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NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Delegations
Subject:	Proposal for a Council Regulation fixing for 2022 the fishing opportunities for certain fish stocks and groups of fish stocks applicable in the Mediterranean and Black Seas - Commission non-paper

Delegations will find attached the above-mentioned document, as received from the European Commission services.

COMMISSION SERVICES NON-PAPER

24 November 2021

This document serves as a basis for discussion at the Working Party on Fisheries Policy. It cannot in any circumstances be regarded as the official position of the Commission. It is intended solely for those to whom it is addressed.

Updates to Commission Proposal COM (2021) 548 final for a Council Regulation fixing for 2022 the fishing opportunities for certain fish stocks and groups of fish stocks applicable in the Mediterranean and Black Seas.

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1. Explanatory Note

A. Implementation of the western Mediterranean multiannual management plan (West Med MAP)

As in previous years, scientific advice from both STECF and the Scientific Advisory Committee of the GFCM in 2021 advised that, in order to attain the MSY targets for demersal stocks in the western Mediterranean, swift action is needed and real reductions in fishing mortality are necessary.

In comparison with previous years, there has been no significant change in the fishing mortality for the most overfished stocks of hake and deep-water shrimps. The stocks of hake and deep-water shrimps are so overexploited that STECF experts consider them precautionarily at a level below Blim¹.

For the first time in 2021, STECF assessed the impact of a combination of management measures in the form of effort reductions for trawlers and other fishing gears as well as Total Allowable Catches (TACs) and quotas². STECF advised that a holistic approach, combining effort and TACs measures, is needed to reduce urgently fishing mortality, in particular for hake and deep-water shrimp stocks.

- Effort reduction of trawlers

Trawling remains the main source of fishing mortality for demersal stocks in the western Mediterranean³ and STECF advises to continue the effort reduction in 2022². Considering the implementation of other management measures in the proposal, the Commission proposes a gradual and continuous effort reduction in 2022 of 7,5%.

- Effort reduction of longliners

STECF advised that fishing mortality from other fishing gear than trawlers can reach up to 48% for hake spawners³, which are key for the stocks to recover. The Commission proposes to secure the reduction in fishing mortality for hake with a complementary effort reduction for longliners to protect specifically hake spawners and secure a rapid stock recovery, as provided for in the Western Mediterranean Multiannual Plan (MAP) (Article 7.5). Considering the implementation of other management measures in the proposal, the Commission proposes a gradual effort reduction in 2022 of 7,5%.

- TACs and quotas for deep-water shrimps

For the fisheries targeting deep-water shrimps, STECF¹ advised that there is still a high level of overfishing and the state of the stocks have not changed for several years, despite the establishment of the fishing effort regime.

¹ STECF advice September 2021 - <https://stecf.jrc.ec.europa.eu/ewg2111>

² STECF advice October 2021 - <https://stecf.jrc.ec.europa.eu/ewg2113>

³ STECF advice March 2021 - <https://stecf.jrc.ec.europa.eu/ewg2101>

According to the STECF report, the stock spawning biomass for the deep-water shrimps is declining. The STECF advice is clear: the most overfished stocks are in such bad shape that the STECF experts consider them precautionary at a level below Blim.

In this context, the Commission's proposal follows a proportionate approach to complement the continued reduction in trawling effort with complementary measures relevant for the most overfished stocks, as allowed under Article 7.3(b) of the Western Mediterranean MAP. This complementarity in the approach follows the EU experience in other sea-basins⁴.

STECF advised that the implementation of TACs would allow for the increase in stock sizes and, when combined with effort reductions and technical measures, would bring an improvement in stock sizes without additional negative economic consequences. STECF highlighted that the use of TACs is the only way to achieve MSY by January 2025 for deep-water shrimps, as it will have an immediate impact on the biomass, which is needed to limit the level of catches and allow a quick recovery of the stocks.

In view of the above, since Article 7(3) of the WMED MAP constitutes a derogation from Article 3(1) of the Western MAP and Article 2(2) of the CFP Regulation delaying the achievement of FMSY only by 1 January 2025, derogations from this objective must be interpreted restrictively and an immediate action is required.

