



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**



17589/12

PROVISIONAL VERSION

PRESSE 522
PR CO 75

PRESS RELEASE

3212th Council meeting

Agriculture and Fisheries

Brussels, 18 and 19 December 2012

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Main results of the Council

*Concerning fisheries, the ministers reached a political agreement on **2013 fishing opportunities for certain fish stocks for EU vessels in Union and certain non-Union waters and on fishing opportunities for certain fish stocks in the Black Sea.***

*The Council also reached a political agreement and adopted an amendment to the regulation establishing a **long-term plan for cod stocks.***

*As regards agriculture, the Presidency presented to the Council a **progress report on the reform of the common agricultural policy (CAP).***

*Finally, ministers were briefed on a **conference on the movements of exotic animals, vine planting rights, a common declaration on coupled support, sugar production levies and a report on the milk sector.***

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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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Ms Michelle O'NEILL

Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development (Northern Ireland)

.....

Commission:

Mr Dacian CIOLOȘ
Ms Maria DAMANAKI

Member
Member

.....

The Government of the Acceding State was represented as follows:

Croatia:

Mr Tihomir JAKOVINA
Ms Irena ANDRASSY

Minister for Agriculture
Deputy Permanent Representative

ITEMS DEBATED

FISHERIES

Total allowable catches (TACs) and quotas for 2013

The Council reached a political agreement on fishing opportunities for 2013 for EU vessels in Union and certain non-Union waters on the basis of a Presidency compromise, drawn up in agreement with the Commission. This agreement concerns fish stocks which are not subject to international negotiations or agreements and stocks subject to international negotiations or agreements ([15254/12](#); [16291/12](#)).

The Council will adopt these regulations, following finalisation by the legal/linguistic experts, at one of its forthcoming meetings.

The following table sets out the indicative values of the principal TACs for 2013 compared with those for 2012 and the Commission proposal.

Fishing opportunities 2012 for EU vessels in Union waters

<i>Species Latin name</i>	Species English name	Espèces nom français	ICES fishing zone	COUNCIL TACs 2013	COUNCIL TACs 2012	COUNCIL comparison 2013/2012 %	COMMISSION Proposal for 2013	comparison Council TAC 2012 / Commis. Prop. 2013
ANNEX IB SKATTEGAT, ICES zones I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VII, VIII, IX, X, XII and XIV, EC waters of CECAF, French Guyana waters								
<i>Argentina silus</i>	Greater silver smelt	Grande argentine	I & II (EU and internat. waters) (ARU/1/2)	90	95	-5%	84	-12%
<i>Argentina silus</i>	Greater silver smelt	Grande argentine	III & IV (EU and internat. waters) (ARU/3/4)	1.028	1.082	-5%	952	-12%
<i>Argentina silus</i>	Greater silver smelt	Grande argentine	EU and internat. Waters of V, VI, VII (ARU/567)	3.798	4.316	-12%	3.798	-12%
<i>Brosme brosme</i>	Tusk	Brosmes	IIIa, EU waters of subdivisions 22-32 (USK/3A/BCD)	29	24	21%	29	21%
<i>Caproidae</i>	Boarfish	Sangler	Union and international waters of VI, VII and VIII (BOR/678)	82.000	82.000	0%	82000	0%
<i>Clupea harengus</i>	Herring	Hareng	VIaS, VIIb-c (HER/6AS7BC)	1.500	4.247	-65%	1.500	-65%
<i>Clupea harengus</i>	Herring	Hareng	VIa Clyde (HER/06ACL)	To be established			To be established	
<i>Clupea harengus</i>	Herring	Hareng	VIIa (HER/07A/MM)	4.993	5.280	-5%	4.993	-5%
<i>Clupea harengus</i>	Herring	Hareng	VIIe-f (HER/7EF)	931	980	-5%	784	-20%
<i>Clupea harengus</i>	Herring	Hareng	VIIg, h, j, k (HER/7G-K)	17.200	21.100	-18%	17.200	-18%
<i>Engraulis encrasicolus</i>	Anchovy	Anchois	IX, X; EU waters of CECAF 34.1.1 (ANE/9/3411)	8.778	8.360	5%	8.360	0%
<i>Gadus morhua</i>	Cod	Cabillaud	Kattegat (COD/03AS)	100	133	-25%	100	-25%

<i>Gadus morhua</i>	Cod	Cabillaud	Vlb; EU & internat. waters of Vb west of of 12°00'W and of XII & XIV (COD/5W6-14)	74	78	-5%	62	-21%
<i>Gadus morhua</i>	Cod	Cabillaud	VIa, EU & internat. waters of Vb east of 12°00'W (COD/5BE6A)	0	0		0	
<i>Gadus morhua</i>	Cod	Cabillaud	VIIa (COD/07A)	285	380	-25%	285	-25%
<i>Gadus morhua</i>	Cod	Cabillaud	VIIb-c, VIIe-k, VIII, IX & X; EU waters of CEECAF 34.1.1 (COD/7XAD34)	10.200	10.059	1%	10.200	1%
<i>Lamna nasus</i>	Porbeagle	Requin taupe commun	French Guyana waters, Kattegat; EU waters of Skagerrak, I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VII, VIII, IX, X, XII and XIV; EU waters of CEECAF 34.1.1, 34.1.2 and 34.2 (POR/3-1234)	0	0		0	
<i>Lepidorhombus spp.</i>	Megrims	Cardines	EU waters of IIa & IV (LEZ/2AC4-C)	1.937	1.845	5%	2.820	53%
<i>Lepidorhombus spp.</i>	Megrims	Cardines	VI, EU and internat. waters of Vb; intern. Waters of XII & XIV (LEZ/56-14)	3.387	3.387	0%	2.040	-40%
<i>Lepidorhombus spp.</i>	Megrims	Cardines	VII (LEZ/07)	17.385	17.385	0%	13.908	-20%
<i>Lepidorhombus spp.</i>	Megrims	Cardines	VIIIa, VIIIb, VIIIc, VIIIe (LEZ/8ABDE)	1.716	1.716	0%	1.373	-20%
<i>Lepidorhombus spp.</i>	Megrims	Cardines	VIIIc, IX & X; EU waters of CEECAF 34.1.1 (LEZ/8C3411)	1.214	1.214	0%	890	-27%
<i>Lophiidae</i>	Anglerfish	Baudroie	VI, EU & internat. waters of Vb, int. waters of XII & XIV (ANF/561214)	4.924	5.183	-5%	4.146	-20%
<i>Lophiidae</i>	Anglerfish	Baudroie	VII (ANF/07)	29.144	30.677	-5%	24.542	-20%
<i>Lophiidae</i>	Anglerfish	Baudroie	VIIIa,b,d,e (ANF/8ABDE)	7.809	8.220	-5%	6.576	-20%

