Joint Recommendation of the North Western Waters High-Level Group

Discard Plan for demersal fisheries in the North Western Waters for 2020-2021

Version 29th of May 2019

1. Implementing authority

a. Acting in accordance with Article 43(3) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union and taking into account the authority granted by Articles 15.6 and 18.1 of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013 to the European Commission to adopt discard plans by means of delegated acts, the Member States of the North Western Waters submit a joint recommendation, as per Article 18.3 of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013, to the European Commission for a specific discard plan for demersal fisheries in the North Western Waters.

2. Objectives of the discard plan

a. As a result of the reform of the Common Fisheries Policy (Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013), adopted in 2013 and entered into force from 1st January 2014 on, there is now a provision under Article 18 that allows Member States to elaborate joint recommendations for regional management measures specific to their fisheries, applying to a relevant geographical area and submit these to the European Commission for adoption via delegated acts.

b. The scope of these recommendations is laid down in Article 18(1) of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013 by way of reference i.a. to Article 15(6) thereof.

c. Under Article 15(6) of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013, Article 13(1) of Regulation (EU) No 2019/472 of 19 March 2019 establishing a multiannual plan for stocks fished in the Western Waters and adjacent waters, and for fisheries exploiting those stocks,

and Article 22 of Regulation (EU) No 2019/xyz on the conservation of fisheries resources and the protection of marine ecosystems through technical measures, Member States may cooperate, in accordance with Article 18 thereof, in the drawing up of a specific discard plan with a view to the Commission adopting such a plan by means of a delegated act or via the ordinary legislative procedure.

d. The adoption of such specific discard plans is considered to be important to achieve a successful implementation of the landing obligation as specified in the reformed Common Fisheries Policy.

e. As such, this discard plan will establish provisions to implement the provisions laid down in points (a) to (e) of Articles 15(5) of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013 and 22(1) of Regulation (EU) No 2019/xyz, including specific descriptions of any exemptions obtained.

f. It is intended that the Commission delegated act giving effect to this discard plan shall remain open to revision and adaptation at any time during its duration in order to retain flexibility in addressing the challenges that will be posed by the introduction of the landing obligation for demersal fisheries. In particular, this discard plan shall remain open to the later inclusion of further exemptions under high survival and de minimis, changes in technical measures in order to increase selectivity and reduce as far as possible unwanted catches, and to the inclusion of specific provisions for Minimum Conservation Reference Size (MCRS) to be specified at any time.

g. In accordance with Article 18.2 of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013, the North Western Waters Group has undertaken regular and detailed engagement with the North Western Waters Advisory Council and the Pelagic Advisory Council in the preparation of this plan. The recommendations of the Advisory Councils have been fully examined and taken on board, where possible.

h. It is considered the joint responsibility of the Commission and the Member States concerned to maintain oversight of the implementation of the provisions of this discard plan and to review and amend any element that evidence and/or improved data show is not fit for purpose.

3. Duration

a. This specific discard plan shall have a duration of two years.

4. Scope

a. In accordance with Article 15(1) (c) of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013, the Member States of the North Western Waters Group are committed to the full introduction of the landing obligation for demersal fisheries in the North Western Waters from 1st January 2019.

b. In developing this Joint Recommendation, the North Western Waters Group has taken full account of the agreed recommendations, suggestions and information furnished by the North Western Waters Advisory Council. Nonetheless, the NWW Group regrets not receiving joint comments from the NWW AC.

c. The Group is committed to continue working with the Advisory Councils and the European Commission to examine and apply solutions to 'choke' issues.