Therefore since under Article 21 WMedMAP, Articles 4 and 6.1 do not apply before 1 January 2025, Article 7(3)(b) of the Western Mediterranean MAP (2019/1022) is applicable. It provides that “[b]y way of derogation from Article 3(1) and notwithstanding paragraph 2 of this Article, during the first five years of implementation of the plan (...) (b) for the second to the fifth year of the implementation of the plan, the maximum allowable fishing effort shall be reduced by a maximum of 30 % during that period. The fishing effort decrease may be supplemented with any relevant technical or other conservation measures adopted in accordance with Union law, in order to achieve the FMSY by 1 January 2025”.

In addition to the effort reductions, the Commission therefore proposes to follow the STECF advice and adopt three TACs and quotas to secure a rapid reduction in fishing mortality for deep-water shrimp species:

- A TAC for blue and red shrimp in western waters (GSAs 1-2-5-6-7) where, for this fishery, only Spanish vessels operate. Considering the implementation of other management measures in the proposal, the Commission proposes to follow the STECF advice on the adoption of TAC levels for a transition to MSY with a gradual reduction in 2022 of 13% in comparison with 2020 catch levels.
- A TAC for blue and red shrimp in Italian waters (GSAs 9-10-11) where, for this fishery, only Italian vessels operate. Considering the implementation of other management measures in the proposal, the Commission proposes to follow the STECF advice on the adoption of TAC levels for a transition to MSY with a gradual reduction in 2022 of 21% in comparison with 2020 catch levels.

⁴ e.g. Council Regulation (EC) No 1342/2008 [EUR-Lex - 32008R1342 - EN - EUR-Lex \(europa.eu\)](#) and Council Regulation (EU) No 43/2014 [CL2014R0043EN0020040.0001_cp 1..1 \(europa.eu\)](#)

- A TAC for giant red shrimp in Italian waters (GSAs 9-10-11) where, for this fishery, only Italian vessels operate. Considering the implementation of other management measures in the proposal, the Commission proposes to follow the STECF advice on the adoption of TAC levels for a transition to MSY with a gradual reduction in 2022 of 21% in comparison with 2020 catch levels.

B. Implementation of GFCM decisions from the 44th annual session

The non-paper proposes to implement the fishing opportunities-related decisions of the GFCM annual session, namely roll-over measures and new measures for the Adriatic sea.

- Roll-over measures (common dolphinfish; deep waters shrimps in the Ionian and Levant Seas and the Strait of Sicily; blackspot seabream in the Alboran Sea)

The GFCM has decided to prolong existing transitional measures until the adoption of long-term measures. Consequently, the Commission proposes to roll over the measures for these species from the 2021 Fishing Opportunities Regulation.

- Adriatic small pelagics multiannual management plan

The Commission proposes to implement the provisions of the new multiannual management plan, replacing the emergency measures that will expire at the end of 2021. The new multiannual management plan follows a two-step approach, with a transitional period and long-term measures. For the transitional period, the new multiannual management plan foresees a combined catch limit for the EU, in respect to maximum catch limits of 2021, based on an 8% reduction of sardine catches and a 5% reduction for anchovy. The non-paper proposes to implement the maximum catch limit and introduce a transitional internal share between Italy and Croatia, which is based on landings reported to GFCM in 2014. A transitional reserve would be established for Slovenia based on the same figures as in the 2021 Fishing Opportunities Regulation. Based on the GFCM decision, the non-paper also proposes to implement the fleet capacity ceiling for purse seiners and pelagic trawlers targeting small pelagics, from the new multiannual management plan. This capacity ceiling is the same as in the 2021 Fishing Opportunities Regulation and is based on the capacity reported to GFCM in 2014.

- Adriatic demersal multiannual management plan (MAP)

The GFCM has adopted a new recommendation reducing for 2022 the fishing effort by 7% for otter-trawlers (OTB) and 3% for beam-trawlers (TBB). The recommendation also includes a segmentation by vessel length. The Commission proposes to implement the same effort reduction and segmentation as in the GFCM recommendation. The share among the Member States follows the 2021 national share and in addition, is split by fleet segment, based on fishing effort reported by the Member States. As foreseen in the 2021 Fishing Opportunities Regulation, Slovenia would not exceed the effort limit of 3 000 fishing days per year. The maximum fleet capacity from the 2021 Fishing Opportunities Regulation would remain in place for 2022.