<i>Lophiidae</i>	Anglerfish	Baudroie	VIIIc, IX, X, EU waters of CECAF 34.1.1 (ANF/8C3411)	2.541	3.300	-23%	2.050	-38%
<i>Melanogrammus aeglefinus</i>	Haddock	Eglefin	EU and internat. water of Vb, VIa (HAD/5BC6A)	4.211	6.015	-30%	3.100	-48%
<i>Melanogrammus aeglefinus</i>	Haddock	Eglefin	VIIb-k, VIII, IX, X; EU waters of CECAF 34.1.1 (HAD/7X7A34)	14.148	16.645	-15%	7.500	-55%
<i>Melanogrammus aeglefinus</i>	Haddock	Eglefin	VIIa (HAD/07A)	1.189	1.251	-5%	1.001	-20%
<i>Merlangius merlangus</i>	Whiting	Merlan	VI, EU and internat. waters of Vb; internat. waters of XII and XIV (WHG/56-14)	292	307	-5%	246	-20%
<i>Merlangius merlangus</i>	Whiting	Merlan	VIIa (WHG/07A)	84	89	-6%	71	-20%
<i>Merlangius merlangus</i>	Whiting	Merlan	VIIb-h, and VIIj-k (WHG/7X7A-C)	24.500	19.053	29%	24.500	29%
<i>Merlangius merlangus</i>	Whiting	Merlan	VIII (WHG/08)	3.175	3.175	0%	2.540	-20%
<i>Merlangius merlangus</i>	Whiting	Merlan	IX, X. EU waters of CECAF 34.1.1 (WHG/9/3411)	To be established			To be established	
<i>Merluccius merluccius</i>	Hake	Merlu	IIIa; EU waters of subdivisions 22-32 (HKE/3A/BCD)	1.661	1.661	0%	1.121	-33%
<i>Merluccius merluccius</i>	Hake	Merlu	EU waters of IIa and IV (HKE/2AC4-C)	1.935	1.935	0%	1.306	-33%
<i>Merluccius merluccius</i>	Hake	Merlu	VI, VII; EU and internat. waters of Vb; internat. waters of XII, XIV (HKE/571214)	30900 TAC=55105 for Northern hake	30.900	0%	20.860	-32%
<i>Merluccius merluccius</i>	Hake	Merlu	VIIIa-b, VIII d-e (HKE/8ABDE)	20.609	19.373	6%	13.913	-28%
<i>Merluccius merluccius</i>	Hake	Merlu	VIIIc, IX, X, EU waters of CECAF 34.1.1 (HKE/8C3411)	14.144	12.299	15%	14.144	15%

<i>Molva dypterygia</i>	Blue ling	Lingue bleue	International waters of XII (BLI/12INT)	774	815	-5%	652	-20%
<i>Molva dypterygia</i>	Blue ling	Lingue bleue	EU and international waters of II, IV (BLI/24-)	53	56	-5%	45	-20%
<i>Molva dypterygia</i>	Blue ling	Lingue bleue	EU and international waters of III (BLI/03-)	8	8	0%	7	-13%
<i>Molva molva</i>	Ling	Lingue	IIIa, EU waters of IIIb-d (LIN/3A/BCD)	87	92	-5%	pm	
<i>Nephrops norvegicus</i>	Norway lobster	Langoustine	EU waters of IIa and IV (NEP/2AC4-C)	17.350	21.929	-21%	17.350	-21%
<i>Nephrops norvegicus</i>	Norway lobster	Langoustine	VI, EU and internat. waters of Vb (NEP/5BC6)	16.690	14.091	18%	16.650	18%
<i>Nephrops norvegicus</i>	Norway lobster	Langoustine	VII (NEP/07)	23.064	21.759	6%	19.190	-12%
<i>Nephrops norvegicus</i>	Norway lobster	Langoustine	VIII a, b, d, e (NEP/8ABDE)	3.899	3.899	0%	3.200	-18%
<i>Nephrops norvegicus</i>	Norway lobster	Langoustine	VIIIc (NEP/08C)	74	82	-10%	74	-10%
<i>Nephrops norvegicus</i>	Norway lobster	Langoustine	IX, X, EU waters of CECAF 34.1.1 (NEP/9/3411)	246	273	-10%	246	-10%
<i>Penaeus spp.</i>	'Penaeus' shrimps	Crevette royale	French Guyana (PEN/FGU)	To be established			To be established	
<i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>	Plaice	Plie	VI; EU and internat. waters of Vb, internat. waters of XII and XIV (PLE/56-14)	658	693	-5%	554	-20%
<i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>	Plaice	Plie	VIIa (PLE/07A)	1.627	1.627	0%	1.627	0%
<i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>	Plaice	Plie	VII b, c (PLE/07BC)	74	78	-5%	62	-21%
<i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>	Plaice	Plie	VII d, e (PLE/07DE)	6400	5062	26%	5342	6%

<i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>	Plaice	Plie	VII f, g (PLE/7FG)	369	369	0%	300	-19%
<i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>	Plaice	Plie	VII h, j, k (PLE/7HJK)	141	176	-20%	113	-36%
<i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>	Plaice	Plie	VIII, IX, X, EU waters of CECAF 34.1.1 (PLE/8/3411)	395	395	0%	316	-20%
<i>Pollachius pollachius</i>	Pollack	Lieu jaune	VI, EU and internat. waters of Vb, internat. waters of XII, XIV (POL/56-14)	397	397	0%	397	0%
<i>Pollachius pollachius</i>	Pollack	Lieu jaune	VII (POL/07)	13.495	13.495	0%	13.495	0%
<i>Pollachius pollachius</i>	Pollack	Lieu jaune	VIII a, b, d, e (POL/8ABDE)	1.482	1.482	0%	1.186	-20%
<i>Pollachius pollachius</i>	Pollack	Lieu jaune	VIIIc (POL/08C)	231	231	0%	185	-20%
<i>Pollachius pollachius</i>	Pollack	Lieu jaune	IX, X, EU waters of CECAF 34.1.1 (POL/9/3411)	282	282	0%	226	-20%
<i>Pollachius virens</i>	Saithe	Lieu noir	VII, VIII, IX, X, EU waters of CECAF 34.1.1 (POK/7/3411)	3.176	3.343	-5%	2.674	-20%
<i>Rajidae</i>	Skates and rays	Requins et Raies	EU waters of IIa and IV (SRX/2AC4-C)	1.256	1.395	-10%	1.116	-20%
<i>Rajidae</i>	Skates and rays	Requins et Raies	EU waters of IIIa (SRX/03A-C)	52	58	-10%	46	-21%
<i>Rajidae</i>	Skates and rays	Requins et Raies	EU waters of VIa-b, VIIa-c and VIIe-k (SRX/67AKXD)	8.924	9.915	-10%	7.932	-20%
<i>Rajidae</i>	Skates and rays	Requins et Raies	EU waters of VIII d (SRX/07D)	798	887	-10%	710	-20%
<i>Rajidae</i>	Skates and rays	Requins et Raies	EU waters of VIII et IX (SRX/89-C)	3.800	4.222	-10%	3.378	-20%
<i>Solea solea</i>	Common sole	Sole commune	IIIa; EU waters of Subdivisions 22-32 (SOL/3A/BCD)	560	610	-8%	560	-8%

