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Agriculture and Fisheries

Brussels, 16 and 17 December 2013

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Minister for Agriculture of Lithuania

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Main results of the Council

Concerning fisheries, the ministers reached a political agreement on **2014 fishing opportunities for certain fish stocks in EU and certain non-EU waters and on fishing opportunities for certain fish stocks in the Black Sea**. For the general 2014 fishing opportunities, the levels of the stocks were agreed where possible on the basis of scientific advice and in line with the maximum sustainable yields (MSY). "We have reached a balanced compromise that allows for a number of stocks to reach maximum sustainable yield in 2015 ensuring the sustainable use of fishery resources and vitality of fisheries", noted the President of the Council Vigilius Jukna. As regards the Presidency compromise for the Black Sea, the main element endorsed by the Commission is a roll-over in the EU total allowable catches (TACs) in the Black Sea for turbot and sprat. Control, monitoring and data collection measures will be reinforced, and management approaches at the regional level developed.

As regards agriculture, the Commission presented to the Council its proposal for a regulation on **promotion measures for agricultural products**. Most member states welcomed the proposal and acknowledged the fact that the current context, in which the EU agriculture is faced with a much more competitive environment, calls for a renewed policy of promotion. However many countries pointed out the need for the member states to be better involved in the process.

Finally, the Council adopted the **common agricultural policy (CAP) reform package and transitional CAP measures for 2014** following a first-reading agreement with the European Parliament. The CAP reform package includes regulations on direct payments, common organisation of the markets, rural development and financing of the CAP. With this adoption, the Lithuanian Presidency finalises the process initiated in 2011 and sets out the new rules for the CAP in the next seven-year period, in order to equip the European agricultural sector for the opportunities and challenges of the future. "The Common Agricultural Policy will continue to be a vital Union policy, allowing us to maintain a sustainable, productive and competitive agricultural sector, and a thriving countryside across the Union" said the President of the Council.

The Council also adopted without discussion a number of items including:

- the appointment of Danièle Nouy as head of the ECB supervisory board,
- a decision clarifying provisions on the timing of auctions of greenhouse gas allowances and
- the cohesion policy package for 2014-2020.

CONTENTS¹**PARTICIPANTS..... 6****ITEMS DEBATED****FISHERIES 8**

Total allowable catches (TACs) and quotas for 2014..... 8

Fishing opportunities for 2014 in the Black Sea..... 31

AGRICULTURE 33

Information and promotion measures for agricultural products 33

Any other business 35

– European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF)..... 35

– Emission ceilings for certain atmospheric pollutants 35

– Public consultation on organic farming..... 36

– Conference on the dairy sector 36

– Local farming 37

– Rice market 38

– "Traffic lights" nutrition labelling system 38

– Package on animal health, plant health and control..... 39

– Market access to Russia..... 40

¹

- 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.

OTHER ITEMS APPROVED*FISHERIES*

– Partnership agreement between EU and Seychelles - New protocol	41
– Partnership agreement between EU and the Comoros - New protocol.....	41
– Partnership between EU and Senegal - Negotiations for a new protocol to the agreement.....	42
– Partnership between EU and Madagascar - Negotiations for a new protocol to the agreement	42
– Partnership agreement between EU and Morocco - Conclusion of a new protocol	43

AGRICULTURE

– CAP reform package and transitional measures 2014	43
– Domestic swine - Post mortem inspection requirements.....	44

ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

– European Central Bank - Nomination	45
--	----

GENERAL AFFAIRS

– Cohesion package for 2014-2020*	46
– Statistical programme	46

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

– EU relations with Andorra, Monaco and San Marino	47
--	----

JUSTICE AND HOME AFFAIRS

– Union Civil Protection Mechanism	47
– Financing programmes in the area of justice and fundamental rights 2014-2020	47
– Automated data exchange with Finland	48

ENVIRONMENT

– EU ETS - adaptation of the timetable of auctions of greenhouse gas allowances.....	48
– Exemption for lead - delegated acts	48

TRADE POLICY

–	Moldova - Trade preferences.....	51
–	Anti-dumping - Mesh fabrics of glass fibres - India and Indonesia	51
–	Generalised scheme of preferences	51
–	General agreement on trade in services - Bulgaria and Romania.....	51

TRANSPORT

–	Rail interoperability - noise pollution.....	52
---	--	----

EMPLOYMENT AND SOCIAL POLICY

–	Pension rights	52
–	Globalisation adjustment fund.....	52
–	Community statistics on income and living conditions	53

HEALTH

–	Statistics on public health and health and safety at work	53
---	---	----

RESEARCH

–	Euratom programme for nuclear research (2014 to 2018).....	53
---	--	----

WRITTEN PROCEDURE

–	Appointment of members of the European Court of Auditors	54
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APPOINTMENTS

–	Committee of the Regions	54
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PARTICIPANTS

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Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Natural
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Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs and the Environment
Deputy Minister for Agriculture, Food, Fisheries and
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Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development

Commission:

Mr Tonio BORG

Mr Dacian CIOLOȘ

Ms Maria DAMANAKI

Member

Member

Member

ITEMS DEBATED

FISHERIES

Total allowable catches (TACs) and quotas for 2014

The Council reached a political agreement on fishing opportunities for 2014 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 ([15299/13](#)).

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

The following table sets out the indicative values of the principal TACs for 2014 compared with those for 2013 and the Commission proposal.

<i>Species Latin name</i>	Species English name	Espèces nom français	ICES fishing zone	COUNCIL TACs 2014 (UE)	COUNCIL TACs 2013 (UE)	COUNCIL comparison 2014/2013 %	COMMISSION Proposal for 2014	Comparison Council TAC 2013 / Commis. Prop. 2014
ANNEX IA - SKAGERRAK, KATTEGAT, ICES zones I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VII, VIII, IX, X, XII and XIV, EU waters of CECAF, French Guiana waters								
<i>Ammodytes spp.</i>	Sandeel	Lançon	Norwegian waters of IV (SAN/04-N)	0	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	286424	Not relevant	0	Not relevant
<i>Argentina silus</i>	Greater silver smelt	Grande argentine	I & II (EU and internat. waters) (ARU/1/2)	90	90	0%	90	0%
<i>Argentina silus</i>	Greater silver smelt	Grande argentine	III & IV (EU and internat. waters) (ARU/3/4)	1.028	1.028	0%	1.028	0%
<i>Argentina silus</i>	Greater silver smelt	Grande argentine	EU and internat. Waters of V, VI, VII (ARU/567)	4.316	4.316	0%	3.798	-12%
<i>Brosme brosme</i>	Tusk	Brosmes	EU and internat. waters of I, II & XIV (USK/1214EJ)	21	21	0%	21	0%
<i>Brosme brosme</i>	Tusk	Brosmes	IIIa, EU waters of subdivisions 22-32 (USK/3A/BCD)	29	29	0%	29	0%
<i>Brosme brosme</i>	Tusk	Brosmes	EU waters of IV (USK/04-C)	235	235	0%	235	0%
<i>Brosme brosme</i>	Tusk	Brosmes	EU and internat. waters of V, VI, and VII (USK/567EJ)	535	937	-43%	535	-43%
<i>Brosme brosme</i>	Tusk	Brosmes	Norwegian waters of IV (USK/04-N)	0	170	-100%	0	-100%

<i>Caproidae</i>	Boarfish	Sangler	Union and international waters of VI, VII and VIII (BOR/678)	127.509	82.000	55%	127.509	55%	
<i>Clupea harengus</i>	Herring	Hareng	IIIa (HER/03A)	20.592	55.000	-63%	20.592	-63%	(2)
<i>Clupea harengus</i>	Herring	Hareng	EU and Norwegian waters of IV north of 53°30' N (HER/4AB)	197.400	286.800	-31%	197.400	-31%	(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	Herring by-catches in IIIa (HER/03A-BC)	4.690	6.659	-30%	2.660	-60%	(2)
<i>Clupea harengus</i>	Herring	Hareng	by-catches in IV, VIIId and in EU waters of IIa (HER/2A47DX)	8.680	14.400	-40%	8.680	-40%	(2)
<i>Clupea harengus</i>	Herring	Hareng	IVc, VIIId (HER/4CXB7D)	36.190	52.580	-31%	36.190	-31%	(2)
<i>Clupea harengus</i>	Herring	Hareng	EU and internat. waters of Vb and VIa1N (HER/5B6ANB)	28.067	27.480	2%	28.067	2%	
<i>Clupea harengus</i>	Herring	Hareng	VIaS, VIIb-c (HER/6AS7BC)	3.676	1.500	145%	3.676	145%	
<i>Clupea harengus</i>	Herring	Hareng	VIa Clyde (HER/06ACL)	To be established	To be established		To be established		
<i>Clupea harengus</i>	Herring	Hareng	VIIa (HER/07A/MM)	5.251	4.993	5%	5.251	5%	
<i>Clupea harengus</i>	Herring	Hareng	VIIe-f (HER/7EF)	930	931	0%	930	0%	
<i>Clupea harengus</i>	Herring	Hareng	VIIg, h, j, k (HER/7G-K)	22.360	17.200	30%	22.360	30%	

