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To:	General Secretariat of the Council
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Subject:	ANNEX to COMMISSION DELEGATED REGULATION (EU) .../... amending Regulation (EU) 2019/1241 as regards specific technical measures to reduce by-catches of cod in the Baltic Sea [...]

Delegations will find attached document C(2022) 7280 final - ANNEX .

Encl.: C(2022) 7280 final - ANNEX



EUROPEAN
COMMISSION

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ANNEX

ANNEX

to COMMISSION DELEGATED REGULATION (EU) .../...

**amending Regulation (EU) 2019/1241 as regards specific technical measures to reduce
by-catches of cod in the Baltic Sea**

[...]

ANNEX

In Annex VIII to Regulation (EU) 2019/1241, in Part B, the following point 1.3 is added:

“1.3. Specific measures for demersal fisheries when the directed fishery for cod is prohibited

1.3.1. By way of derogation from point 1.1. and from the first entry of the table in point 1.2., except for footnote 1, the following specific measures shall apply in ICES subdivisions 22-26 when the directed fishery for cod is prohibited and when other fishing activities are not prohibited in these subdivisions:

1.3.1.1. In ICES subdivisions 22 to 26 vessels fishing with bottom trawls shall use:

(i) a Roofless selection device* in combination with the gear specifications set out in point 1.1, any new gear that is approved by the Commission and complies with the requirements of Article 15(4) of this Regulation, or

(ii) a T90 codend modified by increasing the minimum mesh size to at least 125 mm and reinforcing the selvages with lastridge ropes (modified T90 codend), in combination with a Roofless selection device or,

(iii) a square mesh codend constructed of two panels with the same netting material as the escape window of the Bacoma codend laid down in point 1.1, and a minimum mesh size of at least 125 mm **, in combination with a Roofless selection device.

Technical specifications of the selection devices set out above are provided in Implementing Regulation No 2022/XXX.

1.3.1.2. In addition to the gear configurations specified in point 1.3.1.1., in ICES subdivisions 24 to 26, bottom trawls may also use the modified T90 codend referred to in point 1.3.1.1. (ii) without the Roofless selection device.

1.3.2. When using the gear configurations referred to in point 1.3.1., masters of Union fishing vessels shall fill in a separate page in the paper fishing logbook or report the catches in the electronic fishing logbook separately from the catches made with other gear configurations and shall record which gear configuration has been used.

1.3.3. Each flag Member State shall transmit to the Commission the relevant scientific data and information, including the quantities of cod resulting from fishing with the gear configurations referred to in point 1.3.1. broken down by relevant areas, annually by 1 April. The Scientific, Technical and Economic Committee for Fisheries (STECF) shall assess the data at the latest by 1 August of each relevant year, as of the third year of application of these measures.

1.3.4. As of the third year of application of these measures the Commission shall annually assess whether the potentially changing length structure of the cod stocks has an impact on the bycatch reduction efficiency of the alternative gears referred to in point 1.3.1.

*This device is an escape opening established on top of a four-panel net section (net enabling modular selectivity (NEMOS)) of any baseline reference gear or any new gear that is approved by the Commission and complies with the requirements of Article 15(4) of this Regulation to provide escape opportunities for cod before it enters the codend.

**This device consists of three sections: a main square-mesh section and two net rings at the front and at the rear respectively.