<i>Solea solea</i>	Common sole	Sole commune	VI; EU and internat. waters of Vb; internat. waters of XII, XIV (SOL/56-14)	57	60	-5%	48	-20%
<i>Solea solea</i>	Common sole	Sole commune	VIIa (SOL/07A)	140	300	-53%	60	-80%
<i>Solea solea</i>	Common sole	Sole commune	VIIb-c (SOL/7BC)	42	44	-5%	35	-20%
<i>Solea solea</i>	Common sole	Sole commune	VIIId (SOL/07D)	5.900	5.580	6%	4.800	-14%
<i>Solea solea</i>	Common sole	Sole commune	VIIe (SOL/07E)	894	777	15%	894	15%
<i>Solea solea</i>	Common sole	Sole commune	VIIIf, g (SOL/7FG)	1100	1060	4%	1100	4%
<i>Solea solea</i>	Common sole	Sole commune	VIIh, j, k (SOL/7HJK)	402	423	-5%	338	-20%
<i>Solea solea</i>	Common sole	Sole commune	VIIIa, b (SOL/8AB)	4.100	4.250	-4%	3.000	-29%
<i>Solea spp.</i>	Sole	Sole	VIIIc, d, e, IX, X. EU waters of CECAF 34.1.1 (SOX/8CDE34)	1.072	1.072	0%	858	-20%
<i>Sprattus sprattus</i>	Sprat	Sprat	VIIId-e (SPR/7DE)	5.150	5.150	0%	4.120	-20%
<i>Squalus acanthias</i>	Spurdog/ dogfish	Aiguillat/ chien de mer	EU waters of IIIa (DGS/03A-C)	0	0	Not relevant	0	Not relevant
<i>Squalus acanthias</i>	Spurdog / dogfish	Aiguillat/ chien de mer	EU waters of IIa & IV (DGS/2AC4-C)	0	0	Not relevant	0	Not relevant
<i>Squalus acanthias</i>	Spurdog dogfish	Aiguillat chien de mer	EU and internat. waters of I, V, VI, VII, VIII, XII & XIV (DGS/15X14)	0	0	Not relevant	0	Not relevant
<i>Trachurus spp.</i>	Horse mackerel	Chinchard	VIIIc (JAX/08C)	25.011	25.011	0%	25.011	0%
<i>Trachurus spp.</i>	Horse mackerel	Chinchard	IX (JAX/09)	30.000	30.800	-3%	30.000	-3%
<i>Trachurus spp.</i>	Horse mackerel	Chinchard	X: EU waters of CECAF - Azores (JAX/X34PRT)	To be established			To be established	
<i>Trachurus spp.</i>	Horse mackerel	Chinchard	EU waters of CECAF Madeira Islands (JAX/341PRT)	To be established			To be established	
<i>Trachurus spp.</i>	Horse mackerel	Chinchard	EU waters of CECAF - Canary Islands (JAX/341SPN)	To be established			To be established	

Fishing opportunities 2012 for EU vessels in certain non-Union waters

<i>Species Latin name</i>	Species English name	Espèces nom français	ICES fishing zone	COUNCIL TACs 2013 (UE)	COUNCIL TACs 2012 (UE)	COUNCIL comparison 2013/2012 %	COMMISSION Proposal for 2013	comparison Council TAC 2012 / Commis. Prop. 2013	
<i>ANNEX IB SKATTEGAT, ICES zones I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VII, VIII, IX, X, XII and XIV, EC waters of CECAF, French Guyana waters</i>									
<i>Ammodytes spp.</i>	Sandeel	Lançon	Norwegian waters of IV (SAN/04-N)	Not relevant	0	Not relevant	0	Not relevant	
<i>Ammodytes spp.</i>	Sandeel and associated by-catches	Lançon et prises accessoires associées	EU waters of IIa, IIIa and IV (SAN/2A3A4)	0	36120	-100%	0	-100%	
<i>Brosme brosme</i>	Tusk	Brosmes	EU and internat. waters of I, II & XIV (USK/1214EI)	21	21	0%	21	0%	
<i>Brosme brosme</i>	Tusk	Brosmes	EU waters of IV (USK/04-C)	235	196	20%	235	20%	
<i>Brosme brosme</i>	Tusk	Brosmes	EU and internat. waters of V, VI, and VII (USK/567EI)	353	294	20%	353	20%	
<i>Brosme brosme</i>	Tusk	Brosmes	Norwegian waters of IV (USK/04-N)	0	170	-100%	0	-100%	(1)
<i>Clupea harengus</i>	Herring	Hareng	IIIa (HER/03A)	31.500	38.998	-19%	25.349	-35%	(2)
<i>Clupea harengus</i>	Herring	Hareng	EU and Norwegian waters of IV north of 53°30' N (HER/4AB)	170.099	243.000	-30%	157.950	-35%	(2)
<i>Clupea harengus</i>	Herring	Hareng	Norwegian waters south of 62° N (HER/04-N)	0	922	-100%	0	-100%	(1)
<i>Clupea harengus</i>	Herring	Hareng	by-catches in IIIa (HER/03A-BC)	4.661	6.659	-30%	4.328	-35%	(2)

<i>Clupea harengus</i>	Herring	Hareng	by-catches in IV, VIId and in EU waters of IIa (HER/2A47DX)	12.529	17.900	-30%	11.636	-35%	(2)
<i>Clupea harengus</i>	Herring	Hareng	IVc, VIId (HER/4CXB7D)	31.185	44.550	-30%	28.957	-35%	(2)
<i>Clupea harengus</i>	Herring	Hareng	EU and internat. waters of Vb and VIb and VIaN (HER/5B6ANB)	27.480	22.290	23%	27.480	23%	
<i>Gadus morhua</i>	Cod	Cabillaud	Skagerrak (COD/03AN.)	2.561	3.660	-30%	2.379	-35%	(2)
<i>Gadus morhua</i>	Cod	Cabillaud	IV, EU waters of IIa, the part of IIIa not covered by the Skagerrak and Kattegat (COD/2A3AX4)	15.382	21.974	-30%	14.284	-35%	(2)
<i>Gadus morhua</i>	Cod	Cabillaud	Norwegian waters south of 62° N (COD/04-N)	0	382	-100%	0	-100%	(1)
<i>Gadus morhua</i>	Cod	Cabillaud	VIId (COD/07D)	1.080	1.543	-30%	1.003	-35%	(2)
<i>Limanda limanda and Platichthys flesus</i>	Dabe and Flounder	Dabé et Flet	EU waters of IIa and IV (D/F/2AC4-C)	18.434	18.434	0%	18.434	0%	
<i>Lophiidae</i>	Anglerfish	Baudroie	EU waters of IIa and IV (ANF/2AC4-C)	8.703	9.161	-5%	7.329	-20%	
<i>Lophiidae</i>	Anglerfish	Baudroie	Norwegian waters of IV (ANF/04-N)	0	1.500	-100%	0	-100%	(1)
<i>Melanogrammus aeglefinus</i>	Haddock	Eglefin	IIIa, EU waters of 22-32 (HAD/3A/BCD)	1.616	2.308	-30%	1.501	-35%	(2)
<i>Melanogrammus aeglefinus</i>	Haddock	Eglefin	IV, EU waters of IIa (HAD/2AC4)	27.416	30.158	-9%	19.603	-35%	(2)
<i>Melanogrammus aeglefinus</i>	Haddock	Eglefin	Norwegian waters south of 62° N (HAD/04-N)	0	707	-100%	0	-100%	(1)
<i>Melanogrammus aeglefinus</i>	Haddock	Eglefin	VIb; XII and XIV (EU and internat. waters) (HAD/6B1214)	990	3.300	-70%	990	-70%	