<i>Engraulis encrasicolus</i>	Anchovy	Anchois	IX, X; EU waters of CEECAF 34.1.1 (ANE/9/3411)	8.778	8.778	0%	8.778	0%	
<i>Gadus morhua</i>	Cod	Cabillaud	Skagerrak (COD/03AN.)	2.562	3.783	-32%	2.562	-32%	(2)
<i>Gadus morhua</i>	Cod	Cabillaud	Kattegat (COD/03AS)	100	100	0%	80	-20%	
<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	26.475	-42%	15.382	-42%	(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	VIb; EU & internat. waters of Vb west of of 12°00'W and of XII & XIV (COD/5W6-14)	74	74	0%	74	0%	
<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)	228	285	-20%	228	-20%	
<i>Gadus morhua</i>	Cod	Cabillaud	VIIb-c, VIIe-k, VIII, IX & X; EU waters of CEECAF 34.1.1 (COD/7XAD34)	6.848	10.200	-33%	6.848	-33%	
<i>Gadus morhua</i>	Cod	Cabillaud	VIIId (COD/07D)	1.080	1.543	-30%	1.080	-30%	(2)

<i>Lamna nasus</i>	Porbeagle	Requin taupe commun	French Guyana waters, Kattégat; EU waters of Skagerrak, I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VII, VIII, IX, X, XII and XIV; EU waters of CECAF 34.1.1, 34.1.2 and 34.2 (POR/3-1234)	0	0	0	0	0	0				
<i>Lepidorhombus spp.</i>	Megrims	Cardines	EU waters of IIa & IV (LEZ/2AC4-C)	2.083	1.937	8%	8%	2.083	8%				
<i>Lepidorhombus spp.</i>	Megrims	Cardines	VI, EU and internat. waters of Vb; intern. Waters of XII & XIV (LEZ/56-14)	4.074	3.387	20%	20%	4.074	20%				
<i>Lepidorhombus spp.</i>	Megrims	Cardines	VII (LEZ/07)	17.385	17.385	0%	0%	13.908	-20%				
<i>Lepidorhombus spp.</i>	Megrims	Cardines	VIIIa, VIIIb, VIIIc, VIIf (LEZ/8ABDE)	1.716	1.716	0%	0%	1.373	-20%				
<i>Lepidorhombus spp.</i>	Megrims	Cardines	VIIIc, IX & X; EU waters of CECAF 34.1.1 (LEZ/8C3411)	2.257	1.214	86%	86%	2.257	86%				
<i>Limanda limanda</i> and <i>Platichthys</i> <i>flesus</i>	Dab and Flounder	Dabé et Flet	EU waters of IIa and IV (DAB/2AC4-C & FLE/2AC4-C)	18.434	18.434	0%	0%	14.747	-20%				
<i>Lophiidae</i>	Anglerfish	Baudroie	EU waters of IIa and IV (ANF/2AC4-C)	7.833	8.703	-10%	-10%	6.962	-20%				
<i>Lophiidae</i>	Anglerfish	Baudroie	Norwegian waters of IV (ANF/04-N)	0	1.500	-100%	-100%	0	-100%			(1)	
<i>Lophiidae</i>	Anglerfish	Baudroie	VI, EU & internat. waters of Vb, int. waters of XII & XIV (ANF/561214)	4.432	4.924	-10%	-10%	3.939	-20%				

<i>Lophidae</i>	Anglerfish	Baudroie	VII (ANF/07)	33.516	29.144	15%	29.144	0%	
<i>Lophidae</i>	Anglerfish	Baudroie	VIIIa,b,d,e (ANF/8ABDE)	8.980	7.809	15%	7.809	0%	
<i>Lophidae</i>	Anglerfish	Baudroie	VIIIc, IX, X, EU waters of CECAF 34.1.1 (ANF/8C3411)	2.629	2.475	6%	2.629	6%	
<i>Melanogrammus aeglefinus</i>	Haddock	Eglefin	IIIa, EU waters of 22-32 (HAD/3A/BCD)	1.579	2.653	-40%	1.579	-40%	(2)
<i>Melanogrammus aeglefinus</i>	Haddock	Eglefin	IV, EU waters of IIa (HAD/2AC4)	20.635	34.681	-41%	20.635	-41%	(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	VIIb; XII and XIV (EU and internat. waters) (HAD/6B1214)	1.210	990	22%	1.210	22%	
<i>Melanogrammus aeglefinus</i>	Haddock	Eglefin	EU and internat. water of Vb, VIa (HAD/5BC6A)	3.988	4.211	-5%	3.988	-5%	
<i>Melanogrammus aeglefinus</i>	Haddock	Eglefin	VIIb-k, VIII, IX, X; EU waters of CECAF 34.1.1 (HAD/7X7A34)	9.479	14.148	-33%	3.602	-75%	
<i>Melanogrammus aeglefinus</i>	Haddock	Eglefin	VIa (HAD/07A)	1.181	1.189	-1%	951	-20%	
<i>Merlangius merlangus</i>	Whiting	Merlan	IIIa (WHG/03A)	722	1050	-31%	722	-31%	(2)
<i>Merlangius merlangus</i>	Whiting	Merlan	IV; EU waters of IIa (WHG/2AC4)	10.261	17.039	-40%	10.261	-40%	(2)
<i>Merlangius merlangus</i>	Whiting	Merlan	VI, EU and internat. waters of Vb; internat. waters of XII and XIV (WHG/56-14)	292	292	0%	234	-20%	

<i>Merlangius merlangus</i>	Whiting	Merlan	VIIa (WHG/07A)	80	84	-5%	67	-20%		
<i>Merlangius merlangus</i>	Whiting	Merlan	VIIb-h, and VIIj-k (WHG/7X7A-C)	19.162	24.500	-22%	19.162	-22%		
<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		To be established			
<i>Merlangius merlangus and Pollachius pollachius</i>	Whiting and Pollack	Merlan et Lieu jaune	Norwegian waters south of 62° N (WHG/04-N)&(POL/04-N)	0	190	-100%	0	-100%	(1)	
<i>Merluccius merluccius</i>	Hake	Merlu	IIIa; EU waters of subdivisions 22-32 (HKE/3A/BCD)	2.466	2.093	18%	2.466	18%		
<i>Merluccius merluccius</i>	Hake	Merlu	EU waters of IIa and IV (HKE/2AC4-C)	2.874	2.438	18%	2.874	18%		
<i>Merluccius merluccius</i>	Hake	Merlu	VI, VII; EU and internat. waters of Vb; internat. waters of XII, XIV (HKE/571214)	45.896	38.939	18%	45.896	18%		TAC 2014 Northern hake = 81846
<i>Merluccius merluccius</i>	Hake	Merlu	VIIIa-b, VIII d-e (HKE/8ABDE)	30.610	25.970	18%	30.610	18%		
<i>Merluccius merluccius</i>	Hake	Merlu	VIIIc, IX, X, EU waters of CECAF 34.1.1 (HKE/8C3411)	16.266	14.144	15%	16.266	15%		
<i>Micromesistius poutassou</i>	Blue whiting	Merlan bleu	Norwegian waters of II and IV (WHB/4AB-N)	0	0		0			

<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)	157.653	116.032	36%	200.000	72%	
<i>Micromesistius poutassou</i>	Blue whiting	Merlan bleu	VIIIc, IX and X; EU waters of CEECAF 34.1.1 (WHB/8C3411)	24.375	16.516	48%	20.513	24%	
<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	0		p.m.		
<i>Microstomus kitt</i> & <i>Glyptocephalus cynoglossus</i>	Lemon sole and Witch	Limande sole et plie grise	EU waters of IIa and IV (LEM/2AC4-C) (WIT/2AC4-C)	6.391	6.391	0%	5.924	-7%	
<i>Molva dypterygia</i>	Blue ling	Lingue bleue	EU waters and internat. waters of Vb, VI, VII (BLI/5B67)	2.210	2.390	-8%	2210	-8%	
<i>Molva dypterygia</i>	Blue ling	Lingue bleue	International waters of XII (BLI/12INT)	697	774	-10%	619	-20%	
<i>Molva dypterygia</i>	Blue ling	Lingue bleue	EU and international waters of II, IV (BLI/24-)	53	53	0%	53	0%	
<i>Molva dypterygia</i>	Blue ling	Lingue bleue	EU and international waters of III (BLI/03-)	8	8	0%	8	0%	

<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	IIIa, EU waters of IIIb-d (LIN/3A/BCD)	87	87	0%	70	-20%	
<i>Molva molva</i>	Ling	Lingue	EU waters of IV (LIN/04-C)	1.942	2.428	-20%	1.942	-20%	
<i>Molva molva</i>	Ling	Lingue	EU and internat. waters of V (LIN/05EI)	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)	7.300	8.024	-9%	4.467	-44%	
<i>Molva molva</i>	Ling	Lingue	Norwegian waters of IV (LIN/04-N)	0	945	-100%	0	-100%	(1)
<i>Nephrops norvegicus</i>	Norway lobster	Langoustine	IIIa; EU waters of subdivisions 22-32 (NEP/3A/BCD)	5.019	5.200	-3%	5.019	-3%	
<i>Nephrops norvegicus</i>	Norway lobster	Langoustine	EU waters of IIa and IV (NEP/2AC4-C)	15.499	17.350	-11%	15.499	-11%	
<i>Nephrops norvegicus</i>	Norway lobster	Langoustine	Norwegian waters of IV (NEP/04-N)	0	1.000	-100%	0	-100%	(1)
<i>Nephrops norvegicus</i>	Norway lobster	Langoustine	VI, EU and internat. waters of Vb (NEP/5BC6)	15.287	16.690	-8%	15.287	-8%	
<i>Nephrops norvegicus</i>	Norway lobster	Langoustine	VII (NEP/07)	20.989	23.065	-9%	17.564	-24%	
<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)	67	74	-9%	67	-9%	