5. Exemptions

a. Fish which has been damaged by predators like fish-eating marine mammals, predatory fish or birds can constitute a risk to humans, pets and other fish by virtue of pathogens and bacteria which might be transmitted by such animals. Consequently, as set out in Article 15(4) (d), the landing obligation should not apply to such catches and the fish should be immediately disposed of at sea.

b. Having regard to food safety provisions as set out in Regulation (EC) No 853/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council as well as in Commission Regulation (EC)

No 1881/2006, catches of fish for which flesh contaminants would exceed the maximum limits set by EU rules for human or animal consumption shall not be kept on board of a vessel. Consequently, the landing obligation should not apply to such catches and the fish should be immediately disposed of at sea.

c. Cases where the landing obligation shall not apply are specified in Article 15(4) of the Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013. This refers to species in respect of which fishing is prohibited, as defined by a Council Regulation, species to which scientific evidence demonstrates high survival rates, and catches falling under the de minimis exemption, as outlined in Article 15.5(c) of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013.

d. **Point d-1-** The North Western Waters Group recommends the continuation of the following high survivability exemptions, as set down in Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2018/2034 of 18th October 2018:

- Norway lobster (Nephrops norvegicus) caught with pots, traps or creels (FPO, FIX, FYK) in ICES subareas VI and VII.

- Norway lobster (Nephrops norvegicus) caught with bottom trawls (OTT, OTB, TBS, TBN, TB, PTB, OT, PT, TX) with a mesh size equal to or larger than 100mm in ICES subarea VII.

- Norway lobster (Nephrops norvegicus) caught with bottom trawls (OTT, OTB, TBS, TBN, TB, PTB, OT, PT, TX) with a mesh size of 70-99mm in ICES subarea VII in combination with highly selective gears listed in Section 6 applying to Nephrops fisheries.

- Norway lobster (Nephrops norvegicus) caught with 80-110mm otter trawl gears (OTT, OTB, TBS, TBN, TB, PTB, OT, PT, TX) in ICES division VIa, within 12 miles of coasts.

- Common sole (Solea solea) below MCRS caught with otter trawl gears (OTT, OTB, TBS, TBN, TB, PTB, OT, PT, TX) with mesh size 80-99mm (TR2) in ICES division VIId caught by vessels meeting the following conditions:
    i. within 6 nautical miles of coast and outside identified nursery areas;
    ii. with a maximum length of 10m and a maximum engine power of 221kW;
    iii. fishing in waters with a depth of 30m or less; and
    iv. with limited tow duration of no more than ninety minutes.

- Plaice (Pleuronectes platessa) caught with trammel nets (GTR, GTN, GEN, GN) in ICES divisions VIId, VIIe, VIIf, VIIg.

- Plaice (Pleuronectes platessa) caught with otter trawls (OTT, OTB, TBS, TBN, TB, PTB, OT, PT, TX) in ICES divisions VIId, VIIe, VIIf, VIIg.

- Fish caught with pots, traps and creels (FPO, FIX, FYK) in the North Western Waters.

- Skates and rays species caught with any gear in the North Western Waters.
  Further details in Annexes A1 to A11 providing specific additional information regarding the roadmap for skates and rays.

Full details for each of the above cases have been submitted with previous years' joint recommendation and have been positively assessed by STECF.

Point d-2- The North Western Waters Group recommends the continuation from 2020 onwards of the following temporary high survivability exemptions which were granted for 2019 only, as set down in Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2018/2034 of 18th October 2018:

- Cuckoo ray (Leucoraja naevus) caught with any gear in the North Western Waters.

Further details in Annex B providing additional scientific information about the survivability of Cuckoo ray.

- Plaice (Pleuronectes platessa) caught with beam trawls (TBB) in ICES subarea VII.

  Further details in Annex C providing specific additional information regarding the exemptions for:

  - vessels of the >221kW segment fleet which use the flip-up rope or benthic release panel;
  - smaller BT2 vessels, with an engine power of not more than 221kW or less than 24m in length overall, which are constructed to fish in the twelve miles zone, if the average tow duration is less than ninety minutes.

Point d-3- The North Western Waters Group recommends the introduction of the following high survivability exemptions:

- Plaice (Pleuronectes platessa) caught with otter trawls (OTT, OTB, TBS, TBN, TB, PTB, OT, PT, TX) in ICES divisions VIIa and VIIb to VIIk but excluding VIId, VIIe, VIIf, VIIg; in combination - for métiers targeting Norway lobster - with highly selective gears listed in Section 6 applying to Nephrops fisheries.