<i>Merlangius merlangus</i>	Whiting	Merlan	IIIa (WHG/03A)	721	1031	-30%	670	-35%	(2)
<i>Merlangius merlangus</i>	Whiting	Merlan	IV; EU waters of IIa (WHG/2AC4)	11.940	15.750	-24%	10.237	-35%	(2)
<i>Merlangius merlangus and Pollachius pollachius</i>	Whiting and Pollack	Merlan et Lieu jaune	Norwegian waters south of 62° N (W/P/04-N)	0	190	-100%	0	-100%	(1)
<i>Micromesistius poutassou</i>	Blue whiting	Merlan bleu	Norwegian waters of II and IV (WHB/4AB-N)	0	0	Not relevant	0	Not relevant	
<i>Micromesistius poutassou</i>	Blue whiting	Merlan bleu	EU and international waters of I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VII, VIIIa,b,d,e, XII and XIV (WHB/1X14)	110.845	67.921	63%	p.m.		
<i>Micromesistius poutassou</i>	Blue whiting	Merlan bleu	VIIIc, IX and X; EU waters of CECAF 34.1.1 (WHB/8C3411)	11.369	10.043	13%	p.m.		
<i>Micromesistius poutassou</i>	Blue whiting	Merlan bleu	EU waters of II, IVa, V, VI north of 56°30N and VII west of 12°W (WHB/24A567)	0			p.m.		
<i>Microstomus kitt & Glyptocephalus cynoglossus</i>	Lemon sole and Witch	Limande sole et plie grise	EU waters of IIa and IV (L/W/2AC4-C)	6.391	6.391	0%	6.391	0%	
<i>Molva dypterygia</i>	Blue ling	Lingue bleue	EU waters and internat. waters of Vb, VI, VII, XIIb (BLI/5BX12B)	2.258	1.882	20%	1867	-1%	
<i>Molva molva</i>	Ling	Lingue	EU and internat, waters of I, II (LIN/1/2)	36	36	0%	36	0%	
<i>Molva molva</i>	Ling	Lingue	EU waters of IV (LIN/04)	2.428	2.428	0%	1.942	-20%	
<i>Molva molva</i>	Ling	Lingue	EC and internat. waters of V (LIN/05)	33	33	0%	26	-21%	
<i>Molva molva</i>	Ling	Lingue	EU waters and internat. waters of VI, VII, VIII, IX, X, XII, XIV (LIN/6X14)	8.024	8.024	0%	5.191	-35%	

<i>Molva molva</i>	Ling	Lingue	Norwegian waters of IV (LIN/04-N)	0	850	-100%	0	-100%	(1)
<i>Nephrops norvegicus</i>	Norway lobster	Langoustine	IIIa; EU waters of IIIb-c and Subdivisions 22-32 (NEP/3A/BCD)	5.200	6.000	-13%	5.200	-13%	
<i>Nephrops norvegicus</i>	Norway lobster	Langoustine	Norwegian waters of IV (NEP/4AB-N)	0	1.200	-100%	0	-100%	(1)
<i>Pandalus borealis</i>	Northern prawn	Crevette nordique	IIIa (PRA/03A)	2.646	3.780	-30%	2.457	-35%	(2)
<i>Pandalus borealis</i>	Northern prawn	Crevette nordique	EU waters of IIa and IV (PRA/2AC4-C)	3.058	3.058	0%	3.058	0%	
<i>Pandalus borealis</i>	Northern prawn	Crevette nordique	Norwegian waters south of 62°00' N (PRA/04-N)	0	480	-100%	0	-100%	(1)
<i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>	Plaice	Plie	Skagerrak (PLE/03AN)	5.065	7.791	-35%	5.065	-35%	(2)
<i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>	Plaice	Plie	Kattegat (PLE/03AS)	1.800	1.988	-9%	1.800	-9%	
<i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>	Plaice	Plie	IV; EU waters of IIa; that part of IIIa not covered by the Skagerrak and Kattegat (PLE/2A3AX4)	59.087	79.201	-25%	51.480	-35%	(2)
<i>Pollachius virens</i>	Saithe	Lieu noir	IIIa and IV; EU waters of IIa,b,c,d (POK/2A34)	26.443	37.774	-30%	24.554	-35%	(2)
<i>Pollachius virens</i>	Saithe	Lieu noir	VI; EU and internat. waters of Vb, XII and XIV (POK/561214)	5.481	7.830	-30%	5.090	-35%	(2)
<i>Pollachius virens</i>	Saithe	Lieu noir	Norwegian waters south of 62° N (POK/04-N)	0	880	-100%	0	-100%	(1)
<i>Psetta maxima & Scophthalmus rhombus</i>	Turbot and brill	Turbot et barbue	EU waters of IIa and IV (T/B/2AC4-C)	4.642	4.642	0%	4.642	0%	
<i>Reinhardtius hippoglossoides</i>	Greenland halibut	Flétan du Groenland	EU waters of IIa and IV; EU and internat. waters Vb and VI (GHL/2A-C46)	1400	169	728%	1400	728%	

<i>Scomber scombrus</i>	Mackerel	Maquereau	IIIa and IV; EU waters of IIa, IIIb-c and Subdivisions 22-32 (MAC/2A34)	21.133	28.177	-25%	18.315	-35%	(2)
<i>Scomber scombrus</i>	Mackerel	Maquereau	VI, VII, VIII a-b, VIII d-e; EU and internat. waters of Vb; Internat. waters of Iia, XII, XIV (MAC/2CX14)	240.792	321.053	-25%	208.685	-35%	(2)
<i>Scomber scombrus</i>	Mackerel	Maquereau	VIIIc, IX, X; EU waters of CEEAF 34.1.1 (MAC/8C3411)	27.554	36.737	-25%	23.880	-35%	(2)
<i>Scomber scombrus</i>	Mackerel	Maquereau	Norwegian waters of IIa and IVa (MAC/2A4A-N.)	0	12.608	-100%	0	-100%	(1)
<i>Solea solea</i>	Common sole	Sole commune	EU waters of II and IV (SOL/24-C)	13.945	16.150	-14%	13.945	-14%	
<i>Sprattus sprattus</i>	Sprat and associated by-catches	Sprat et prises accessoires associées	IIIa (SPR/03A)	33.670	48.100	-30%	31.265	-35%	(2)
<i>Sprattus sprattus</i>	Sprat and associated by-catches	Sprat et prises accessoires associées	EU waters of IIa and IV (SPR/2AC4-C)	150.500	151.500	-1%	150.500	-1%	
<i>Trachurus spp.</i>	Horse mackerel and associated by-catches	Chinchard et prises accessoires associées	EU waters of IVb, IVc, VIId (JAX/47D)	34.045	40.630	-16%	34.045	-16%	
<i>Trachurus spp.</i>	Horse mackerel and associated by-catches	Chinchard et prises accessoires associées	EU waters of IIa, IVa, VI, VIIa-c, VIIe-k, VIIIa,b,d,e; Vb; EU and internat. waters of Vb; internat. Waters of XII & XIV (JAX/2A-14)	155.989	157.989	-1%	155.989	-1%	
<i>Trisopterus esmarki</i>	Norway pout	Tacaud norvégien	IIIa; EU waters of IIa, IV (EC waters) (NOP/2A3A4)	167.500	75.750	121%	167.500	121%	
<i>Trisopterus esmarki</i>	Norway pout	Tacaud norvégien	Norwegian water of IV (NOP/4AB-N)	0	0		0		
		Industrial fish	Norwegian waters of IV (I/F/4AB-N)	0	800	-100%	0	na	(1)
		Other species	EU waters of Vb; VI and VII (R/G/5B67-C)	Not relevant	Not relevant		Not relevant		
		Other species	Norwegian waters IV (OTH/4AB-N)	0	5.000		0		(1)