<i>Nephrops norvegicus</i>	Norway lobster	Langoustine	IX, X, EU waters of CEEAF 34.1.1 (NEP/9/3411)	221	246	-10%	221	-10%	
<i>Pandalus borealis</i>	Northern prawn	Crevette nordique	IIIa (PRA/03A)	2.028	3.551	-43%	2.028	-43%	(2)
<i>Pandalus borealis</i>	Northern prawn	Crevette nordique	EU waters of IIa and IV (PRA/2AC4-C)	2.446	3.058	-20%	2.446	-20%	
<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>Penaeus spp.</i>	'Penaeus' shrimps	Crevette royale	French Guiana (PEN/FGU)	To be established	To be established		To be established		
<i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>	Plaice	Plie	Skagerrak (PLE/03AN)	6.994	8.959	-22%	6.994	-22%	(2)
<i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>	Plaice	Plie	Kattegat (PLE/03AS)	2.160	1.800	20%	2.160	20%	
<i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>	Plaice		IV; EU waters of IIa; that part of IIIa not covered by the Skagerrak and Kattegat (PLE/2A3AX4)	72.671	91.225	-20%	72.671	-20%	(2)
<i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>	Plaice	Plie	VI; EU and internat. waters of Vb, internat. waters of XII and XIV (PLE/56-14)	658	658	0%	658	0%	
<i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>	Plaice	Plie	VIIa (PLE/07A)	1.220	1.627	-25%	1.106	-32%	
<i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>	Plaice	Plie	VII b, c (PLE/07BC)	74	74	0%	74	0%	
<i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>	Plaice	Plie	VII d, e (PLE/07DE)	5322	6400	-17%	5322	-17%	
<i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>	Plaice	Plie	VII f, g (PLE/7FG)	461	369	25%	443	20%	

<i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>	Plaice	Plie	VII h, j, k (PLE/7HJK)	135	141	-4%	135	-4%	
<i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>	Plaice	Plie	VIII, IX, X, EU waters of CECAF 34.1.1 (PLE/8/3411)	395	395	0%	395	0%	
<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%	10.796	-20%	
<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%	282	0%	
<i>Pollachius virens</i>	Saithe	Lieu noir	IIIa and IV; EU waters of IIa,b,c,d (POK/2A34)	26.053	43.486	-40%	26.053	-40%	(2)
<i>Pollachius virens</i>	Saithe	Lieu noir	VI; EU and internat. waters of Vb, XII and XIV (POK/56-14)	5.631	8.964	-37%	5.631	-37%	(2)
<i>Pollachius virens</i>	Saithe	Lieu noir	Norwegian waters south of 62° N (POK/04-N)	0	880	-100%	0	-100%	(1)
<i>Pollachius virens</i>	Saithe	Lieu noir	VII, VIII, IX, X, EU waters of CECAF 34.1.1 (POK/7/3411)	3.176	3.176	0%	3.176	0%	
<i>Psetta maxima</i> & <i>Scophthalmus rhombus</i>	Turbot and brill	Turbot et barbue	EU waters of IIa and IV (TUR/2AC4-C) (BLL/2AC4-C)	4.642	4.642	0%	4.642	0%	

<i>Rajidae</i>	Skates and rays	Requins et Rates	EU waters of IIa and IV (SRX/2AC4-C)	1.256	1.256	0%	1.005	-20%	
<i>Rajidae</i>	Skates and rays	Requins et Rates	EU waters of IIIa (SRX/03A-C)	47	52	-10%	42	-19%	
<i>Rajidae</i>	Skates and rays	Requins et Rates	EU waters of VIa-b, VIIa-c and VIIe-k (SRX/67AKXD)	8.032	8.924	-10%	7.139	-20%	
<i>Rajidae</i>	Skates and rays	Requins et Rates	EU waters of VIIId (SRX/07D)	798	798	0%	638	-20%	
<i>Rajidae</i>	Skates and rays	Requins et Rates	EU waters of VIII et IX (SRX/89-C)	3.420	3.800	-10%	3.040	-20%	
<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)	1000	1176	-15%	1000	-15%	
<i>Scomber scombrus</i>	Mackerel	Maquereau	IIIa and IV; EU waters of IIa, IIb-c and Subdivisions 22-32 (MAC/2A34)	26.850	24.221	11%	24.358	1%	(2)
<i>Scomber scombrus</i>	Mackerel	Maquereau	VI, VII, VIII a-b, VIIIId-e; EU and internat. waters of Vb; Internat. waters of IIa, XII, XIV (MAC/2CX14)	307.716	272.317	13%	277.033	2%	(2)
<i>Scomber scombrus</i>	Mackerel	Maquereau	VIIIc, IX, X; EU waters of CECAF 34.1.1 (MAC/8C3411)	35.211	31.160	13%	31.699	2%	(2)
<i>Scomber scombrus</i>	Mackerel	Maquereau	Norwegian waters of IIa and IVa (MAC/2A4A-N.)	12.085	10.694	13%	10.880	2%	(1)
<i>Solea solea</i>	Common sole	Sole commune	IIIa; EU waters of Subdivisions 22-32 (SOL/3A/BCD)	353	560	-37%	353	-37%	

<i>Solea solea</i>	Common sole	Sole commune	EU waters of IIa and IV (SOL/24-C)	11.850	13.970	-15%	11.850	-15%	
<i>Solea solea</i>	Common sole	Sole commune	VI; EU and internat. waters of Vb; internat. waters of XII, XIV (SOL/56-14)	57	57	0%	57	0%	
<i>Solea solea</i>	Common sole	Sole commune	VIIa (SOL/07A)	95	140	-32%	95	-32%	
<i>Solea solea</i>	Common sole	Sole commune	VIIb-c (SOL/7BC)	42	42	0%	42	0%	
<i>Solea solea</i>	Common sole	Sole commune	VIIc (SOL/07D)	4.838	5.900	-18%	3.251	-45%	
<i>Solea solea</i>	Common sole	Sole commune	VIIe (SOL/07E)	832	894	-7%	832	-7%	
<i>Solea solea</i>	Common sole	Sole commune	VII f, g (SOL/7FG)	1001	1100	-9%	920	-16%	
<i>Solea solea</i>	Common sole	Sole commune	VIIh, j, k (SOL/7HJK)	382	402	-5%	322	-20%	
<i>Solea solea</i>	Common sole	Sole commune	VIIIa, b (SOL/8AB)	3.800	4.100	-7%	3.500	-15%	
<i>Solea spp.</i>	Sole	Sole	VIIIc, d, e, IX, X. EU waters of CEECAF 34.1.1 (SOO/8CDE34)	1.072	1.072	0%	1.072	0%	
<i>Sprattus sprattus</i>	Sprat and associated by-catches	Sprat et prises accessoires associées	IIIa (SPR/03A)	21.549	38.480	-44%	21.549	-44%	(2)
<i>Sprattus sprattus</i>	Sprat and associated by-catches	Sprat et prises accessoires associées	EU waters of IIa and IV (SPR/2AC4-C)	122.924	151.500	-19%	122.924	-19%	
<i>Sprattus sprattus</i>	Sprat	Sprat	VII d-e (SPR/7DE)	5.150	5.150	0%	5.150	0%	
<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 and associated by-catches	Chinchard et prises accessoires associées	EU waters of IVb, IVc, VIIId (JAX/4BC7D)	27.815	34.400	-19%	27.815	-19%	
<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)	116.912	157.989	-26%	93.238	-41%	
<i>Trachurus spp.</i>	Horse mackerel	Chinchard	VIIIc (JAX/08C)	18.508	25.011	-26%	15.108	-40%	
<i>Trachurus spp.</i>	Horse mackerel	Chinchard	IX (JAX/09)	35.000	30.000	17%	35.000	17%	
<i>Trachurus spp.</i>	Horse mackerel	Chinchard	X: EU waters of CEECAF - Azores (JAX/X34PRT)	To be established			To be established		
<i>Trachurus spp.</i>	Horse mackerel	Chinchard	EU waters of CEECAF Madeira Islands (JAX/341PRT)	To be established			To be established		
<i>Trachurus spp.</i>	Horse mackerel	Chinchard	EU waters of CEECAF - Canary Islands (JAX/341SPN)	To be established			To be established		
<i>Trisopterus esmarki</i>	Norway pout	Tacaud norvégien	IIIa; EU waters of IIa, IV (EC waters) (NOP/2A3A4)	103.500	167.500	-38%	103.500	-38%	