  Further details in Annex D

- Plaice (Pleuronectes platessa) caught with seines (SSC, SDN) in ICES division VIId.

  Further details in Annex E

- Common sole (Solea solea) below MCRS caught with otter trawl gears (OTT, OTB, TBS, TBN, TB, PTB, OT, PT, TX) with mesh size 80-99mm (TR2) in ICES division VIIe caught by vessels meeting the following conditions:

  i. within 6 nautical miles of coast;
  ii. with a maximum length of 12m and a maximum engine power of 221kW;

iii. fishing in waters with a depth of 30m or less; and

iv. with limited tow duration of no more than ninety minutes.

Further details in Annex F

e. **Point e-1-** The North Western Waters Group recommends the continuation of the following de minimis exemptions, as set down in Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2018/2034 of 18th October 2018:

- For whiting (Merlangius merlangus) up to a maximum of 5% of the total annual catches of that species by vessels using bottom trawls and seines with mesh size equal to or greater than 80mm (OTB, OTT, OT, PTB, PT, SSC, SDN, SPR, SX, SV, TBN, TBS, TB, TX), pelagic trawls (OTM, PTM) and beam trawls (TBB) with mesh size of 80-119mm (BT2) in ICES divisions VIIb to VIIk.

- For common sole (Solea solea) up to a maximum of 3% of the total annual catches of that species by vessels using trammel and gill nets (GN, GNS, GND, GNC, GTN, GTR, GEN, GNF), in the Channel and the Celtic Sea (ICES divisions VIId, VIIe, VIIf, VIIg and VIIh).

- For common sole (Solea solea) up to a maximum of 3% of the total annual catches of that species by vessels using TBB gear with mesh size of 80-119mm (BT2) with increased selectivity, such as a large mesh extension (Flemish panel), in the Channel (ICES divisions VIId and VIIe) and the Celtic Sea (ICES divisions VIIf, VIIg and VIIh).

Full details for each of the above cases have been submitted with previous years' joint recommendations and have been positively assessed by STECF.

Point e-2- The North Western Waters Group recommends the continuation from 2020 onwards of the following temporary de minimis exemptions which were granted for 2019 only, as set down in in Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2018/2034 of 18th October 2018:

- For haddock (Melanogrammus aeglefinus) up to a maximum of 7% for 2020; 6% for 2021, of the total annual catches of that species by vessels using bottom trawls, seines and beam trawls (OTB, OTT, OT, PTB, PT, SSC, SDN, SPR, SX, SV, TBB, TBN, TBS, TB, TX) with mesh size of greater than or equal to 80mm in ICES divisions VIIb-c and VIIe-k.

  Further details in Annex G providing specific additional information

- For cod (Gadus morhua) up to a maximum of 7% for 2020; 6% for 2021, of the total annual catches of that species by vessels using bottom trawls, seines and beam trawls (OTB, OTT, OT, PTB, PT, SSC, SDN, SPR, SX, SV, TBB, TBN, TBS, TB, TX) with mesh size of greater than or equal to 80mm in ICES divisions VIIb-c and VIIe-k.

  Further details in Annex H providing specific additional information

- For horse mackerel (Trachurus spp.) up to a maximum of 7% for 2020; 6% for 2021, of the total annual by-catches of that species - caught in demersal mixed fisheries - by vessels using bottom trawls, seines and beam trawls (OTB, OTT, OT, PTB, PT, SSC, SDN, SPR, SX, SV, TBB, TBN, TBS, TB, TX) in ICES subarea VI and divisions VIIb-k.

  Further details in Annex I providing specific additional information

- For mackerel (Scomber scombrus) up to a maximum of 7% for 2020; 6% for 2021, of the total annual by-catches of that species - caught in demersal mixed fisheries - by vessels using bottom trawls, seines and beam trawls (OTB, OTT, OT, PTB, PT, SSC, SDN, SPR, SX, SV, TBB, TBN, TBS, TB, TX) in ICES subarea VI and divisions VIIb-k.