		Other species	EU waters of IIa, IV and VIa north of 56°30N (OTH/2A46AN)	Not relevant	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 (PCR/N01GRN)	250	500	-50%	250		-50%
<i>Clupea harengus</i>	Herring	Hareng	EU and Internat. waters of I and II (HER/1/2)	40.297	54.228	-26%	p.m.		
<i>Gadus morhua</i>	Cod	Cabillaud	Norwegian waters of I and II (COD/1N2AB)	0	16.309	-100%	0		-100% (1)
<i>Gadus morhua</i>	Cod	Cabillaud	Greenland waters of NAFO 1, Greenland waters of XIV (COD/N1GL14)	1.700	2.000	-15%	2.200		10%
<i>Gadus morhua</i>	Cod	Cabillaud	Internat. waters of I and IIb (COD/1/2B)	37.172	27.785	34%	37.172		34%
<i>Gadus morhua and Melanogrammus aeglefinus</i>	Cod and haddock	Cabillaud et églefin	Faroese waters of Vb (C/H/05B-F)	p.m.	0		p.m.		
<i>Hippoglossus hippoglossus</i>	Atlantic halibut	Flétan	Greenland waters of V, XIV (HAL/514GRN)	112	1.075	-90%	118		-89%
<i>Hippoglossus hippoglossus</i>	Atlantic halibut	Flétan	Greenland waters of NAFO 0 and 1 (HAL/N01GRN)	112	200	-44%	118		-41%
<i>Macrurus spp.</i>	Grenadiers	Grenadiers	Greenland waters of V and XIV (GRV/514GRN)	100			100		
<i>Macrurus spp.</i>	Grenadiers	Grenadiers	Greenland waters of NAFO 1 (GRV/N1GRN)	100			100		
<i>Mallotus villosus</i>	Capelin	Capelan	IIb (CAP/02B)	0	0		0		
<i>Mallotus villosus</i>	Capelin	Capelan	Greenland waters of V, XIV (CAP/514GRN)	5775	56364	-90%	5775		-90%
<i>Melanogrammus aeglefinus</i>	Haddock	Eglefin	Norwegian waters of I, II (HAD/1N2AB)	0	1.350	-100%	0		-100% (1)
<i>Micromesistius poutassou</i>	Blue whiting	Merlan bleu	Faroese waters (WHB/2A4AXF)	0	0		0		
<i>Molva molva and Molva dyptergia</i>	Ling and Blue ling	Lingue et lingue bleue	Faroese waters of Vb (B/L/05B-F)	0	0		0		

<i>Pandalus borealis</i>	Northern prawn	Crevette nordique	Greenland waters of V and XIV (PRA/514GRN)	4.210	8.000	-47%	4.310	-46%	
<i>Pandalus borealis</i>	Northern prawn	Crevette nordique	Greenland waters of NAFO 1 (PRA/N1GRN)	3.400	4.000	-15%	3.000	-25%	
<i>Pollachius virens</i>	Saithe	Lieu noir	Norwegian waters I, II (POK/1N2AB)	0	2.550	-100%	0	-100%	(1)
<i>Pollachius virens</i>	Saithe	Lieu noir	International waters of I and II (POK/1/2INT)	0	0		0		
<i>Pollachius virens</i>	Saithe	Lieu noir	Faroese waters of Vb (POK/05B-F)	0	0		0		
<i>Reinhardtius hippoglossoides</i>	Greenland halibut	Flétan du Groenland	Norwegian waters of I and II (GHL/1N2AB)	0	50	-100%	0	-100%	(1)
<i>Reinhardtius hippoglossoides</i>	Greenland halibut	Flétan du Groenland	International waters of I and II (GHL/12/INT)	0	0		0		
<i>Reinhardtius hippoglossoides</i>	Greenland halibut	Flétan du Groenland	Greenland waters of NAFO 1 (GHL/N1GRN)	2.075	2.650	-22%	1.770	-33%	
<i>Reinhardtius hippoglossoides</i>	Greenland halibut	Flétan du Groenland	Greenland waters of V and XIV (GHL/514GRN)	3.890	6.320	-38%	3.559	-44%	
<i>Sebastes spp.</i>	Redfish (shallow pelagic)	Sébaste	EU and internat. waters of V ; internat. waters of XII and XIV (RED/51214S)	0	0		0		
<i>Sebastes spp.</i>	Redfish (deep pelagic)	Sébaste	EU and internat. waters of V ; internat. waters of XII and XIV (RED/51214D)	4017	4944	-19%	4017	-19%	
<i>Sebastes spp.</i>	Redfish	Sébaste	Norwegian waters of I and II (RED/1N2AB)	0	1.500	-100%	0	-100%	(1)
<i>Sebastes spp.</i>	Redfish	Sébaste	Internat. Waters of I and II (RED/1/2INT)	Not relevant	Not relevant		Not relevant		
<i>Sebastes spp.</i>	Redfish (pelagic)	Sébaste	Greenland waters of NAFO 1F and V, XIV (RED/N1F14G)	2200	6000	-63%	2100	-65%	
	Redfish (demersal)	Sébaste	Greenland waters of NAFO 1F and V, XIV (RED/N1F14D)	2000			2000		
<i>Sebastes spp.</i>	Redfish	Sébaste	Faroese waters of Vb (RED/05B-F)	0	0		0		
	Other species		Norwegian waters of I, II (OTH/1N2AB)	0	350	-100%	350	0%	(1)

	Other species		Faroese waters of Vb (OTH/05B-F)	0	0		0	
	Flatfish		Faroese waters of Vb (FLX/05B-F)	0	0		0	
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 (COD/N3M)	8049	5330,5	51%	5292	-1%
<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 (SQI/N34)	Not relevant	Not relevant		Not relevant	
<i>Limanda ferruginea</i>	Yellowtail flounder	Limande à queue jaune	NAFO 3LNO (YEL/N3LNO)	0	0	0%	0	0%
<i>Mallotus villosus</i>	Capelin	Capelan	NAFO 3NO	0	0	0%	0	0%
<i>Pandalus borealis</i>	Northern prawn	Crevette nordique	NAFO 3L (PRA/N3L)	480	670	-28%	480	-28%
<i>Pandalus borealis</i>	Notern prawn	Crevette nordique	NAFO 3M (PRA/N3M)	Not relevant	Not relevant		Not relevant	
<i>Reinhardtius hippoglossoides</i>	Greenland halibut	Flétan du Groenland	NAFO 3LMNO (GHL/N3LMNO)	6.738	7.093	-5%	6.738	-5%
<i>Rajidae</i>	Skate	Raie cendrée	NAFO 3LNO (SRX/N3LNO)	4.408	5.352	-18%	4.408	-18%
<i>Sebastes spp.</i>	Redfish	Sébaste	NAFO 3LN (RED/L3LN)	1185	1094	8%	1185	8%
<i>Sebastes spp.</i>	Redfish	Sébaste	NAFO 3M (RED/N3M)	7.813	7.813	0%	7.813	0%
<i>Sebastes spp.</i>	Redfish	Sébaste	NAFO 3O (RED/N3O)	7.000	7.000	0%	7.000	0%
<i>Sebastes spp.</i>	Redfish	Sébaste	NAFO Subarea 2, divisions 1F and 3K	0	0		0	