<i>Trisopterus esmarki</i>	Norway pout	Tacaud norvégien	Norwegian water of IV (NOP/04-N)	0	0	0			
		Industrial fish	Norwegian waters of IV (I/F/4AB-N)	0	800	0	-100%	-100%	(1)
		Other species	EU waters of Vb; VI and VII (OTH/5B67-C)	Not relevant	Not relevant	Not relevant			
		Other species	Norwegian waters IV (OTH/04-N)	0	6.500	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 - ICES SUBAREAS I, II, V, XII, XIV AND GREENLAND WATERS OF NAFO I									
<i>Chionoecetes spp.</i>	Snow crab	Crabe des neiges	Greenland waters of NAFO 0 and I (PCR/N01GRN)	200	250	200	-20%	-20%	
<i>Clupea harengus</i>	Herring	Hareng	EU and Internat. waters of I and II (HER/1/2)	27.277	40.297	27.277	-32%	-32%	
<i>Gadus morhua</i>	Cod	Cabillaud	Norwegian waters of I and II (COD/IN2AB)	0	19.971	0	-100%	-100%	(1)
<i>Gadus morhua</i>	Cod	Cabillaud	Greenland waters of NAFO 1, Greenland waters of XIV (COD/NIGL14)	2.200	1.700	2.200	29%	29%	
<i>Gadus morhua</i>	Cod	Cabillaud	Internat. waters of I and IIb (COD/1/2B)	36.908	37.172	36.908	-1%	-1%	
<i>Gadus morhua and Melanogrammus aeglefinus</i>	Cod and haddock	Cabillaud et églefin	Faroese waters of Vb (C/H/05B-F)	0	0	0			
<i>Hippoglossus hippoglossus</i>	Atlantic halibut	Flétan	Greenland waters of V, XIV (HAL/514GRN)	118	125	118	-6%	-6%	

<i>Hippoglossus hippoglossus</i>	Atlantic halibut	Flétan	Greenland waters of NAFO I (HAL/NIGRN)	118	125	-6%	118	-6%	
<i>Macrourus spp.</i>	Grenadiers	Grenadiers	Greenland waters of V and XIV (GRV/514GRN)	65	140	-54%	65	-54%	
<i>Macrourus spp.</i>	Grenadiers	Grenadiers	Greenland waters of NAFO I (GRV/NIGRN)	65	140	-54%	65	-54%	
<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)	0	5775	-100%	0	-100%	
<i>Melanogrammus aeglefinus</i>	Haddock	Eglefín	Norwegian waters of I, II (HAD/IN2AB)	0	1.481	-100%	0	-100%	(1)
<i>Micromesistius poutassou</i>	Blue whiting	Merlan bleu	Faroese waters (WHB/2A4XF)	0	0		0		
<i>Molva molva and Molva dypterygia</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)	2.590	4.800	-46%	2.590	-46%	
<i>Pandalus borealis</i>	Northern prawn	Crevette nordique	Greenland waters of NAFO I (PRA/NIGRN)	3.400	3.400	0%	3.400	0%	
<i>Pollachius virens</i>	Saithe	Lieu noir	Norwegian waters I, II (POK/IN2AB)	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/IN2AB)	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 I (GHL/NIGRN)	1.700	2.075	-18%	1.700	-18%	
<i>Reinhardtius hippoglossoides</i>	Greenland halibut	Flétan du Groenland	Greenland waters of V and XIV (GHL/514GRN)	3.780	3.890	-3%	3.780	-3%	
<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)	3090	4017	-23%	3090	-23%	
<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)	1920	2200	-13%	1920	-13%	
<i>Sebastes spp.</i>	Redfish (demersal)	Sébaste	Greenland waters of NAFO 1F and V, XIV (RED/N1F14D)	2000	2000	0%	2000	0%	
<i>Sebastes spp.</i>	Redfish	Sébaste	Icelandic waters of Va (RED/05A-IS)	0	0		0		
<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%	0	-100%	(1)
Other species	Faroese waters of Vb (OTH/05B-F)	0	0		0		
Flatfish	Faroese waters of Vb (FLX/05B-F)	0	0		0		
ANNEXIC - NORTH WEST ATLANTIC - NAFO CONVENTION AREA							
<i>Gadus morhua</i>	Cabillaud	0	0	0%	0	0%	0%
<i>Gadus morhua</i>	Cabillaud	0	0	0%	0	0%	0%
<i>Gadus morhua</i>	Cabillaud	8281	8049	3%	8281	3%	3%
<i>Glyptocephalus cynoglossus</i>	Plie grise	0	0	0%	0	0%	0%
<i>Glyptocephalus cynoglossus</i>	Plie grise	0	0	0%	0	0%	0%
<i>Hippoglossoides platessoides</i>	Faux Flétan	0	0	0%	0	0%	0%
<i>Hippoglossoides platessoides</i>	Faux Flétan	0	0	0%	0	0%	0%
<i>Illex illecebrosus</i>	Calmar à nageoires courtes	Not relevant	Not relevant		Not relevant		
<i>Limanda ferruginea</i>	Limande à queue jaune	0	0	0%	0	0%	0%
<i>Mallotus villosus</i>	Capelan	0	0	0%	0	0%	0%
<i>Pandalus borealis</i>	Crevette nordique	240	480	-50%	240	-50%	-50%
<i>Pandalus borealis</i>	Crevette nordique	Not relevant	Not relevant		Not relevant		
<i>Reinhardtius hippoglossoides</i>	Flétan du Groenland	6.709	7.093	-5%	6.709	-5%	-5%

<i>Rajidae</i>	Skate	Raie cendrée	NAFO 3LNO (SKA/N3LNO)	4.408	4.408	0%	4.408	0%	
<i>Sebastes spp.</i>	Redfish	Sébaste	NAFO 3LN (RED/L3LN)	1276	1185	8%	1276	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 (RED/N1F3K.)	0	0		0		
<i>Urophycis tenuis</i>	White hake	Merluche blanche	NAFO 3NO (HKW/N3NO)	588	588	0%	588	0%	
ANNEX ID - HIGHLY MIGRATORY FISH - ALL AREAS									
<i>Thunnus thynnus</i>	Bluefin tuna		Atlantic Ocean, east of longitude 45°W and Mediterranean (BFT/AE045W)	7.939	7.939	0%	7.939	0%	
<i>Xiphias gladius</i>	Swordfish		Atlantic Ocean, north of latitude 5° N (SWO/AN05N)	8.347	8.347	0%	8.347	0%	
<i>Xiphias gladius</i>	Swordfish		Atlantic Ocean, south of latitude 5° N (SWO/AS05N)	5.142	5.180	-1%	5.142	-1%	
<i>Thunnus alalunga</i>	Northern Albacore	Thon blanc	Atlantic Ocean, north of latitude 5° N (ALB/AN05N)	26.535	26.939	-2%	26.535	-2%	
<i>Thunnus alalunga</i>	Southern Albacore	Thon blanc	Atlantic Ocean, south of latitude 5° N (ALB/AS05N)	1.470	1.540	-5%	1.470	-5%	
<i>Thunnus obesus</i>	Bigeye tuna	Thon obèse	Atlantic Ocean (BET/ATLANT)	29.467	29.467	0%	29.467	0%	
<i>Makaira nigricans</i>	Blue marlin	Makaïre bleu	Atlantic Ocean (BUM/ATLANT)	480	480	0%	480	0%	
<i>Tetrapturus alba</i>	White marlin	Makaïre blanc	Atlantic Ocean (WHM/ATLANT)	50	50	0%	50	0%	

ANNEX IE - ANTARCTIC - CCAMLR CONVENTION AREA										
<i>Champocephalus gunnari</i>	Mackerel icefish	Poisson des glaces antarctique	FAO 48.3 Anarctic (ANI/F483)	4635	2933	58%	4635	58%	(3)	
<i>Champocephalus gunnari</i>	Mackerel icefish	Poisson des glaces antarctique	FAO 58.5.2 Antarctic (ANI/F5852)	1267	679	87%	1267	87%	(3)	
<i>Chaenocephalus aceratus</i>	Blackfin icefish	Grande-gueule antarctique	FAO 48.3 Antarctic (SSI/F483)	2200	2200	0%	2200	0%	(3)	
<i>Channichthys rhinoceratus</i>	Unicorn icefish	Grande gueule	FAO 58.5.2 Antarctic (LIC/F5852)	150	150	0%	150	0%	(3)	
<i>Dissostichus eleginoides</i>	Patagonian toothfish	Légine australe	FAO 48.3 Antarctic (TOP/F483)	2400	2600	-8%	2400	-8%	(3)	
<i>Dissostichus eleginoides</i>	Patagonian toothfish	Légine australe	FAO 48.4 Antarctic north (TOP/F484N)	45	63	-29%	45	-29%	(3)	
<i>Dissostichus mawsoni</i>	Antarctic Toothfish	Légine antarctique	FAO 48.4 Antarctic south (TOP/F484S)	24	52	-54%	24	-54%	(3)	
<i>Dissostichus eleginoides</i>	Patagonian toothfish	Légine australe	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>Gobionotothen gibberifrons</i>	Humped rockcod	Bocasse bossue	FAO 48.3 Antarctic (NOG/F483)	1470	1470	0%	1470	0%	(3)	