The Commission Proposal COM (2021) 548 final is amended as follows (**the changes are marked in bold**):

2. Fishing opportunities for common dolphinfish in the Mediterranean Sea

Recital (18 new) is introduced in the Commission proposal:

“At its 44th annual meeting in 2021, the GFCM adopted Recommendation GFCM/44/2021/11 on management measures for the use of anchored fish aggregating devices in common dolphinfish fisheries in the Mediterranean Sea, amending Recommendation GFCM/43/2019/1 (GFCM geographical subareas 1 to 27), which prolonged existing measures for one year. Those measures should be implemented in Union law.”

3. Fishing opportunities for the demersal stocks in the Western Mediterranean Sea

2.1 Recital (7) of the Commission proposal is replaced by the following:

“In accordance with Article 4(1) of Regulation (EU) 2019/1022, fishing opportunities for stocks listed in Article 1 of that Regulation should be fixed to achieve fishing mortality at maximum sustainable yield on a progressive, incremental basis by 2020 where possible, and by 1 January 2025 at the latest. Fishing opportunities should be expressed as maximum allowable fishing effort for trawlers and longliners fixed in accordance with the fishing effort regime laid down in Article 7 of Regulation (EU) 2019/1022 as well as TACs for blue and red shrimp (*Aristeus antennatus*) and giant red shrimp (*Aristaeomorpha foliacea*) fixed in accordance with scientific advice.”

2.2 Recital (8) of the Commission proposal is replaced by the following:

“STECF advised that, in order to attain the MSY targets for the western Mediterranean fish stocks, further urgent actions are needed and significant reductions of fishing mortality are necessary for trawlers. For 2022, the maximum allowable fishing effort of trawlers, in accordance with Article 7(3)b of the western Mediterranean multiannual management plan, should therefore be reduced by 7,5% compared to the 2015-2017 baseline, to be deducted from the maximum allowable fishing effort set for 2021 by Council Regulation (EU) 2021/905 and the additional effort reduction established at the level of Italian authorities.”

2.3 Recital (8a new) is inserted in the Commission proposal:

“STECF advised that, in order to attain the MSY targets for the western Mediterranean fish stocks, further urgent actions are needed and proportional reductions of fishing mortality are necessary for longliners. For 2022, the maximum allowable fishing effort of longliners, in accordance with Article 7(5) of the Western Mediterranean Multiannual Management Plan, should therefore be reduced by 7,5% compared to the 2015-2017 baseline, to be deducted from the effort recorded in 2020 and declared by Member States.”

2.4 Recital (8b new) is introduced in the Commission proposal:

“In 2020, STECF advised that the fishing mortality of blue and red shrimp in GSAs 1-5-6-7 and GSAs 9-10-11 would need to decrease significantly to achieve MSY by 2025 at the latest. The GFCM Scientific Advisory Council (SAC) also issued the same advice for fishing mortality of blue and red shrimp in GSA 2. Moreover, STECF estimated that the biomass of blue and red shrimp was declining. In 2021, STECF advised that the fishing mortality of this species has not changed and further management measures are thus required. Given the scientific advice and the unchanged stocks situation, in accordance with Article 7(3)(b) of the Western Mediterranean Multiannual Management Plan, it is appropriate to complement the effort regime with TACs and establish a specific TAC for blue and red shrimp in GSAs 1-2-5-6-7 and a specific TAC for blue and red shrimp in GSAs 9-10-11.”

2.5 Recital (8c new) is introduced in the Commission proposal:

“In 2020, STECF advised that the biomass of giant red shrimp in GSAs 9-10-11 was declining. In 2021, STECF advised that the fishing mortality of this species has not changed and that the biomass is still declining. Given the scientific advice and the unchanged stocks situation, in accordance with Article 7(3)(b) of the Western Mediterranean Multiannual Management Plan, it is appropriate to complement the effort regime with TACs and establish a specific TAC for giant red shrimp in GSAs 9-10-11.”