<i>Urophycis tenuis</i>	White hake	Merluche blanche	NAFO 3NO (HKW/N3NO)	588	2.940	-80%	588	-80%	
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)	7.548	5.756	31%	7.548	31%	
<i>Xiphias gladius</i>	Swordfish	Espadon	Atlantic Ocean (north of latitude 5° N)	8.347	8.358	0%	8.347	0%	
<i>Xiphias gladius</i>	Swordfish	Espadon	Atlantic Ocean (south of latitude 5° N)	5.180	5.379	-4%	5.180	-4%	
<i>Thunnus alalunga</i>	Northern Albacore	Thon blanc	Atlantic Ocean (north of latitude 5° N)	26.939	26.939	0%	26.939	0%	
<i>Thunnus alalunga</i>	Southern Albacore	Thon blanc	Atlantic Ocean (south of latitude 5° N)	1.540	1.540	0%	1.540	0%	
<i>Thunnus obesus</i>	Bigeye tuna	Thon obèse	Atlantic Ocean	29.467	29.867	-1%	29.467	-1%	
<i>Makaira nigricans</i>	Blue marlin	Makaire bleu	Atlantic Ocean	480	145,2	231%	480	231%	
<i>Tetrapturus alba</i>	White marlin	Makaire blanc	Atlantic Ocean	50	56,8	-12%	50	-12%	
ANNEX IE ANTARCTIC Area of CCAMLR									
<i>Champocephalus gunnari</i>	Mackerel icefish	Poisson des glaces antarctique	FAO 48.3 Anatarctic (ANI/F483)	2933	3072	-5%	2933	-5%	(3)
<i>Champocephalus gunnari</i>	Mackerel icefish	Poisson des glaces antarctique	FAO 58.5.2 Antarctic (ANI/F5852)	679	0		679		(3)
<i>Dissostichus eleginoides</i>	Patagonian toothfish	Légines	FAO 48.3 Antarctic (TOP/F483)	2600	2600	0%	2600	0%	(3)
<i>Dissostichus eleginoides</i>	Patagonian toothfish	Légines	FAO 48.4 Antarctic north (TOP/F484N)	63	48	31%	63	31%	(3)
<i>Dissostichus eleginoides</i>	Toothfish	Légines	FAO 48.4 Antarctic south (TOP/F484)	52	33	58%	52	58%	(3)
<i>Dissostichus spp.</i>	Patagonian toothfish	Légines	FAO 58.5.2 Antarctic TOP/F5852	2730	2730	0%	2730	0%	(3)
<i>Euphausia superba</i>	Krill	Krill	FAO 48 KRI/F48	5.610.000	5.610.000	0%	5.610.000	0%	(3)

<i>Euphausia superba</i>	Krill	Krill	FAO 58.4.1 Antarctic KRI/F5841	440 000	440 000	0%	440 000	0%	(3)
<i>Euphausia superba</i>	Krill	Krill	FAO 58.4.2 Antarctic KRI/F5842	2 645 000	2 645 000	0%	2 645 000	0%	(3)
<i>Lepidonotothen squamifrons</i>	Grey rockcod	Bocasse grise	FAO 58.5.2 Antarctic NOS/F5852	80	80	0%	80	0%	(3)
<i>Paralomis spp.</i>	Crab	Crabe	FAO 48.3 Antarctic PAI/F483	0	0	0%	0	0%	(3)
<i>Macrourus spp.</i>	Grenadier	Grenadier	FAO 58.5.2 Antarctic GRV/F5852	360	360	0%	360	0%	(3)
	Other species	Autres espèces	FAO 58.5.2 Antarctic OTH/F5852	50	50	0%	50	0%	(3)
<i>Rajidae</i>	Skates and rays	Requins et raies	FAO 58.5.2 Antarctic SRX/F5852	120	120	0%	120	0%	(3)
<i>Channichtyx rhinoceratus</i>	Unicorn icefish	Grande gueule	FAO 58.5.2 Antarctic LIC/F5852	150	150	0%	150	0%	(3)
<i>Gobionotothen gibberifrons</i>	Humped rockcod	Bocasse bossue	FAO 48.3 Antarctic NOG/F483	1470			1470		(3)
<i>Chaenocephalus aceratus</i>	Blackfin icefish	Grande-gueule antarctique	FAO 48.3 Antarctic SSI/F483	2200			2200		(3)
<i>Pseudochaenichthys georgianus</i>	South Georgia icefish	Crocodile de Géorgie	FAO 48.3 Antarctic SIG/F483	300			300		(3)
<i>Notothenia rossii</i>	Marbled rockcod	Bocasse marbrée	FAO 48.3 Antarctic NOR/F483	300			300		(3)
<i>Lepidonotothen squamifrons</i>	Grey rockcod	Bocasse grise	FAO 48.3 Antarctic NOS/F483	300			300		(3)
ANNEX IF SOUTH-EAST ATLANTIC OCEAN Area of SEAFO									
<i>Beryx spp.</i>	Alfonsinos	Béryx	SEAFO	200	200	0%	200	0%	(4)
<i>Chaceon spp.</i>	Deep-sea Red crab	Gérion ouest-africain	SEAFO Sub Division B1	200	200	0%	200	0%	(4)
<i>Chaceon spp.</i>	Deep-sea Red crab	Gérion ouest-africain	SEAFO excluding Sub division B1	200	200	0%	200	0%	(4)
<i>Dissostichus eleginoides</i>	Patagonian Toothfish	Légine australe	SEAFO	230	230	0%	230	0%	(4)
<i>Hoplostethus atlanticus</i>	Orange roughy	Hoplosthète orange	SEAFO Sub Division B1 (ORY/F47NAM)	p.m.	0		p.m.		(4)

<i>Hoplostethus atlanticus</i>	Orange roughy	Hoplosthète orange	SEAFO, excluding Sub Division B1 (ORY/F47X)	p.m.	50		p.m.		(4)
ANNEX IG SOUTHERN BLUEFIN TUNA - All Areas									
<i>Thunnus maccoyii</i>	Southern bluefin tuna	Thon rouge	By-catches in all areas (SBF/F41-81)	10	10	0%	10	0%	
ANNEX IH WCPFC Area									
<i>Xiphias gladius</i>	Swordfish	Espadon	WCPFC area south of 20° S	3.170	3.170	0%	3170	-100%	
ANNEX IJ SPFO Area									
<i>Trachurus murphyi</i>	Jack mackerel	Chinchard du Chili	SPFO (CJM)	27000	27.000	0%	27.000	0%	

(1) Stocks in Norwegian waters: no fishing opportunities pending the consultations on those arrangements for 2013.

(2) Stocks shared with Norway: provisionnal fishing opportunities subjects to the bilateral fisheries agreements with Norway, pending the consultations on those arrangements for 2013.

(3) TACs adopted by the Commission for the conservation of Antarctic marine living resources (CCAMLR) are not allocated to the members of CCAMLR and hence the Union's share is undetermined.

(4) These TACs are not allocated to the members of South East Atlantic Fisheries Organisation (SEAFO) and hence the Union's share is undetermined.

For the fishing opportunities, the following principles have been applied:

- When the scientific advice allowed to do so the TACs have been set **for reaching the maximum sustainable yield (MSY)** by 2015, where possible and at the latest by 2020 in line with the agreed general approach on the CFP reform.
- For **data-limited stocks**, the agreements favoured a case-by-case approach giving due consideration to the best available scientific information and indicators, in particular quantitative trends.
- For many stocks, **analytical TACs** were preferred to **precautionary TACs** in order to facilitate flexibility between stocks.
- For **fish stocks shared with Norway**, a margin has been kept in order to facilitate future bilateral negotiations.

In addition to the fishing opportunities 2013 for the Black Sea on which the ministers reached a political agreement in this Council session (see below), the fishing opportunities 2013 for the Baltic Sea were already adopted in November 2012 and the fishing opportunities for deep sea stock for 2013-2014 are about to be adopted.

According to Article 43(3) of the Treaty, the Council adopts measures on a proposal from the Commission on the fixing and allocation of fishing opportunities.

As the existing provisions in the area of the proposal are applicable until 31 December 2012, with the exception of certain effort limitations which are applicable until 31 January 2013, the regulation will apply from 1 January 2013 on.