<i>Lepidonotothen squamifrons</i>	Grey rockcod	Bocasse grise	FAO 48.3 Antarctic (NOS/F483)	300	300	0%	300	0%	(3)
<i>Lepidonotothen squamifrons</i>	Grey rockcod	Bocasse grise	FAO 58.5.2 Antarctic NOS/F5852	80	80	0%	80	0%	(3)
<i>Macrourus spp.</i>	Grenadier	Grenadier	FAO 58.5.2 Antarctic (GRV/F5852)	360	360	0%	360	0%	(3)
<i>Macrourus spp.</i>	Grenadier	Grenadier	FAO 48.3 Antarctic (GRV/F483)	120	120		120		(3)
<i>Notothenia rossii</i>	Marbled rockcod	Bocasse marbrée	FAO 48.3 Antarctic (NOR/F483)	300	300	0%	300	0%	(3)
<i>Paralomis spp.</i>	Crab	Crabe	FAO 48.3 Antarctic (PAI/F483)	0	0	0%	0	0%	(3)
<i>Pseudochaenichthys georgianus</i>	South Georgia icefish	Crocodile de Géorgie	FAO 48.3 Antarctic (SIG/F483)	300	300	0%	300	0%	(3)
<i>Rajidae</i>	Skates and rays	Requins et rates	FAO 58.5.2 Antarctic (SRX/F5852)	120	120	0%	120	0%	(3)
<i>Rajidae</i>	Skates and rays	Requins et rates	FAO 58.5.2 Antarctic (SRX/F483)	120	120		120		(3)
	Other species	Autres espèces	FAO 58.5.2 Antarctic (OTH/F5852)	50	50	0%	50	0%	(3)
ANNEX IF - SOUTH-EAST ATLANTIC OCEAN - SEAFO CONVENTION AREA									
<i>Beryx spp.</i>	Alfonsinos	Béryx	SEAFO (ALF/SEAFO)	200	200	0%	200	0%	(4)
<i>Chaceon spp.</i>	Deep-sea Red crab	Gérion ouest-africain	SEAFO Sub Division B1 (GER/F47NAM)	200	200	0%	200	0%	(4)
<i>Chaceon spp.</i>	Deep-sea Red crab	Gérion ouest-africain	SEAFO excluding Sub division B1 (GER/F47X)	200	200	0%	200	0%	(4)

<i>Dissostichus eleginoides</i>	Patagonian Toothfish	Lépine australe	SEAFO Sub-Area D (TOP/F47D)	276	230	20%	276	20%	(4)
<i>Hoplostethus atlanticus</i>	Orange roughy	Hoplosthète orange	SEAFO Sub Division B1 (ORY/F47NAM)	0	0		0		(4)
<i>Hoplostethus atlanticus</i>	Orange roughy	Hoplosthète orange	SEAFO, excluding Sub Division B1 (ORY/F47X)	50	50		50		(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 CONVENTION AREA									
<i>Xiphias gladius</i>	Swordfish	Espadon	WCPFC area south of 20° S	3.170	3.170	0%	3170	-100%	
ANNEX IJ - SPRFMO CONVENTION AREA									
<i>Trachurus murphyi</i>	Jack mackerel	Chinchar du Chili	SPRFMO Convention area (CJM/SPRFMO)	31046	31.046	0%	31.046	0%	

(1) Stocks in Norwegian waters: no fishing opportunities pending the consultations on those arrangements for 2014.

(2) Stocks shared with Norway: provisional fishing opportunities subjects to the bilateral fisheries agreements with Norway, pending the consultations on those arrangements for 2014.

(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.

In addition, the Council and the Commission noted that the fishing opportunities regulations include a number of TACs for stocks for which there is limited information on stock status and which are of low economic importance, or are taken only as by-catches, or which show low levels of quota uptake. In these cases, it is appropriate to constrain catches at or below the TAC levels fixed for 2014 for the following four years. If the perception of the status of any of these stocks changes significantly during this period, both institutions agreed that the TAC levels should be reviewed and revised as appropriate.

In addition to the fishing opportunities 2014 for the Black Sea on which the ministers reached a political agreement in this Council session (see below), the fishing opportunities 2014 for the Baltic Sea were already adopted in October 2014.

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 2013, with the exception of certain effort limitations which are applicable until 31 January 2014, the regulation will apply from 1 January 2014 on.

Fishing opportunities for 2014 in the Black Sea

Ministers reached a political agreement on a regulation fixing for 2014 the fishing opportunities for certain fish stocks applicable in the Black Sea ([16675/13](#)) 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 2014 compared with those for 2013 and the Commission proposal.

<i>Species Latin name</i>	Species English name	Espèces nom français	ICES fishing zone	COUNCIL TACs 2014	COUNCIL TACs 2013	COUNCIL comparison 2014/2013	COMMISSION proposal for 2014	comparison Council TAC 2013 / Commission proposal 2014
<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 it was appropriate to reinforce the control and monitoring measures established in 2012 and 2013 (in particular inspection schemes and benchmarks) in order to address the misreporting an illegal fishery for turbot in the Black Sea. Such measures have been developed jointly by Member States concerned and the Commission in 2012 and 2013.

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 in particular in the framework of the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM) and that they would each take actions in line with their competence including possible establishment of international management measures, such as long term management plans.

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 2013 the regulation will apply from 1 January 2014.

AGRICULTURE

Information and promotion measures for agricultural products

The Council was briefed by the Commission on its proposal for a regulation on information provision and promotion measures for agricultural products on the internal market and in third countries ([16591/13](#)).

Member states generally welcomed the proposal and took note of its ambition to better valorise the EU agri-food industry. However many of them expressed concerns about the suppression of the possibility to provide a national cofinancing support of the promotion measures; they also pointed out the need to better involve member states in the whole process of promotion from the selection of the measures. Some countries would like to enlarge the list of products covered by the measures and some others insisted on the need to have a close check on the use of the budget of promotion considering its increase scheduled in the proposal.

The production of and trading in agricultural and agri-food products constitute a major asset for the EU. In this regard it is crucial that EU agriculture and the agri-food industry maintain and increase their competitiveness and their market shares on both the internal and export markets. However, European agriculture is faced today with a much more competitive environment, largely resulting from the globalisation of markets, and this trend should continue in the coming years.

Nevertheless, on the internal market the logos on products that benefit from EU quality scheme logo such as protected designation of origin (PDO) or protected geographical indication (PGI) are generally not recognised. The same goes for exports where the effort of investing in marketing and selling on distant markets represents a challenge for a sector essentially made up of SMEs.

This context calls for a renewed policy of promotion, one which learns from the lessons of the promotional programmes implemented to date and which represents an additional stage in the modernisation of the common agricultural policy (CAP).

Measures will follow a strategy of identifying priorities on markets and products or messages to be highlighted. As the CAP reform encourages farmers to organise themselves, the scheme should be opened up to new beneficiaries, such as **producer organisations**. Strict guidelines should be established as regards the possibilities of mentioning the origin of products or brand names as a means of illustrating the main generic message highlighting the **intrinsic characteristics of European agricultural products**. **Programmes submitted by operators from different Member States** to promote the diversity of European agricultural products will be encouraged as part of the reform of the promotion policy. The proposal includes the development of **new technical support services for stakeholders**, favouring the exchange of information on information provision and promotion measures or good practices and allowing their expertise to be developed. It also aims to **simplify the management of the information and promotion policy**. Managing **multi-country programmes** would make them easier to set up and implement.

Compared to the present situation, the proposal suggests a gradual but significant increase in the budget allocated to information provision and promotion measures for agricultural products (from EUR 61.5 million in the 2013 budget to EUR 200 million in 2020).

Any other business– ***European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF)***

The Presidency briefed the Council about the state of play of the ongoing negotiations between the Council and the Parliament on the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF).

The Presidency explained that it hopes to seek a political agreement with the European Parliament at the next trilogue meeting on 19 December. This would facilitate the entry into force of the EMFF as quickly as possible. The general approach reached by the Council in July 2013 ([15458/1/12](#)) was used as a mandate by the Presidency to negotiate with the European Parliament. Many member states supported the Presidency in its ambition.

The proposal for a regulation on the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF) is part of the CFP reform package, along with the regulation on basic provisions of the CFP and the market regulation. The last two texts were adopted by the Council in October this year following an early second reading agreement with the European Parliament.

The European Parliament has voted its own position in October. The Presidency has been engaged since early November in informal technical and political trilogues with the European Parliament with a view to seeking a political agreement on the proposal before the end of the year.

– ***Emission ceilings for certain atmospheric pollutants***

At the request of the German delegation with the support of Denmark and Luxemburg, ministers were briefed by the Commission on the amendment of Directive 2001/81/EC on national emission ceilings for certain atmospheric pollutants ("NEC Directive") ([17477/13](#)).

Several member states supported Germany in its request to the Commission for a cautious approach when it will soon propose a revision of the NEC Directive setting emission ceilings. They highlighted that for the EU agriculture, emission reduction obligations could have significant implications, in particular as regards ammonia, as the farming sector accounts for more than 90 % of such emissions (in particular the animal sector).