2.6 In Article 8 of the Commission proposal, point (2) is replaced by the following:

“The maximum allowable fishing effort for trawlers and longliners is set out in Annex III to this Regulation. Member States shall manage the maximum allowable fishing effort in accordance with Article 9 of Regulation (EU) 2019/1022.”

2.7 In Article 8 of the Commission proposal, the following paragraph (3) is introduced:

“3. The allocation among Member States of TACs for Union fishing vessels in Union waters of the western Mediterranean Sea is set out in Annex III to this Regulation.”

2.8 In Article 8 of the Commission proposal, the following paragraph (4) is introduced:

“4. Special provisions on allocation of fishing opportunities:

(a) The allocation of fishing opportunities by Member States, as set out in this Regulation, shall be in accordance with the criteria set out in Article 17 of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013.

(b) The allocation of fishing opportunities among Member States, as set out in this Regulation, shall be without prejudice to:

- exchanges made pursuant to Article 16(8) of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013;
- deductions and reallocations made pursuant to Article 37 of Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009;
- additional landings allowed under Article 3 of Regulation (EC) No 847/96 or under Article 15(9) of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013;
- quantities withheld in accordance with Article 4 of Regulation (EC) No 847/96 or transferred under Article 15(9) of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013;
- deductions made pursuant to Articles 105, 106 and 107 of Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009.”

2.9 In Annex III of the Commission proposal, the title of the Annex is replaced by the following:

“FISHING **OPPORTUNITIES** FOR UNION FISHING VESSELS IN THE CONTEXT OF THE MANAGEMENT OF DEMERSAL STOCKS IN THE WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN SEA”.

2.10 In Annex III of the Commission proposal, the first sentence of the Annex is replaced by the following:

“The tables in this annex set out the maximum allowable fishing effort (in fishing days) by stock groups, as defined in Article 1 of regulation (EU) No 2019/1022, **and the total allowable catches** [...]”.

2.11 In Annex III of the Commission proposal, the second sentence of the Annex is replaced by the following:

“All **fishing opportunities** set out in this Annex shall be subject to the rules set out in Regulation (EU) 2019/1022 and Articles 26 to 35 of Regulation (EC) 1224/2009.”

2.12 In Annex III of the Commission proposal, table (a) regarding fishing opportunities **in fishing days for trawlers for** the Alboran Sea, Balearic Islands, Northern Spain and Gulf of Lion (GSAs 1-2-5-6-7) is replaced by the following:

“(a) **Trawlers in** Alboran Sea, Balearic Islands, Northern Spain and Gulf of Lion (GSAs 1-2-5-6-7)

Stock group	Overall length of vessels	Spain	France	Italy	Fishing effort group code
Red mullet in GSAs 1, 5, 6 and 7; Hake in GSAs 1, 5, 6 and 7; Deep-water rose shrimp in GSAs 1, 5 and 6; Norway lobster in GSAs 5 and 6.	< 12 m	1884	0	0	EFF1/MED1_TR1
	≥ 12 m and < 18 m	20236	0	0	EFF1/MED1_TR2
	≥ 18 m and < 24 m	37969	4286	0	EFF1/MED1_TR3
	≥ 24 m	13373	5216	0	EFF1/MED1_TR4

Stock group	Overall length of vessels	Spain	France	Italy	Fishing effort group code
Blue and red shrimp in GSAs 1, 2, 5, 6 and 7.	< 12 m	0	0	0	EFF2/MED1_TR1
	≥ 12 m and < 18 m	949	0	0	EFF2/MED1_TR2
	≥ 18 m and < 24 m	9613	0	0	EFF2/MED1_TR3
	≥ 24 m	7716	0	0	EFF2/MED1_TR4

.”