  Further details in Annex J providing specific additional information

Point e-3- The North Western Waters Group recommends the introduction of the following de minimis exemptions:

- For common sole (Solea solea) up to a maximum of 3% of the total annual catches of that species by vessels using beam trawls (TBB) with mesh size of 80-119mm (BT2) with increased selectivity, such as a large mesh extension (Flemish panel), in ICES divisions VIIa, VIIj and VIIk.

  Further details in Annex K

- In the demersal mixed fishery by vessels targeting brown shrimp (Crangon crangon) with beam trawls (TBB) of mesh size <31mm in ICES division VIIa: a combined quantity of fish species below minimum conservation reference size (MCRS) falling under the landing obligation, which shall not exceed 0.85% of the total annual catches of plaice and 0.15% of the total annual catches of whiting in demersal mixed fisheries in division VIIa.

  Further details in Annex M

- For megrims (Lepidorhombus spp.) below MCRS up to a maximum of 5% in 2020, 4% in 2021, of the total annual catches of those species by vessels using bottom trawls (OTT, OTB, TBS, TBN, TB, PTB, OT, PT, TX) with a mesh size of 70-99mm (TR2) and beam trawls (TBB) with a mesh size of 80-119mm (BT2) in ICES subarea VII.

  Further details in Annex N

- For boarfish (Caproidae), caught by vessels using bottom trawls (OTT, OTB, TBS, TBN, TB, PTB, OT, PT, TX) in ICES divisions VIIb-c and VIIf-k, up to 0.5% of the total annual catches of that species in all fisheries in VIIb-c and VIIf-k.

  Further details in Annex O

- For greater silver smelt (Argentina silus), caught by vessels using bottom trawls (OTT, OTB, TBS, TBN, TB, PTB, OT, PT, TX) with a mesh size greater or equal to 100mm (TR1) in ICES division Vb (EU waters) and subarea VI, up to 0.6% of the total annual catches of that species in all fisheries in Vb and VI.

  Further detail in Annex P

- For cod (Gadus morhua) below MCRS up to a maximum of 5% of the total annual catches of that species by vessels using bottom trawls (OTT, OTB, TBS, TBN, TB, PTB, OT, PT, TX) with a mesh size up to 119mm in the West of Scotland Nephrops fishery (ICES division VIa).

  Further detail in Annex Q

- For whiting (Merlangius merlangus) below MCRS up to a maximum of 7% of the total annual catches of that species by vessels using bottom trawls (OTT, OTB, TBS, TBN, TB, PTB, OT, PT, TX) with a mesh size up to 119mm in the West of Scotland Nephrops fishery (ICES division VIa).

  Further detail in Annex R

- For haddock (Melanogrammus aeglefinus) below MCRS up to a maximum of 5% of the total annual catches of that species by vessels using bottom trawls (OTT, OTB, TBS, TBN, TB, PTB, OT, PT, TX) with a mesh size up to 119mm in the West of Scotland Nephrops fishery (ICES division VIa).

  Further detail in Annex S

6. Technical measures – Improvements in selectivity

For the purposes of these measures, mesh size shall be determined using the definition contained in Article 6(34) of the Regulation (EU) No 2019/xyz *on the conservation of fishery resources and the protection of marine ecosystems through technical measures*[1].

Celtic Sea Protection Zone

From 1st July 2019, unless otherwise stated, the following will apply to all fishing vessels operating with bottom trawls or seines in the Celtic Sea Protection Zone[2]:

- 110mm codend +120mm smp; or
- 100mm T90 codend (with the possibility of increasing mesh size to 110mm from 1st January 2020, depending on the results of further trials); or
- 100mm+160mm smp; or
- 120mm codend (see justification in Annex T).

By derogation:

- For vessels with catches of more than 5% of Nephrops, one of the following gear options should be used:
    - 300mm smp (vessels under 12m may use a 200mm smp) with a codend of at least 80mm mesh size;
    - SELTRA box trawl with 300mm smp with a codend of at least 80mm mesh size; or
    - Sorting Grid with 35mm bar spacing or similar net grid with a codend of at least 80mm mesh size; or
    - 100mm+100mm smp; or
    - Dual codend with the uppermost codend constructed with T90 mesh of at least 90 mm and fitted with a separation panel with a maximum mesh size of 300 mm (See justification in Annex U).