– *Public consultation on organic farming*

The Council was briefed on the main results of the public consultation on organic farming conducted by the Commission from 15 January until 10 April 2013 ([17375/13](#)).

If member States welcomed the results of the public consultation on organic farming showing the huge interest of the citizens, they urged the Commission to be cautious with the review of the legal framework on this issue announced for March 2014 on the basis of this consultation. They considered that the current legal framework on organic farming is quite recent and that any review should not constitute a gap with the current provisions.

The public and stakeholders were consulted via an online questionnaire, which received close to 45,000 responses. The report on the public consultation highlights that consumers trust organic products (71 %), that they buy them mainly out of concern about the environment (83%), and because they are free from GMOs and pesticide residues (81%). The vast majority (78%) also indicated that they were prepared to pay more for organic goods. The report also showed a very strong demand for harmonised rules at EU level. In addition, more than half of the interviewees also called strongly for an improved European control system for organic products.

– *Conference on the dairy sector*

The Commission presented the main outcomes of the conference on "The EU dairy sector: developing beyond 2015" which took place in Brussels on 24 September 2013 ([17713/13](#))

The conference explored future trends in the EU milk sector beyond 2015, in the context of the abolition of the milk quota system in 2015. In order to prepare the sector for this new operating environment, a series of new instruments were developed in the context of the Milk Package that entered into force last year.

Asked by the Commission whether further measures should be envisaged in the future to help the dairy sector face the current challenges, some member states considered that the "safety net" provisions provided for in the CAP reform should be complemented by more targeted measures to address market volatility and help in particular vulnerable milk production areas. On the contrary a few other Member States judged the existing measures as sufficient and/or rejected specifically any possible control measures over the production. Many member states, in particular those exceeding their milk quotas, took this opportunity to recall the current favourable situation on the market and to insist on the need to have measures to ensure an actual "soft landing" in all Member States.

The Commission confirmed the establishment of a market observatory for milk, which will allow to ensure a close monitoring of this sector. In addition, the Commission will prepare a report by 30 June 2014 regarding the development of the market situation in the milk sector as provided for by the Milk Package regulation. This will help to evaluate whether additional actions for this sector will be necessary.

– ***Local farming***

Ministers took stock of a report presented by the Commission on the case for a new local farming and direct sales labelling scheme to assist producers in marketing their produce locally (17572/13).

This report is provided for in regulation 1151/2012 on quality schemes for agricultural products and foodstuffs. In this document, the Commission has provided factual elements to facilitate a debate on whether a new EU label should be considered as well as on the broader issues of local farming and direct sales.

The report considers that local farming and direct sales are a reality within the European Union and will continue to be part of European agriculture. This report has shown the following:

- There is a demand for a genuine farm product sold in short food supply chains, as well as the need to identify it.
- There are large differences among the member states with regard to development of direct sales.
- The development of short supply chains faces numerous challenges which should be addressed with instruments available at EU and national level other than a labelling scheme.
- A possible new label should be simple and unburdensome for producers while at the same time being controllable and ensuring sufficient credibility for consumers and avoiding confusion.
- A new label could add value to products generated from local agriculture if it went beyond direct sales and if member states were to ensure that it is integrated with or linked to other measures.

– *Rice market*

The Italian delegation, supported by Bulgaria, Greece, Spain, France, Hungary, Portugal and Romania underlined the difficult situation that the EU rice sector is facing due to the progressive increase in EU imports of milled rice ([17559/13](#)).

Italy noted that in some EU regions, where rice cultivation represents the most important agricultural activity the land planted with rice is constantly decreasing due to decreasing profitability. According to Italy, this situation is made worse by the steady increase in EU imports of milled rice from least developed countries (LDCs) and from other countries with which the EU has bilateral agreements.

While taking note of these concerns, the Commission indicated that it was well aware of the need to keep the right balance between imported rice and EU produced rice. It was closely monitoring the market situation and, if there proved to be a risk of market distortion, would be ready to act to avoid any major crisis.

– *"Traffic lights" nutrition labelling system*

The Italian delegation, supported by Croatia, expressed concerns about the possible impact of a recommendation of the British Department of Health for a "traffic lights" nutrition labelling system ([16575/13](#)).

Italy received support from many delegations worried about the potential consequences of this labelling system on the free movement of goods. This could mislead the consumer by providing wrong health information and could affect specifically the circulation of traditional regional food products wrongly stigmatised by this colour system.

The Commission recalled that the system developed by the United Kingdom is a voluntary system made possible by the legislation on labelling which develops also mandatory provisions. It proposes a front-of-pack nutrition labelling for food products. This system combines red, amber and green colour-coding and nutritional information to highlight information on energy and certain nutrients – fats, saturates, sugars and salt – which can have been shown to harm people's health if eaten in large quantities. However, the Commission is ready to prepare a report in due course on all the labelling systems put in place by the member states in the framework of the current legislation.

– *Package on animal health, plant health and control*

The Presidency presented to the Council its progress report on the package for animal and plant health, seeds, control and expenditure.

Several member states raised concerns on specific aspects of this whole package. However the Presidency and the Commission considered that a political agreement with the European Parliament could be found in the coming week on the issue of expenditure. The incoming Greek Presidency will continue the work on the other issues of the package.

This package of measures aims to strengthen the enforcement of health and safety standards for the whole agri-food chain. The package comprises proposals for regulations:

- to review the regulatory framework on **plant health**;
- to ensure the health, identity and quality of **plant reproductive material**;
- to simplify the body of legislation that regulates **animal health**;
- to review and clarify the rules on **official controls** along the food chain;
- to manage expenditures through a **common financial framework for food and feed** modernising the existing financial provisions.

Work on this package in the Council began in June this year.

– *Market access to Russia*

The Presidency briefed the Council on the ban decided by the Russian Federation as regards EU exports of seed and ware potatoes, plants for planting of fruit, ornamental plants and some forest-ornamental material.

The Commission worked closely with the Russian authorities to remove the ban and expressed a cautious optimism to find a solution very soon.

On 6 February 2013 the Russian authorities notified the World Trade Organisation (WTO) on a temporary ban to exports of plants and plant products from the EU to the Russian market. A dispute settlement procedure within the "WTO-SPS Committee" may be initiated in the event that an agreement at technical level fails.

At its session on 19 March 2013 the Council examined this issue in the light of a note presented by the delegation of the Netherlands (7490/13).

OTHER ITEMS APPROVED

FISHERIES

Partnership agreement between EU and Seychelles - New protocol

The Council adopted a decision on the signing on behalf of the EU, and on the provisional application of the protocol setting out fishing opportunities and the financial contribution provided for in the fisheries partnership agreement (FPA) between the EU and the Republic of Seychelles ([16647/13](#), [16648/13](#)).

The partnership agreement in the fisheries sector between the EU and Seychelles was concluded in 2006. The main objective of the protocol to this FPA is to define the fishing opportunities offered to EU vessels as well as the financial contribution due, separately, for access rights and for sectoral support. Following negotiations, a new protocol was initialled on 10 May 2013. The new protocol covers a period of 6 years from the date of its provisional application. In order to allow EU vessels to carry on fishing activities, as the current protocol expires on 17 January 2014, the new one should be applied on a provisional basis as from 18 January 2014, pending completion of the procedures for its formal conclusion.

In addition to the signing and the provisional application of this new protocol, the Council adopted also a regulation concerning the allocation of fishing opportunities between member states ([16650/13](#)). The Council also requested for the consent of the European Parliament on the conclusion of this protocol.

Partnership agreement between EU and the Comoros - New protocol

The Council adopted a decision on the signing on behalf of the EU, and on the provisional application of the protocol between the EU and the Union of the Comoros setting out fishing opportunities and the financial contribution provided for in the fisheries partnership agreement (FPA) currently in force between the two parties ([16126/13](#), [16127/13](#)).

The partnership agreement in the fisheries sector between the EU and the Comoros was concluded in 2006. The main objective of the protocol to this FPA is to define the fishing opportunities offered to EU vessels as well as the financial contribution due, separately, for access rights and for sectoral support. Following negotiations, a new protocol was initialled on 5 July 2013. The new protocol covers a period of 3 years from the date of its provisional application. In order to allow EU vessels to carry on fishing activities, as the current protocol expires on 30 December 2013, the new one should be applied on a provisional basis as from 1 January 2014 pending completion of the procedures for its formal conclusion.

In addition to the signing and the provisional application of this new protocol, the Council adopted also a regulation concerning the allocation of fishing opportunities between member states ([16129/13](#)). The Council also requested for the consent of the European Parliament on the conclusion of this protocol.

Partnership between EU and Senegal - Negotiations for a new protocol to the agreement

The Council adopted a decision authorising the Commission to open negotiations on behalf of the EU for a new fisheries partnership agreement (FPA) and protocol with the Republic of Senegal.

The FPA and protocol between the EU and Senegal should be in line with the 19 March 2012 Council conclusions on the Commission communication of 13 July 2011 on the external dimension of the Common Fisheries Policy.