2.13 In Annex III of the Commission proposal, table (b) regarding fishing opportunities **in fishing days for trawlers for** Corsica Island, Ligurian Sea, Tyrrhenian Sea and Sardinia Island (GSAs 8-9-10-11) is replaced by the following:

“(b) **Trawlers in** Corsica Island, Ligurian Sea, Tyrrhenian Sea and Sardinia Island (GSAs 8-9-10-11)

Stock group	Overall length of vessels	Spain	France	Italy	Fishing effort group code
Red mullet in GSAs 8 , 9, 10 and 11; Hake in GSAs 8 , 9, 10 and 11; Deep-water rose shrimp in GSAs 9, 10 and 11; Norway lobster in GSAs 9 and 10.	< 12 m	0	174	2482	EFF1/MED2_TR1
	≥ 12 m and < 18 m	0	695	37338	EFF1/MED2_TR2
	≥ 18 m and < 24 m	0	174	25110	EFF1/MED2_TR3
	≥ 24 m	0	174	3351	EFF1/MED2_TR4

Stock group	Overall length of vessels	Spain	France	Italy	Fishing effort group code
Giant red shrimp in GSAs 9, 10 and 11.	< 12 m	0	0	410	EFF2/MED2_TR1
	≥ 12 m and < 18 m	0	0	3029	EFF2/MED2_TR2
	≥ 18 m and < 24 m	0	0	2439	EFF2/MED2_TR3
	≥ 24 m	0	0	326	EFF2/MED2_TR4

”

2.14 In Annex III of the Commission proposal, the following table (c) regarding fishing opportunities in fishing days for longliners for Alboran Sea, Balearic Islands, Northern Spain and Gulf of Lion (GSAs 1-2-5-6-7) is introduced:

“(c) Longliners in Alboran Sea, Balearic Islands, Northern Spain and Gulf of Lion (GSAs 1-2-5-6-7)

Stock group	Overall length of vessels	Spain	France	Italy	Fishing effort group code
Red mullet in GSAs 1, 2, 5, 6 and 7; Hake in GSAs 1, 2, 5, 6 and 7	< 12 m	9137	4546	0	EFF1/MED1_LL1
	≥ 12 m and < 18 m	984	0	0	EFF1/MED1_LL2
	≥ 18 m and < 24 m	0	0	0	EFF1/MED1_LL3
	≥ 24 m	0	0	0	EFF1/MED1_LL4

”

2.15 In Annex III of the Commission proposal, the following table (d) regarding fishing opportunities in fishing days for longliners for Corsica Island, Ligurian Sea, Tyrrhenian Sea and Sardinia Island (GSAs 8-9-10-11) is introduced:

“(d) Longliners in Corsica Island, Ligurian Sea, Tyrrhenian Sea and Sardinia Island (GSAs 8-9-10-11)

Stock group	Overall length of vessels	Spain	France	Italy	Fishing effort group code
Red mullet in GSAs 8, 9, 10 and 11; Hake in GSAs 8, 9, 10 and 11	< 12 m	0	880	24492	EFF1/MED2_LL1
	≥ 12 m and < 18 m	0	0	2872	EFF1/MED2_LL2
	≥ 18 m and < 24 m	0	0	53	EFF1/MED2_LL3
	≥ 24 m	0	0	0	EFF1/MED2_LL4

.”

2.16 In Annex III of the Commission proposal, the following subtitle is added after table (e):
“Total allowable catches in tonnes live weight (t)”.

2.17 In Annex III of the Commission proposal, the following table (e) regarding fishing opportunities for blue and red shrimp (*Aristeus antennatus*) in the Alboran Sea, Balearic Islands, Northern Spain and Gulf of Lion (GSAs 1-2-5-6-7) is introduced:

“(e) fishing opportunities for blue and red shrimp (*Aristeus antennatus*) in the Alboran Sea, Balearic Islands, Northern Spain and Gulf of Lion (GSAs 1-2-5-6-7)

Species: Blue and red shrimp (<i>Aristeus antennatus</i>)		Zone: GSA 1, 2, 5, 6, 7 (ARA/GF1-7)
Spain	800	
France	0	
Italy	0	
Union	800	
TAC	800	<p>Combined Analytical TAC with Precautionary Approach</p> <p>Article 3(2) and (3) of Regulation (EC) No 847/96 shall not apply.</p> <p>Article 4 of Regulation (EC) No 847/96 shall not apply.</p>