1 'mesh size' means:

(i) for knotted netting: the longest distance between two opposite knots in the same mesh when fully extended;

(ii) for knotless netting: the inside distance between the opposite joints in the same mesh when fully extended along its longest possible axis;

2 Celtic Sea Protection Zone: waters inside ICES divisions VIIf, VIIg and the part of VIIj that lies north of latitude 50°N and east of 11°W

- For vessels with catches of more than 55% of whiting or 55% of anglerfish, hake or megrim combined, one of the following gear options should be used:
    - 100mm codend +100mm smp;
    - 90mm T90 codend and extension;
    - 80mm codend + 160mm smp; or
    - 80mm codend + 2m x 100mm square mesh cylinder
- For vessels with catches below 10% of gadoids in 7f east of 5 degrees west the following should be used:
    - 80mm cod end + 120mm smp
- For vessels with catches above 10% of sole, the following should be used:
    - a codend mesh size of 80mm + 120mm smp[3]

A selective gear or device assessed by the STECF as having the same or higher selectivity characteristics for cod, haddock and whiting may be added as an alternative gear to the above.

The effects of these measures will be evaluated over a 18 month period. Any additional measures agreed by the NWW regional group will come into force after this period unless that review process identifies contrary indicators which would mean those measures needed to be urgently reconsidered beforehand.

Irish Sea VIIa

The following will apply to fishing vessels operating with bottom trawls or seines in the Irish Sea, from 1st January 2019.

For vessels with a codend mesh size equal or larger than 70mm and less than 100mm (TR2) with catches of more than 5% of Nephrops, one of the following gear options should be used:

- 300mm smp (vessels under 12m may use a 200mm smp);
- SELTRA box trawl with 300mm smp; or

3 Only 2 vessels were involved in this kind of fisheries in 2018, 3 would be in 2019, in this case, it is not guaranteed that data are anonymous and cannot be traced back to the individual vessel. Because the privacy of the data cannot be guaranteed, related descriptive data cannot be provided (see Recital (9) of REGULATION (EU) 2017/1004 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 17 May 2017 *on the establishment of a Union framework for the collection, management and use of data in the fisheries sector and support for scientific advice regarding the common fisheries policy*)

- Sorting Grid with 35mm bar spacing as defined in Annex XIVa to Regulation (EC) 850/98;
- CEFAS Net grid;
- Flip-flap trawl of specification defined

For vessels equal to or greater than 12 meters in length over all operating with bottom trawls and seines with catches of more than 10% of haddock, cod and skates and rays combined, one of the following options should be used:

- 120mm codend; or
- An eliminator trawl with 600mm large mesh panels and 100mm codend.

For vessels equal to or greater than 12 meters in length over all with catches below 10% of haddock, cod and skates and rays combined, a codend mesh size of 100mm+100mm smp should be used. This is not applicable to vessels with more than 30% of Nephrops or with more than 85% of Queen scallops.

For vessels with catches above 10% of sole, the following should be used:

- a codend mesh size of 80mm + 120mm smp[4]

A selective gear or device assessed by the STECF as having the same or higher selectivity characteristics for cod, haddock and whiting may be added as an alternative gear to the above.

<u>West of Scotland VIa, and Vb(EU)</u>

From 1st July 2020, fishing vessels operating with bottom trawls or seines in ICES divisions 6a and 5b (within EU waters, east of 12°W) shall comply with the technical measures set out below:

a) For vessels deploying a cod-end mesh size <100mm, mandatory use of a squared mesh panel (positioning retained) of at least 300mm;

4 Only 2 vessels were involved in this kind of fisheries in 2018, <u>3 would be in 2019</u>, in this case, it is not guaranteed that data are anonymous and cannot be traced back to the individual vessel. Because the privacy of the data cannot be guaranteed, related descriptive data cannot be provided (see Recital (9) of Regulation (EU) 2017/1004.

b) In relation to (a), - for vessels below 12 meters in length over all and/or with engine power of 200kW or less - the panel overall length may be 2m and the panel may be 200mm;

c) For vessels deploying a cod-end mesh size of 100-119mm and with catches comprising more than 30% of Norway lobster, mandatory use of a squared mesh panel (positioning retained) of at least 160mm.