Fishing opportunities for 2013 in the Black Sea

Ministers reached a political agreement on a regulation fixing for 2013 the fishing opportunities for certain fish stocks applicable in the Black Sea ([16889/12](#)) on the basis of a Presidency compromise, drawn up in agreement with the Commission.

The Council will adopt this regulation, after finalisation by the legal/linguistic experts, through a written procedure.

The main element of the Presidency compromise endorsed by the Commission is a roll-over in the EU total allowable catches (TACs) in the Black Sea for turbot and sprat.

The following table sets out the indicative values of the TACs in the Black Sea for 2013 compared with those for 2012 and the Commission proposal.

<i>Species Latin name</i>	Species English name	Espèces nom français	ICES fishing zone	COUNCIL TACs 2013	COUNCIL TACs 2012	COUNCIL comparison 2013/2012	COMMISSION proposal for 2013	comparison Council TAC 2011 / Commission proposal 2012
<i>Psetta maxima</i>	Turbot	Turbot	Black Sea (TUR/F3742C)	86,4	86,4	0%	74	-15%
<i>Sprattus sprattus</i>	Sprat	Sprat	Black Sea (SPR/F3742C)	11.475	11.475	0%	11.475	0%

The Council, the Commission and the Member States concerned agreed that it was appropriate to reinforce the control and monitoring measures such as inspection schemes and benchmarks to address misreporting and illegal fishing for turbot in the Black Sea. Such measures have been developed jointly by Member States concerned and the Commission in 2012.

In addition, the Council and the Commission agreed that existing regional cooperation on fishing in the Black Sea should be further enhanced to promote sustainable stock management in this area and that they would each take actions in line with their competence.

According to Article 43(3) of the Treaty, the Council adopts measures on a proposal from the Commission on the fixing and allocation of fishing opportunities in the Black Sea.

As the existing provisions are applicable until 31 December 2012 the regulation will apply from 1 January 2013.

Long-term plan for cod stocks

The Council reached a political agreement and adopted measures on the basis of a Presidency's proposal for an amendment to regulation 1342/2008 establishing a long-term plan for cod stocks and the fisheries exploiting those stocks ([13745/12](#)).

The Presidency proposed to split the amendments to the long-term plan for cod stocks into a legal act based on article 43(2) (ordinary legislative procedure) and another on article 43(3) (adoption by the Council) covering measures on the fixing and allocation of fishing opportunities. The political agreement reached covers the legal act based on Article 43(3). This will allow the Council to

- introduce flexibility in setting the total allowable catches (TACs), to reflect the scientific advice on a case by case basis;
- freeze effort allocations under certain conditions.

The political agreement was reached by unanimity (with the Dutch delegation abstaining); the adoption was also obtained by unanimity (with the Dutch and the Spanish delegations abstaining).

Background

Regulation 1342/2008 establishing a long-term plan for cod stocks and the fisheries exploiting those stocks calls for the performance of the management measures to be evaluated in the third year of implementation of the plan. The Scientific, Technical and Economic Committee for Fisheries (STECF) evaluated the plan in 2011. Its report stated that the cod plan has not achieved its objectives and that they are unlikely to be achieved by 2015. Furthermore, the report revealed that there are flaws in the design of the regulation and problems with its implementation. In the light of this advice and of the opinions received from regional advisory committees (RACs) and the Member States, the Commission proposed an amendment to the regulation.

The proposal provides the following amendments to the long-term plan for cod:

- limit the scope of the plan in order to avoid increasing the effort by using different calculation methods in the member states;
- introduce flexibility in the rule about what to do in circumstances where the normal harvest rule cannot be applied, to reflect the scientific advice on a case by case basis;

- clarify and simplify the procedure for applying the procedure for excluding from the fishing-effort regime those fishing activities that catch insignificant quantities of cod;
- reduce cod discards by strengthening the obligation on Member States to take action where the data indicate a high level of over-quota catches being discarded in certain fisheries;
- strengthen the level of monitoring and control as well as request full documentation as a basic justification for the derogations where implemented;
- align the provisions of the text with the Treaty on the Functioning of the EU, in particular the new comitology procedures.

AGRICULTURE

Common agricultural policy reform - progress report

The Presidency presented to the ministers its progress report on the reform of the common agricultural policy (CAP) ([17592/12](#)).

Member states broadly welcomed the progress report and overall considered it a fair and accurate reflection of the debate in the Council, which would lay a solid foundation for the next steps in the process under the Irish Presidency. They also noted that the next Presidency had to deepen discussions on the open issues. Many delegations commented on issues of importance to them, particularly in relation to internal convergence of direct payments and greening. Some Member States pointed out the close link between debates on the CAP reform and an agreement on the Multi-Annual Financial Framework (MFF) beginning of next year.

This report highlights the progress achieved during the second half of 2012 on the CAP reform proposals. It has been drawn up under the responsibility of the Presidency on the basis of the positions expressed within the Council and its preparatory bodies during this semester.

The report indicates the main amendments suggested to the Commission proposals on which the Presidency has noted broad support from delegations. The Presidency's suggested amendments aim to resolve a number of issues raised by delegations, particularly with a view to ensuring that future CAP legislation is workable in practice and can be implemented in a cost-effective manner. The Council has made clear several times its determination that the reform should deliver real simplification.

This report also identifies for each of the proposals the key issues which remain outstanding as at December 2012, including issues contained in the negotiating box for heading 2 of the multiannual financial framework (MFF).

The report distinguishes between three categories of issues:

- issues on which there is broad support among delegations for the amendments suggested by the Presidency to the Commission proposals (with amendments taking into account accession of Croatia as of 1st July 2013);
- issues which remain outstanding as at December 2012;
- issues which are included in the negotiating box of the MFF (Heading 2) and which the European Council will ultimately decide upon.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Conference on the Movement of Exotic Animals

The Presidency briefed the Council about the conclusions of an international conference on the movement of exotic animals which took place on 4/5 October 2012 in Brussels ([17616/12](#)).

The purpose of this event - organised jointly by the Cyprus Presidency, the EU Commission and the Federation of Veterinarians in Europe (FVE) and the Swiss federal veterinary office - was to exchange information on the ways that exotic animals enter the EU market and end up in the different EU countries, and to point out the challenges for animal health and welfare and the possible impact on public health.

The Commission will present later to the Council a proposal for a revision of the regulation 998/2003 on the animal health requirements applicable to non commercial movements of pet animals which might cover certain exotic species kept as pets, as regards some of the animal and public health requirements.

Vine planting rights

The Commission briefed the ministers on its report on the implementation of the 2008 wine reform within the framework of the proposal for a regulation establishing a common organisation of the markets in agricultural products (Single common market organisation (CMO) regulation). The Commission also reported on the recommendations of the High level group (HLG) on vine planting rights which was set up earlier this year ([17630/12](#)).

Many wine producing member states supported the HLG's recommendations envisaging to set up an alternative authorisation system when the vine planting rights will expire. They requested the Commission to propose legal proposal.

As part of the 2008 wine sector reform, the existing system of vine planting rights restricting wine production is expected to expire in 2015 enabling producers to increase their production if possible.

Common Declaration on Coupled Support

Ministers were briefed on a common declaration concerning coupled support prepared by Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Latvia, Poland, Romania and Slovakia and supported by Slovenia ([17719/12](#)).

These delegations consider that coupled support constitutes an important instrument of the CAP because it ensures support for sectors with particular difficulties and makes a significant contribution to solving specific regional problems. The Commission pointed out the need to apply coupled support to targeted objectives and use flexibility in the internal convergence of direct payments.

