



Council of the
European Union

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LEGISLATIVE ACTS AND OTHER INSTRUMENTS

Subject: COUNCIL DECISION authorising the opening of negotiations with the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and with the Kingdom of Norway for a fisheries agreement

COUNCIL DECISION (EU) 2020/...

of ...

**authorising the opening of negotiations
with the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
and with the Kingdom of Norway for a fisheries agreement**

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Article 43,
in conjunction with Article 218(3) and (4) thereof,

Having regard to the recommendation from the European Commission,

Whereas:

- (1) After the withdrawal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland ('United Kingdom') from the Union, a number of fish stocks in the North Sea can no longer be considered as stocks shared bilaterally between the Union and the Kingdom of Norway ('Norway') only. Those stocks occur in Union waters, in the waters under the sovereignty and jurisdiction of the United Kingdom and those under the sovereignty and jurisdiction of Norway.
- (2) In accordance with Article 63(1) of the United Nations Convention of the Law of the Sea¹, and considering the overall relationship between the Union, the United Kingdom and Norway, it is important to cooperate in securing continued responsible fisheries to ensure the long-term conservation and sustainable exploitation of marine living resources.
- (3) For that purpose, the Union should seek to conclude a fisheries agreement with the United Kingdom and with Norway.
- (4) Negotiations should be opened with a view to concluding a fisheries agreement with the United Kingdom and with Norway,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

¹ OJ L 179, 23.6.1998, p. 3.

Article 1

1. The Commission is hereby authorised to open negotiations for a fisheries agreement with the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and with the Kingdom of Norway.
2. The negotiations shall be conducted on the basis of the negotiating directives of the Council set out in the addendum to this Decision.

Article 2

1. The negotiations shall be conducted in consultation with the Council Working Party on External Fisheries Policy ('Working Party').
2. The Commission shall consult the Working Party in a timely manner before each negotiating round and shall report to it after each negotiating round.

Article 3

This Decision is addressed to the Commission.

Done at ...,

For the Council

The President