A selective gear or device assessed by the STECF as having the same or higher selectivity characteristics for cod and whiting may be added as an alternative gear to the above.

7. Documentation of catches

a. In accordance with Article 15(5)(d), specific discard plans can make provisions on documentation of catches. Such provisions should be consistent with the rules outlined in Regulation (EU) no 1224/2009.
b. Catches of species subject to catch limits shall be recorded in the appropriate fishing logbook with the correct scientific species name and/or with the appropriate codes in order to quantify the exact catches, in accordance with the Control Regulation. Documentation should be sufficiently rigorous to enable robust scientific assessments to be undertaken and the application of methods of control.
c. Catches of species below a minimum conservation reference size should be recorded as a separate entry.
d. For any species not subject to the landing obligation, all estimated volumes of discards above 50 kg live-weight equivalent in volume shall be recorded in the electronic/fishing logbook with appropriate codes denoting the species discarded.
e. For any species not subject to the landing obligation pursuant to Articles 15(4) and 15(5) of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council all estimated discards in volume shall be recorded in the electronic/fishing logbook. The utilisation of the de minimis exemption shall be monitored by the competent authority.

The North Western Waters Group may wish to take account of any advice issued by relevant experts groups relating to the documentation of catches in due course.

8. List of annexes:

ANNEX A: Follow up of Skates and Rays Roadmap

A1:

http://ices.dk/sites/pub/Publication%20Reports/Advice/2018/2018/rju.27.7de.pdf

Cf. p.3: "Survival of discards is considered to be potentially high (50 to 80%; STECF, 2015) for many species of skates and rays but there are no specific survival estimates for undulate ray that would be applicable to the entire fishery for each of these stocks."

A2:

Gap-analysis; SKATES AND RAYS ROADMAP WORKSHOP

A3:

Overview of ongoing projects looking at survival of skates and rays / of new projects, or projects which might be developed further

A4:

Existing and new projects for Roadmap LO Workshop skates and rays, especially SUMARiS

A5:

Species-métiers for Roadmap LO Workshop skates and rays

A6:

Gap Analysis_High Survival Trials_Skates and Rays (NWW AC paper)

A7:

REPORT; UK and NL Gap analysis workshop for skates and rays; Defra, London; 14th February 2019 (NWW AC paper)

A8:

ACTIONS TO UNDERTAKE AND CONSIDERATION TO REDUCE MORTALITY OF SKATES AND RAYS ONBOARD (NWW AC paper: Programme of measures S&R)

A9:

Survivability of Discarded Skates and Rays in English Inshore Otter Trawl Fisheries

A10:

ASSIST: An investigation of factors influencing the vigour of discarded ray

A11:

UK skates and rays high survivability exemption – evidence gap prioritisation (24 May 2019)

ANNEX B: Additional scientific information about the survivability of Cuckoo ray

B1:

BIM-Post-capture-condition-of-cuckoo-ray-report

B2:

Rapport (Mai 2019) PRE PROJET « SURF » : Etude de la SUrvie des rejets de Raies Fleuries

ANNEX C: Additional scientific information about the survivability of Plaice (Pleuronectes platessa) caught with beam trawls (TBB) in ICES subareas VIIa to VIIk

C1:

Discard survival of plaice caught in English South West beam trawl fishery

C2:

High survivability of plaice caught by 80-119 mm beam trawl gears (BT2) in ICES areas 7a, 7d, 7e, 7fg and 7hjk