”

2.18 In Annex III of the Commission proposal, the following table (f) regarding fishing opportunities for blue and red shrimp (*Aristeus antennatus*) and giant red shrimp (*Aristaeomorpha foliacea*) for Corsica Island, Ligurian Sea, Tyrrhenian Sea and Sardinia Island (GSAs 9-10-11) is introduced:

“(f) Fishing opportunities for blue and red shrimp (*Aristeus antennatus*) and giant red shrimp (*Aristaeomorpha foliacea*) in Corsica Island, Ligurian Sea, Tyrrhenian Sea and Sardinia Island (GSAs 9-10-11)

Species:	Blue and red shrimp <i>(Aristeus antennatus)</i>	Zone:	GSA 9-10-11 (ARA/GF9-11)
Spain	0		
France	0		
Italy	212		
Union	212		
TAC	212	Analytical TAC	
			Article 3(2) and (3) of Regulation (EC) No 847/96 shall not apply.
			Article 4 of Regulation (EC) No 847/96 shall not apply.

Species:	Giant red shrimp <i>(Aristaeomorpha foliacea)</i>	Zone:	GSA 9-10-11 (ARS/GF9-11)
Spain	0		
France	0		
Italy	302		
Union	302		
TAC	302	Analytical TAC	
			Article 3(2) and (3) of Regulation (EC) No 847/96 shall not apply.
			Article 4 of Regulation (EC) No 847/96 shall not apply.

”

Fishing opportunities for the small pelagic stocks in the Adriatic Sea

1. The placeholder in Recital (10) of the Commission proposal is replaced by the following:

“At its 44th annual meeting in 2021, the GFCM adopted Recommendation GFCM/44/2021/20 on a multiannual management plan for the sustainable exploitation of small pelagic stocks in the Adriatic Sea (GFCM geographical subareas 17 and 18), which introduced a maximum level of catch and a fleet capacity ceiling for purse-seiners and pelagic trawlers targeting small pelagics. Those measures should be implemented in Union law.”

2. The placeholder in Article 10 of the Commission proposal is replaced by the following:

“1. This Article applies to all activities by Union fishing vessels and other Union fishing activities catching sardine (*Sardina pilchardus*) and anchovy (*Engraulis encrasicolus*) in the Adriatic Sea.”

2. The maximum level of catches shall not exceed the levels set out in Annex IV.

3. The maximum fleet capacity, expressed as kW, GT and number, of Union fishing vessels authorised to fish small pelagics, is set out in Annex IV.”

3. The placeholder in Annex IV of the Commission proposal is replaced by the following table in part (1), regarding small pelagic stocks in GSAs 17 and 18:

“FISHING OPPORTUNITIES FOR UNION FISHING VESSELS IN THE ADRIATIC SEA

The tables in this Annex set out the fishing opportunities by stock or vessels effort groups and the conditions functionally linked thereto, where appropriate, as well as the maximum number of Union fishing vessels authorised to fish small pelagics.

All fishing opportunities set out in this Annex shall be subject to the rules set out in Articles 26 to 35 of Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009.

The reference to fishing zones are references to GFCM geographical subareas (GSAs).

For the purposes of this Annex, the following comparative table of Latin names and common names is provided:

Scientific name	Alpha-3 code	Common name
<i>Engraulis encrasicolus</i>	ANE	Anchovy
<i>Merluccius merluccius</i>	HKE	European hake
<i>Mullus barbatus</i>	MUT	Red mullet
<i>Nephrops norvegicus</i>	NEP	Norway lobster
<i>Parapenaeus longirostris</i>	DPS	Deep-water rose shrimp
<i>Sardina pilchardus</i>	PIL	Sardine
<i>Solea solea</i>	SOL	Common sole

1.