The current limitation in the national ceiling for coupled support and the impossibility of implementing other coupled support schemes do not allow new Member States to allocate more than 10% for coupled direct support. The Member States which signed the common declaration are requesting for the introduction in the proposal for direct payments of an option for the Member States applying the single area payment scheme (SAPS) to be able to notify more than 10% for coupled support for the next programming period.

Sugar production levies 2002-2006

The Council was briefed by the German delegation on the level of sugar production levies for the marketing year 2002/2003 to 2005/2006 ([17706/12](#)).

Some delegations supported the German request to the Commission for a legislative proposal on the recalculation of the production levies for the missing marketing year. This proposal would fill the gap induced by the declaration of the Court of Justice invalidating the regulation 1193/2009 calculating the production levies in the sugar sector and the repealing of the basic regulation 1290/2001 charging production levies for the years in question.

Milk market situation and conditions for phasing-out the milk quota system

The Commission briefed the Council about the evolution of the milk market situation and the consequent conditions for smoothly phasing-out the milk quota system (or "soft landing") ([17611/12](#)).

Some delegations contested that the "soft landing" was on track in a majority of Member States as announced by the Commission. These countries regretted the level of "super-levy" for exceeding milk quotas. Other delegations expressed their concern with regard to the abolition of quotas in particular for less favoured areas.

In its report, the Commission considers that both the evolution of milk production versus milk quotas, and the downward trend in quotas prices show that the phasing-out the milk quota system is on track. In many Member states, quotas are no longer relevant to limit production and the quota price has already reached zero or is approaching it.

OTHER ITEMS APPROVED

COMMON SECURITY AND DEFENCE POLICY

2013 Budget for the European Defence Agency

The Council adopted the 2013 budget and staff establishment plan for the European Defence Agency. The budget amounts to EUR 30.5 million.

AGRICULTURE

Council conclusions on a Court of auditors report - Suckler cow direct aids

The Council adopted conclusions on the special report No 11/2012 from the European Court of Auditors entitled "Suckler cow and ewe and goat direct aids under partial implementation of single payment scheme (SPS) arrangements" ([17806/12](#)).

The Court has issued recommendations regarding the specific schemes for partial implementation of SPS arrangements for suckler cow and ewe and goat direct aids. The Council considers it could be taken into account in the proceedings on the proposal on direct payments currently being examined by the Council within the framework of the CAP reform.

Council conclusions on a Court of auditors report - EU hygiene legislation in slaughterhouses

The Council adopted conclusions on the special report No 14/2012 from the European Court of Auditors entitled "Implementation of EU hygiene legislation in slaughterhouses of countries that joined the EU since 2004" ([17807/12](#)).

The Court concluded that overall the design of systems for supervision of hygiene requirements by the Commission and the competent authorities in the newly acceding Member States was adequate. Weaknesses found do not individually or collectively call into question the overall design of the systems to ensure that hygiene requirements are applied. The Council considers that the Court's recommendations with regard to the selection and evaluation of projects could be taken into account in the proceedings on the proposal for rural development currently being examined by the Council within the framework of the CAP reform.

Council conclusions on a Court of auditors report - Single Area Payment Scheme

The Council adopted conclusions on the special report No 16/2012 from the European Court of Auditors entitled "The effectiveness of the Single Area Payment Scheme (SAPS) as a transitional system for supporting farmers in the new Member States" ([17810/12](#)).

At several occasions, Member states concerned have pointed out that the application of the SAPS system as a whole, together with Complementary Direct Payments was a success, and that the possibility of a continuation of SAPS in the future should not be excluded. The Council considers that the Court's recommendations and the views of the Member States could be taken into account in the proceedings on the proposal on direct payments within the framework of the CAP reform.

FISHERIES

Community producer prices for 2013 for certain fishery products

The Council fixed the guide prices and Community producer prices for certain fishery products for the 2013 fishing year ([16834/12](#)).

The objective of this regulation is to ensure the functioning of the price support and intervention mechanisms laid down in regulation 2000/104/EC¹ during 2013 fishing year to attain a single market in fisheries products. The regulation concerns the guide prices for a specified number of fishery products as well as the Community producer price for specified tuna products. The guide prices form the reference for the subsequent fixing of the different technical parameters needed for the operation of the intervention mechanisms. In addition, the Community producer price is of relevance for the compensatory allowance for tuna delivered to the processing industry, which might be triggered when prices on the world markets fall below a specified trigger level.

Pursuant to Council Regulation (EC) No 104/2000, the relevant prices shall follow both the development of market prices during the three preceding fishing years as well as trends in production and demand. In line with that, the proposal is for adjustments of between -1% and +1.5% for most whitefish species; for increases between +1.5% and +2.5% for a majority of pelagic species; and for increases between +0.5% and +3% for most crustaceans. In the field of frozen species, the proposal reflects increases between +1% and +3% for a majority of products. Finally, the proposal is for increasing the Union producer price for tuna products by +2%.

Under article 43(3) of the Treaty, the Council adopts measures on a proposal from the Commission on the guide prices and Community producer prices for certain fishery products.

¹ [OJ L 17, 21.1.2000, p. 22.](#)

TRANSPORT

Accessibility requirements for European railways

The Council decided not to oppose adoption by the Commission of a directive which will complement the essential requirements listed in annex III of directive 2008/57 on the interoperability of the EU rail system with requirements concerning accessibility for persons with disabilities ([16273/12](#)).

The draft directive is subject to the regulatory procedure with scrutiny; now that the Council has given its consent, the Commission may adopt it, unless the European Parliament objects

Technical specifications for interoperability of European railways

The Council decided not to oppose adoption by the Commission of two regulations updating the technical specifications for interoperability of the trans-European rail system relating to the freight wagon rolling stock ([16152/12](#)) and to the telematic applications for the freight subsystem ([16282/12](#)).

The draft regulations are subject to the regulatory procedure with scrutiny; now that the Council has given its consent, the Commission may adopt them, unless the European Parliament objects.

ENVIRONMENT

Emission allocations for the period from 2013 to 2020

The Council decided not to oppose the adoption of the following Commission legislative act,:

- decision on determining Member States' annual emission allocations for the period from 2013 to 2020 pursuant to Decision No 406/2009/EC ¹ ([15867/12](#)) .

The Commission's acts are subject to what is known as the regulatory procedure with scrutiny². This means that now that the Council has given its consent, the Commission may adopt them, unless the European Parliament objects.

¹ Council Decision on the effort of Member States to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions to meet the Community's greenhouse gas reduction commitments up to 2020 (OJ L 140, 5.06.2009).

² Council Decision 1999/468/EC of 28 June 1999 laying down the procedures for the exercise of implementing powers conferred on the Commission (OJ L 184, 17.7.1999, p. 23), as amended by Decision 2006/512/EC (OJ L 200, 22.7.2006).

NUCLEAR ENERGY

Secure Supply of Radioisotopes for Medical Use

The Council adopted conclusions " Towards the Secure Supply of Radioisotopes for Medical Use in the European Union" ([17453/12](#)).

EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AREA

Transparency of gas and electricity prices

The Council adopted a decision on the position to be taken by the EU within the EEA Joint Committee concerning an amendment to Annex IV (Energy) and to Annex XXI (Statistics) to the EEA agreement ([16058/12](#)).

The decision is aimed at incorporating Directive 2008/92/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 October 2008 concerning a Community procedure to improve the transparency of gas and electricity prices charged to industrial end-users into the agreement.