ANNEX D: Information about the survivability of Plaice (Pleuronectes platessa) caught with otter trawls (OTT, OTB, TBS, TBN, TB, PTB, OT, PT, TX) in ICES divisions VIIa and VIIb to VIIk but excluding VIId, VIIe, VIIf, VIIg; in combination - for métiers targeting Norway lobster - with highly selective gears

D1:

Request for a high survivability exemption for Plaice in the TR1 and TR2 fisheries in Area VIIa and b-k (excluding 7d and e)

D2:

Annex_BIM-Plaice-Survivability-Report-8045

ANNEX E: Information about the survivability of Plaice (Pleuronectes platessa) caught with seines (SSC, SDN) in ICES division VIId

E1:

Request for an exemption from the landing obligation of plaice (pleuronectes platessa) caught with Scottish Seines (SSC) in areas 7d

E2:

Request for a high survival exemption for catch and bycatch of plaice caught with Danish and Scottish seines (SSC, SDN) in the Channel (ICES division 7d)

E3:

Discard survival and vitality of plaice (Pleuronectes platessa) caught in the Danish anchor seine (SDN) fisheries in Skagerrak during summer 2017

ANNEX F: Information about the survivability of Common sole (Solea solea) below MCRS caught with otter trawl gears (OTT, OTB, TBS, TBN, TB, PTB, OT, PT, TX) with mesh size 80-99mm (TR2) in ICES division VIIe caught by vessels meeting certain conditions

ANNEX G: Additional scientific information about a de minimis exemption for haddock (Melanogrammus aeglefinus) up to a maximum of 7% for 2020; 6% for 2021, of the total annual catches of that species by vessels using bottom trawls, seines and beam trawls (OTB, OTT, OT, PTB, PT, SSC, SDN, SPR, SX, SV, TBB, TBN, TBS, TB, TX) with mesh size of greater than or equal to 80mm in ICES divisions VIIb-c and VIIe-k

G&H(1):

De minimis exemptions for haddock and cod in the TR1 and TR2 trawl and seine fisheries in ICES division VIIb-k (excluding VIId,e)

G2:

De minimis exemption request for haddock in bottom trawls, beam trawl and seine fisheries (OTB, OTT, OT, PTB, PT, SSC, SDN, SPR, SX, SV, TBB, TBN, TBS, TB, TX) in ICES division VIIb-k (excluding VIId)

ANNEX H: Additional scientific information about a de minimis exemption for cod (Gadus morhua) up to a maximum of 7% for 2020; 6% for 2021, of the total annual catches of that species by vessels using bottom trawls, seines and beam trawls (OTB, OTT, OT, PTB, PT, SSC, SDN, SPR, SX, SV, TBB, TBN, TBS, TB, TX) with mesh size of greater than or equal to 80mm in ICES divisions VIIb-c and VIIe-k

G&H(1):

De minimis exemptions for haddock and cod in the TR1 and TR2 trawl and seine fisheries in ICES division VIIb-k (excluding VIId,e)

H2:

De minimis exemption request for cod in the in bottom trawls, beam trawl and seine fisheries (OTB, OTT, OT, PTB, PT, SSC, SDN, SPR, SX, SV, TBB, TBN, TBS, TB, TX) in ICES division VIIb-k (excluding VIId)

ANNEX I: Additional scientific information about a de minimis exemption for horse-mackerel (Trachurus spp.) up to a maximum of 7% for 2020; 6% for 2021, of the total annual by-catches of that species - caught in demersal mixed fisheries - by vessels using bottom trawls, seines and beam trawls

(OTB, OTT, OT, PTB, PT, SSC, SDN, SPR, SX, SV, TBB, TBN, TBS, TB, TX) in ICES subarea VI and divisions VIIb-k

ANNEX J: Additional scientific information about a de minimis exemption for mackerel (Scomber scombrus) up to a maximum of 7% for 2020; 6% for 2021, of the total annual by-catches of that species - caught in demersal mixed fisheries - by vessels using bottom trawls, seines and beam trawls (OTB, OTT, OT, PTB, PT, SSC, SDN, SPR, SX, SV, TBB, TBN, TBS, TB, TX) in ICES subarea VI and divisions VIIb-k