Partnership between EU and Madagascar - Negotiations for a new protocol to the agreement

The Council adopted an amendment to regulation 1258/2012 on the allocation of the fishing opportunities under the protocol agreed between the EU and the Republic of Madagascar setting out fishing opportunities and the financial contribution provided for in the Fisheries Partnership Agreement (FPA) between the two parties currently in force ([15853/13](#))

In September 2012, the joint committee, provided for in the FPA, examined the issue of sharks caught in association with fisheries managed by the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC). It concluded, on the basis of records of catches for the period 2007-2011 of surface longliners authorised to fish under the previous protocol to the FPA that it would be appropriate to limit shark catches by such vessels to a maximum of 200 tonnes annually from 1 January 2014 until 31 December 2014, thereby freezing the fishing pressure on these shark stocks in line with the recommendation issued by the IOTC Scientific Committee. The amendment of regulation 1258/2012 provides for a reduction of the shark catches and the allocation among the member states for the period of application of the new protocol.

Partnership agreement between EU and Morocco - Conclusion of a new protocol

The Council adopted a decision on the conclusion on behalf of the EU of the protocol between the EU and the Kingdom of Morocco setting out fishing opportunities and the financial contribution provided for in the fisheries partnership agreement (FPA) in force between the two parties ([14165/13](#), [14162/13](#)).

The FPA in the fisheries sector between the EU and Morocco was concluded in 2006. The main objective of the protocol to this FPA is to define the fishing opportunities offered to EU vessels as well as the financial contribution due, separately, for access rights and for sectoral support.

Following negotiations, the new protocol was initialled on 24 July 2013. The new protocol covers a period of four years from the 18 November 2013, date of its signature between the parties. The European Parliament gave its consent on the conclusion of the protocol on 10 December 2013. As no provisional application of this protocol was foreseen, it applies from the date of the decision to conclude this protocol. The regulation concerning the allocation of fishing opportunities between member states ([14164/1/13](#)) was adopted by the Council on 15 November 2013.

The application of the previous protocol setting out the fishing opportunities and financial contribution provided for in the FPA ended on 20 December 2011 when the European Parliament refused to give its consent at this time.

AGRICULTURE

CAP reform package and transitional measures 2014

Council adopted the common agriculture policy (CAP) reform package following a first reading agreement with the European Parliament.

This reform sets out the new rules for the CAP in the next seven-year period, in order to equip the European agricultural sector for the opportunities and challenges of the future. The main objectives of the reform are to make the CAP greener and better targeted, with a more equitable distribution of income support to farmers across the Union and a more effective rural development policy.

The CAP reform package comprises four main legal texts:

- the regulation establishing rules for **direct payments** to farmers ([PE-CONS 95/13](#));
- the regulation establishing a **common organisation of the markets** in agricultural products ([PE-CONS 96/13](#));
- the regulation on support for **rural development** ([PE-CONS 93/13](#));
- the regulation on the financing, management and monitoring of the CAP (horizontal regulation) ([PE-CONS 94/13](#)).

The package also includes a **transitional regulation for the year 2014** ([PE-CONS 103/13](#)) to bridge the gap between the existing legal framework and the elements of the reform for which it was decided that they will apply only from 2015 (particularly as regards direct payments and rural development), in order to give Member States sufficient time to roll out the new policy on the ground.

Finally, as part of the CAP reform package, the Council also adopted a regulation determining **measures on fixing certain aids and refunds** related to the common organisation of the markets in agricultural products ([15173/13](#)). This regulation sets out the market management measures to be decided upon by Council on its own under Article 43(3) TFEU.

For further information, please see document ([17854/13](#))

Domestic swine - Post mortem inspection requirements

The Council decided not to oppose the adoption of a Commission's amendment to annex I to regulation 854/2004 as regards the specific requirements for post-mortem inspection of domestic swine ([16701/13](#))

Regulation 854/2004 lays down specific rules for the organisation of official controls on products of animal origin. It provides, *inter alia*, that member states are to ensure that official controls with respect to fresh meat take place in accordance with Annex I thereto. Regulation (EC) No 854/2004 also provides that the official veterinarian is to carry out inspection tasks in slaughterhouses, game handling establishments and cutting plants placing fresh meat on the market

The European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) adopted in October 2011 a scientific opinion, which concluded that the currently required palpations and incisions in post-mortem inspection of swine meat should be omitted. These practices involve a higher risk of cross contamination with bacterial hazards than the risk associated with potentially reduced detection of conditions targeted by those techniques. In view of the EFSA opinion, the Commission proposed to amend the specific requirements for the post-mortem inspection of domestic swine set out in annex I to regulation 854/2004.

These Commission regulations are subject to the so called regulatory procedure with scrutiny. This means that now that the Council has given its consent, the Commission may adopt the regulation, unless the European Parliament objects.

ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

European Central Bank - Nomination

The Council adopted a decision appointing Danièle Nouy as the first-ever chairperson of the supervisory board of the European Central Bank.

The ECB will have direct oversight of eurozone banks under the under the single supervisory mechanism (SSM) and will be responsible for the overall functioning of the new system. The supervisory board is expected to hold its first meeting in January, and Mrs Nouy will take up her duties on 3 January.

The ECB will take up its supervisory tasks on 3 November 2014, subject to operational arrangements. Its proposal for Mrs Nouy's appointment was approved by the European Parliament on 11 December.

For details, and Mrs Nouy's CV, see press release [17857/13](#).

GENERAL AFFAIRS**Cohesion package for 2014-2020***

The Council today adopted the cohesion policy package for 2014-2020.

The cohesion policy package consists of the following regulations:

- the common provisions regulation setting out common rules governing the five European structural and investment funds, i.e. the European regional development fund, the European social fund, the cohesion fund, the European agricultural fund for rural development and the European maritime and fisheries fund ([85/13](#) + [17294/13 ADD 1](#) + [ADD 2](#) + [ADD 3](#));
- five fund-specific regulations for the European regional development fund ([83/13](#) + [17291/13 ADD 1](#) + [ADD 2](#)), the European social fund ([87/13](#)), the cohesion fund ([82/13](#) + [17290/13 ADD 1](#)), the European territorial cooperation ([81/13](#) + [17289/13 ADD 1](#)) and the European grouping for territorial cooperation ([84/13](#) + [17293/13 ADD 1](#)).

The purpose of cohesion policy is to reduce disparities between the levels of development of the EU's various regions by promoting economic growth, job creation and competitiveness. Cohesion policy herewith contributes to the achievement of the Europe 2020 strategy objectives of smart, sustainable and inclusive growth.

For details see [17826/13](#).

Statistical programme

The Council adopted a regulation earmarking EUR 234.8 million for the implementation of the European statistical programme for the years 2014 to 2017 ([PE-CONS 108/13](#)).

The programme is aimed at producing harmonised European statistics in order to contribute to the development, production and dissemination of common, comparable and reliable statistical information at Union level.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

EU relations with Andorra, Monaco and San Marino

The Council adopted conclusions on EU relations with the Principality of Andorra, the Principality of Monaco and the Republic of San Marino ([16075/13](#)).

JUSTICE AND HOME AFFAIRS

Union Civil Protection Mechanism

The Council adopted a decision on a Union Civil Protection Mechanism ([PE-CONS 97/13](#)).

The new legal instrument will improve the effectiveness of systems preventing, preparing for and responding to natural and man-made disasters of all kinds within and outside the EU.

For more information see press release [17669/13](#)

Financing programmes in the area of justice and fundamental rights 2014-2020

The Council adopted two regulations establishing the financing programmes in the area of justice and fundamental rights within the framework of the Multiannual Financial Framework for the period 2014-2020.

The first regulation concerns the Justice programme ([PE-CONS 90/13](#)), a funding programme aiming to support actions with European added value in the area of judicial cooperation in civil and criminal matters and judicial training.

The second regulation concerns the Rights, Equality and Citizenship programme ([PE-CONS 89/13](#)) which is the successor to the three existing programmes: Fundamental Rights and Citizenship, Daphne III and the "Antidiscrimination and Diversity" and "Gender Equality" sections of the Programme for Employment and Social Solidarity (PROGRESS).

For more information see press release [17794/13](#).

Automated data exchange with Finland

The Council adopted a decision on the launch of automated data exchange with regard to dactyloscopic data in Finland ([17056/13](#)). The evaluation procedure required by Council Decision 2008/616/JHA¹ concluded that the general provisions on data protection are fully implemented by Finland and therefore this country is entitled to start receiving and supplying personal data for the purpose of prevention and investigation of criminal offences, as from the date of the entry into force of this decision.

ENVIRONMENT

EU ETS - adaptation of the timetable of auctions of greenhouse gas allowances

The Council adopted a decision amending the EU's emissions trading system directive ([directive 2003/87/EC](#)) by clarifying provisions on the timing of auctions of greenhouse gas allowances ([PE-CONS 114/13](#), [17307/13 ADD1](#)). The Polish delegation voted against.

The adaptation by the Commission of the timetable of auctions will require a prior impact assessment of the risks of carbon leakage for particular industrial sectors. Such an adaptation can take place only once, in exceptional circumstances and during the third trading period, beginning in 2013, and only for a maximum number of 900 million allowances.

