



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**



Brussels, 27 July 2012
12949/12
PRESSE 354

Quotas fixed for anchovy during the season 2012-2013 in the Bay of Biscay

The Council adopted today by written procedure a regulation establishing the fishing opportunities for anchovy in the Bay of Biscay for the 2012/2013 fishing season ([12656/12](#))

Council regulations on fishing opportunities adopted during the second half of each year do not include a total allowable catch (TAC) for anchovy in the Bay of Biscay because of the different annual cycle followed by the biology of this stock and the scientific advice estimating the spawning stock biomass. For this reason, a specific anchovy TAC is set around July each year.

For the anchovy stock in the Bay of Biscay, the advice from the Scientific, Technical and Economic Committee for Fisheries (STECF) of July 2012 is based on a fishing season running from 1 July 2011 until 30 June 2012.

The following table sets out the indicative value of the TAC for anchovy in the Bay of Biscay compared with those for 2011:

<i>Species Latin name</i>	Species English name	Espèces nom français	ICES fishing zone	COUNCIL TAC 2012	COUNCIL TAC 2011	COUNCIL comparison 2012/2011
<i>Engraulis encrasicolus</i>	Anchovy	Anchois	ICES Zone VIII (ANE/08)	20 700	29 700	-30%

P R E S S

The Council adopted this proposal as soon as possible in order to allow fishermen to plan their activities for the new fishing season. The regulation 716/2011 established the TAC for the fishery exploiting this stock applicable from 1 July 2011 until 30 June 2012. The TAC and its allocation to the Member States concerned (Spain and France) had to be fixed for the next 12 months.

The Commission presented in 2009 a proposal for a regulation establishing a long-term plan for the anchovy stock in the Bay of Biscay and the fisheries exploiting that stock.