ANNEX K: Information about a de minimis exemption for common sole (Solea solea) up to a maximum of 3% of the total annual catches of that species by vessels using beam trawls (TBB) with mesh size of 80-119mm (BT2) with increased selectivity, such as a large mesh extension (Flemish panel), in ICES divisions VIIa, VIIj and VIIk:

K1:

https://www.ices.dk/sites/pub/Publication%20Reports/Expert%20Group%20Report/acom/2018/WGCSE/37_Sole_7hk_2018.pdf

K2:

de minimis request for sole in 7a and 7 jk

[ANNEX L: withdrawn]

ANNEX M: Information about a de minimis exemption in the demersal mixed fishery by vessels targeting brown shrimp (Crangon crangon) with beam trawls (TBB) of mesh size <31mm in ICES division VIIa: a combined quantity of fish species below minimum conservation reference size (MCRS) falling under the landing obligation, which shall not exceed 0.85% of the total annual catches of plaice and 0.15% of the total annual catches of whiting.

ANNEX N: Information about a de minimis exemption for megrims (Lepidorhombus spp.) below MCRS up to a maximum of 5% of the total annual catches of those species by vessels using bottom trawls (OTT, OTB, TBS, TBN, TB, PTB, OT, PT, TX) with a mesh size of 70-99mm (TR2) in ICES subarea VII

N1:

Request for a 5% de minimis exemption in 2020 and 4% in next years for below MCRS megrim in ICES subarea VII (TR2 gears)

N2:

Request for a 5% de minimis exemption in 2020 and 4% in the next years for the catch of megrims below MCRS in ICES-subarea VII with BT2 vessels

ANNEX O: Information about a de minimis exemption for boarfish (Caproidae), caught by vessels using bottom trawls (OTT, OTB, TBS, TBN, TB, PTB, OT, PT, TX) in ICES divisions VIIb-c and VIIf-k, up to 0.5% of the total annual catches of that species.

ANNEX P: Information about a de minimis exemption for greater silver smelt (Argentina silus), caught by vessels using bottom trawls (OTT, OTB, TBS, TBN, TB, PTB, OT, PT, TX) with a mesh size greater or equal to 100mm (TR1) in ICES division Vb (EU waters) and subarea VI, up to 0.6% of the total annual catches of that species

ANNEX Q: Information about a de minimis exemption for cod (Gadus morhua) below MCRS up to a maximum of 5% of the total annual catches of that species by vessels using bottom trawls (OTT, OTB, TBS, TBN, TB, PTB, OT, PT, TX) with a mesh size up to 119mm in the West of Scotland Nephrops fishery (ICES division VIa)

ANNEX R: Information about a de minimis exemption for whiting (Merlangius merlangus) below MCRS up to a maximum of 7% of the total annual catches of that species by vessels using bottom trawls (OTT, OTB, TBS, TBN, TB, PTB, OT, PT, TX) with a mesh size up to 119mm in the West of Scotland Nephrops fishery (ICES division VIa)

ANNEX S: Information about a de minimis exemption for haddock (Melanogrammus aeglefinus) below MCRS up to a maximum of 5% of the total annual catches of that species by vessels using bottom trawls (OTT, OTB, TBS, TBN, TB, PTB, OT, PT, TX) with a mesh size up to 119mm in the West of Scotland Nephrops fishery (ICES division VIa)

ANNEX T: Information about a new gear option of 120mm codend mesh size into the list of selective gears for the Celtic Sea whitefish fisheries

T1:

Case for inclusion of 120 mm diamond mesh and 100 mm T90 mesh codends in the Celtic and Irish Seas on the basis of equivalent selectivity

T2:

Benefits of 120 mm diamond and 100 mm T90 codends in the Celtic and Irish Seas

Annex U: Information about a new gear option - dual codend - into the list of selective gears for Nephrops fisheries in the Celtic Sea: Case for demonstration of equivalent selectivity between the dual codend and 100 mm codend with 100 mm square-mesh panel