For more information on the EU's emissions trading system see the Commission's [website](#).

Exemption for lead - delegated acts

The Council decided not to object the following Commission delegated directives amending, for the purposes of adapting to technical progress, directive 2011/65/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council:

- the annex IV to directive 2011/65/EU as regards an exemption for lead as an alloying element for bearings and wear surfaces in medical equipment exposed to ionising radiation ([15385/13](#));

¹ OJ L 210, 6.8.2008.

- the annex IV to directive 2011/65/EU as regards an exemption for lead in solders, termination coatings of electrical and electronic components and printed circuit boards, connections of electrical wires, shields and enclosed connectors ([15387/13](#));
- the annex IV to directive 2011/65/EU as regards an exemption for lead acetate marker for use in stereotactic head frames for use with Computed Tomography and MRI and in positioning systems for gamma beam and particle therapy equipment ([15388/13](#));
- the annex IV to directive 2011/65/EU as regards an exemption for cadmium in phosphor coatings in image intensifiers for X-ray images until 31 December 2019 and in spare parts for X-ray systems placed on the EU market before 1 January 2020 ([15389/13](#));
- the annex IV to directive 2011/65/EU as regards an exemption for lead in solders on printed circuit boards, termination coatings of electrical and electronic components and coatings of printed circuit boards, solders for connecting wires and cables, solders connecting transducers and sensors that are used durably at a temperature below -20°C under normal operating and storage conditions ([15390/13](#));
- the annex IV to directive 2011/65/EU as regards an exemption for lead enabling vacuum tight connections between aluminium and steel in X-ray image intensifiers ([15391/13](#));
- the annex IV to directive 2011/65/EU as regards an exemption for lead in solders for mounting cadmium telluride and cadmium zinc telluride digital array detectors to printed circuit boards ([15392/13](#));
- the annex IV to directive 2011/65/EU as regards an exemption for lead in the surface coatings of pin connector systems requiring nonmagnetic connectors which are used durably at a temperature below -20°C under normal operating and storage conditions ([15393/13](#));
- the annex IV to directive 2011/65/EU as regards an exemption for lead and cadmium in metallic bonds creating superconducting magnetic circuits in MRI, SQUID, NMR (Nuclear Magnetic Resonance) or FTMS (Fourier Transform Mass Spectrometer) detectors ([15394/13](#));
- the annex IV to directive 2011/65/EU as regards an exemption for lead as an activator in the fluorescent powder of discharge lamps when used for extracorporeal photopheresis lamps containing BSP ($\text{BaSi}_2\text{O}_5:\text{Pb}$) phosphors ([15395/13](#));

- the annex IV to directive 2011/65/EU as regards an exemption for lead in alloys, as a superconductor or thermal conductor, used in cryo-cooler cold heads and/or in cryo-cooled cold probes and/or in cryo-cooled equipotential bonding systems, in medical devices (category 8) and/or in industrial monitoring and control instruments ([15730/13](#));
- the annex IV to directive 2011/65/EU as regards an exemption for hexavalent chromium in alkali dispensers used to create photocathodes in X-ray image intensifiers until 31 December 2019 and in spare parts for X-ray systems placed on the EU market before 1 January 2020 ([15731/13](#));
- the annex IV to directive 2011/65/EU as regards an exemption for lead in solders on printed circuit boards of detectors and data acquisition units for Positron Emission Tomographs which are integrated into Magnetic Resonance Imaging equipment ([15732/13](#));
- the annex IV to directive 2011/65/EU as regards an exemption for lead in solders on populated printed circuit boards used in directive 93/42/EEC class IIa and IIb mobile medical devices other than portable emergency defibrillators ([15734/13](#));
- the annex III to directive 2011/65/EU as regards an exemption for 3,5 mg mercury per lamp in single capped compact fluorescent lamps for general lighting purposes < 30 W with a lifetime equal to or above 20 000 h ([15735/13](#)); and
- the annex IV to directive 2011/65/EU as regards an exemption for lead, cadmium and hexavalent chromium in reused spare parts, recovered from medical devices placed on the market before 22 July 2014 and used in category 8 equipment placed on the market before 22 July 2021, provided that reuse takes place in auditable closed-loop business-to-business return systems, and that the reuse of parts is notified to the consumer ([15736/13](#)).

These directives are delegated acts pursuant to article 290 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the EU. This means that now that the Council has given its consent, the acts can enter into force, unless the European Parliament objects to them.

TRADE POLICY

Moldova - Trade preferences

The Council adopted a decision on autonomous trade preferences for Moldova ([17300/13](#)).

Anti-dumping - Mesh fabrics of glass fibres - India and Indonesia

The Council adopted a regulation extending the anti-dumping duty imposed by regulation 791/2011 on imports of certain open mesh fabrics of glass fibres originating in China to those consigned from India and Indonesia ([17074/13](#)).

Generalised scheme of preferences

The Council decided not to object to the adoption by the Commission of a regulation amending the list of eligible beneficiary countries of the EU's scheme of generalised tariff preferences, in accordance with changes in their international status or classification ([17486/13](#) + [15900/13](#) + [ADD 1](#)).

The draft regulation is a delegated act submitted by the Commission under article 290 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union. The regulation can now enter into force, unless the European Parliament objects.

General agreement on trade in services - Bulgaria and Romania

The Council adopted a decision approving the signing of agreements with Australia, Brazil, Canada, Hong Kong, India and Japan aimed at modifying commitments in the schedules of Bulgaria and Romania under the 1994 general agreement on trade in services ([14720/13](#) + [14735/13](#) + [14736/13](#)).

The modifications come on account of Bulgaria's and Romania's accession to the EU.

TRANSPORT

Rail interoperability - noise pollution

The Council decided not to oppose adoption by the Commission of a directive amending annex III to directive 2008/57 - interoperability of the EU rail system - as far as noise pollution is concerned ([16404/13](#)). According to the draft directive, the design and operation of the rail system must not lead to an inadmissible level of noise generated by it in areas close to railway infrastructure and in the driver's cab.

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.

EMPLOYMENT AND SOCIAL POLICY

Pension rights

The Council adopted an amended directive improving the acquisition and preservation of supplementary pension rights (in the context of occupational pensions) ([17221/13](#) + [ADD 1](#)).

The directive aims to reduce the obstacles found within some supplementary pension schemes, so as to facilitate worker mobility. Furthermore the directive addresses the issue of a worker's right to information on how mobility will affect the acquisition and preservation of their supplementary pension rights (see also [17380/13](#)).

Globalisation adjustment fund

The Council adopted a regulation on the new European globalisation adjustment fund (EGF) so that the Fund can be operational from 1 January 2014 ([PE-CONS 99/13](#)).

The EGF is a flexible tool, intended to support workers who lose their jobs and self-employed people whose activity has ceased. It facilitates the re-integration into employment in areas, sectors, territories or labour markets suffering the shock of serious economic disruption.

The Fund will run for the next budget period (2014-2020) as a means for expressing solidarity in view of the ongoing crisis. It will continue to be financed outside the EU budget with a maximum annual amount of EUR 150 million (2011 prices) in order to provide support in situations of urgency and unexpected circumstances.

Community statistics on income and living conditions

The Council decided not to oppose the adoption of a Commission's regulation implementing regulation (EC) No 1177/2003 on Community statistics on income and living conditions (EU-SILC) as regards the 2015 list of target secondary variables on social and cultural participation and material deprivation ([14313/13](#)).

HEALTH

Statistics on public health and health and safety at work

The Council decided not to oppose the adoption of a Commission regulation updating the minimum effective sample size to be taken to establish EU statistics on public health and health and safety at work in order to take account the accession of Croatia.

The Commission regulation is subject to the so called regulatory procedure with scrutiny. This means that now that the Council has given its consent, the Commission may adopt it, unless the European Parliament objects.

RESEARCH

Euratom programme for nuclear research (2014 to 2018)

The Council adopted the European Atomic Energy Community (Euratom) programme for nuclear research and training activities ([16463/13](#)).

The new programme allows for the continuity of nuclear research activities carried out under the current Euratom programme, which expires at the end of 2013. It is a part of the EU's research and innovation framework programme "Horizon 2020" ([16939/13](#)).

Euratom programmes are limited by the Euratom treaty to five years, whereas the general framework programmes for research and innovation last for seven years.

The budget of the Euratom programme is set at 1.6 billion euros in current prices for the years 2014 to 2018.

For more information see press release [17898/13](#).

WRITTEN PROCEDURE

Appointment of members of the European Court of Auditors

By written procedure ending on 17 December the Council adopted a decision appointing the following persons as members of the Court of Auditors for the period from 1 January 2014 to 31 December 2019:

- Mr Alex Brenninkmeijer
- Mr Henri Grethen
- Ms Danièle Lamarque
- Mr Nikolaos Milionis
- Mr Phil Wynn Owen.

The European Court of Auditors' mission is to audit the EU's finances.

APPOINTMENTS

Committee of the Regions

The Council appointed Mr Xavier DESGAIN, Mr Jean-François ISTASSE and Mr Michel LEBRUN (Belgium) ([17343/13](#)) as members of the Committee of the Regions for the remainder of the current term of office, which runs until 25 January 2015.
