to the absence of tangible progress in areas identified by the Council ([16366/09](#)).

However, the suspension of the travel restrictions imposed on certain leading figures in Belarus, with the exception of those involved in the disappearances which occurred in 1999 and 2000 and of the president of the central electoral commission, are also extended until October 2010. At the end of that period, the Council will review the restrictive measures in light of the situation in the country. The Council may decide to reapply or lift travel restrictions at any time, in light of actions by the Belarusian authorities in the sphere of democracy and human rights.

- Iran

The Council adopted a regulation ([16605/09](#)) amending regulation 423/2007 concerning restrictive measures against Iran in order to:

- correct certain references in the list of goods and technology that are banned for export;
- update the list of controlled items in order to maintain its effectiveness; and
- empower the Commission to maintain the lists of prohibited and controlled goods and technology and to amend them on the basis of information provided by either the United Nations security council or the sanctions committee, or by member states.

In line with common position 2007/140/CFSP, regulation 423/2007 prohibits the supply, sale or transfer to Iran of goods and technology, in addition to those determined by the United Nations, that could contribute to Iran's enrichment-related, reprocessing or heavy water-related activities, to the development of nuclear weapon delivery systems or to the pursuit of activities related to other topics about which the International Atomic Energy Agency has expressed concerns.

- Uzbekistan

The Council adopted a regulation repealing the restrictive measures which the EU imposed against Uzbekistan on 14 November 2005 ([16038/09](#)).

These measures include the prohibition of sale, supply, transfer or export to Uzbekistan of equipment which might be used for internal repression and the provision of certain financing, financial assistance or technical assistance to any natural or legal person, entity or body in, or for use in, Uzbekistan.

ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

International accounting standards - committee procedure with scrutiny

The Council decided not to oppose the adoption of a Commission's regulation concerning certain international accounting standards. The new regulation is aimed at incorporating an amendment to the International Accounting Standard 32 on financial instruments decided by the International Accounting Standard Board in October 2009. It clarifies how to account for certain rights when the issued instruments are denominated in a currency other than the functional currency of the issuer.

Under the regulatory procedure with scrutiny, the Council can oppose an act which exceeds the implementing powers of the Commission, is not compatible with the aim or content of the basic instrument or does not respect subsidiarity or proportionality if the regulatory committee previously supported the measures envisaged.

Derogations from VAT directive for Estonia

The Council adopted decisions authorising Estonia to apply a measure derogating from the directive on the common system of value added tax (VAT).

By way of derogation from article 167 of the VAT directive, Estonia is allowed to postpone the right of deduction of VAT in respect of taxable persons until it has been paid to the supplier of goods or of services. The taxable persons concerned must have opted for a scheme under which the VAT on their supplies of goods and of services becomes chargeable on receipt of the payment. Under the scheme, their annual turnover must not exceed a threshold which shall be set by Estonia at up to the equivalent in national currency of EUR 200 000 ([16131/09](#)).

HEALTH

Radioisotopes - Council conclusions

The Council adopted the conclusions set out in document [17025/09](#).

ENVIRONMENT

Future international climate agreement with Iceland - Council conclusions

The Council adopted the conclusions set out in document [17343/09](#).

LIFE-Nature projects - Council conclusions

The Council adopted the conclusions set out in document [16634/1/09 REV 1](#).
