



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 12 November 2012

**Interinstitutional File:
2012/0223 (NLE)**

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**PECHE 426
OC 587**

ADDENDUM TO THE “I/A” ITEM NOTE

from: General Secretariat of the Council
to: Permanent Representatives Committee (Part 1) / Council

No. Cion prop.: 13211/12 PECHE 312 - COM(2012) 458 final

Subject: Proposal for a Council Regulation fixing for 2013 the fishing opportunities for certain fish stocks and groups of fish stocks applicable in the Baltic Sea
- Adoption
COMMON GUIDELINES
Consultation deadline: 14.11.2012

Statement by the Swedish delegation

"The division of the Western Baltic Spring Spawning herring stock between areas 22-24 (Western Baltic) and IIIa (Skagerrak and Kattegat) is of a political nature and should not discriminate against historical fishing opportunities for other herring stocks in area IIIa. Sweden therefore seeks a comprehensive and long-term harvest control rule for herring in area IIIa, to be established in the framework of negotiations between EU and Norway."

Statement by the Polish delegation

"Taking into account the necessity to apply the long-term management plan, Poland does not oppose the proposed reduction of **Eastern Baltic cod** TAC. However, the current situation of the stock and its consequences for future years are worrying.

In its advice for 2013, ICES have significantly reduced the biomass estimation because of two interlinked factors: a record concentration of cod in subarea 25 and an increase in cannibalism. ICES has noted the reduction of individual weight of cod specimens, which Polish fishers have observed for the last 2 years. Had the TAC been increased by more than 15% over the past three years as allowed by the ICES advice and constantly postulated by Poland, the current situation of the stock would probably have been avoided.

The new multi-species plan must allow for increasing the TAC by more than 15% when fishing mortality is lower than the target mortality and in the situation of excessive stock concentration."