



Council of the  
European Union

Brussels, 18 July 2014  
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PECHE 369

**NOTE**

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From: General Secretariat of the Council  
To: Delegations  
Subject: Iberian sardine  
- Joint statement by Spain and Portugal

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Delegations will find enclosed a statement submitted by the Spanish and Portuguese delegations in relation to the management of Iberian sardine.

**JOINT STATEMENT BY SPAIN AND PORTUGAL**

"After the meeting held between the Secretary General of Fisheries of Spain, Carlos Dominguez, and the Secretary of State of the Sea of Portugal, Manuel Pinto Abreu, in the margins of the Fisheries Council in Brussels, they have yet agreed the excellent state of bilateral relations in fisheries affairs and have reiterated their firm support to the management plan of the Iberian sardine.

ICES has identified for some years now a downward trend of the biomass of the stock of Iberian sardine, which has led to advise setting a maximum limit of catches for this species. Spain and Portugal agreed on a joint management plan, including a specific harvest rule which was validated by ICES as precautionary and which is beneficial to the interests of the fishermen of both countries.

The respective administrations have adopted the necessary national measures to fulfil the provisions of the management plan, in accordance with the seriousness of the situation encountered. They will maintain the cooperation and will explore complementary management measures in order to ensure a quick recovery of the stock."

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