Small pelagic stocks – GSAs 17 and 18

Maximum level of catches expressed in tonnes live weight

Species:	Small pelagic species (anchovy and sardine) <i>Engraulis encrasicolus</i> and <i>Sardina pilchardus</i>		Zone:	Union and International waters of GFCM-GSAs 17 and 18 (SP1/GF1718)
Italy	35394	(5)	Maximum level of catches Article 3 of Regulation (EC) No 847/96 shall not apply Article 4 of Regulation (EC) No 847/96 shall not apply	
Croatia	56304			
TAC	Not relevant			

Maximum fleet capacity of trawlers and purse seiners actively fishing for small pelagics

Member State	Gear	Number of vessels	kW	GT
Croatia	PS	249	77 145,52	18 537,72
Italy	PTM-OTM-PS	685	134 556,7	25 852
Slovenia ⁶	PS	4	433,7	38,5

”

4. Fishing opportunities for the demersal stocks in the Adriatic Sea

1. Recital (14 new) is included in the Commission proposal:

“At its 44th annual meeting in 2021, the GFCM adopted Recommendation GFCM/44/2021/1 demersal fisheries in the Adriatic Sea (GFCM geographical subareas 17 and 18), which introduced a maximum allowable fishing days, by type of trawl and fleet segment, for certain demersal stocks. Those measures should be implemented in Union law.”

⁵ Concerning Slovenia, the quantities are based on the level of catches exerted in 2014, up to an amount that should not exceed 300 tonnes.

⁶ The provision under paragraph 28 of GFCM/44/2020/20 shall not apply to the national fleets of less than ten purse seiners and/or pelagic trawlers actively fishing for small pelagic stocks, as recorded both in national and GFCM register in 2014. In such case, the capacity of the active fleet may increase by not more than 50 percent in number of vessels and in terms of gross tonnage (GT) and/or gross registered tonnage (GRT) and kW.

2. In Article 11 of the Commission proposal, point (2) is replaced by the following:

“The maximum allowable fishing effort and the maximum fleet capacity for demersal stocks within the scope of this Article are set out in Annex IV.”

3. In Annex IV of the Commission proposal, the first table in part (2), regarding demersal stocks in GSAs 17 and 18 (Adriatic Sea), is replaced by the following:

“Maximum allowable fishing effort (in fishing days) by types of trawls **and fleet segment** fishing for demersal stocks in GSAs 17 and 18 (Adriatic Sea).

Gear type	Geographical area	Stocks concerned	Overall length of vessels	Effort group code	Fishing Days 2022		
					ITALY	CROATIA	SLOVENI A ⁷
Trawls (OTB)	GFCM sub-areas 17-18	Red mullet; Hake; Deep-water rose shrimp, and Norway lobster	< 12 m	EFF/MED3_OTB_TR1	3521	10388	
			≥ 12 m and < 24 m	EFF/MED3_OTB_TR2	79139	24202	
			≥ 24 m	EFF/MED3_OTB_TR3	6934	2173	
Beam trawls (TBB)	GFCM sub-area 17	Common sole	< 12 m	EFF/MED3_TBB_TR1	200	0	
			≥ 12 m and < 24 m	EFF/MED3_TBB_TR2	3747	0	
			≥ 24 m	EFF/MED3_TBB_TR3	3726	0	

”

⁷ Slovenia shall not exceed the effort limit of 3 000 fishing days per year in accordance with paragraph 13 of GFCM/43/2019/5.

5. Fishing opportunities for demersal stocks in the Ionian Sea, Levant Sea and the Strait of Sicily

1. Recital (11 new) is introduced in the Commission proposal:

“At its 44th annual meeting in 2021, the GFCM adopted Recommendation GFCM/44/2021/6 on a multiannual management plan for sustainable trawl fisheries targeting giant red shrimp and blue and red shrimp in the Levant Sea, amending Recommendation GFCM/42/2018/3 (GFCM geographical subareas 24, 25, 26 and 27), which prolonged existing measures for one year. Those measures should be implemented in Union law.”

2. Recital (12 new) is introduced in the Commission proposal:

“At its 44th annual meeting in 2021, the GFCM adopted Recommendation GFCM/44/2021/8 on a multiannual management plan for sustainable trawl fisheries targeting giant red shrimp and blue and red shrimp in the Ionian Sea, amending Recommendation GFCM/42/2018/4 (GFCM geographical subareas 19, 20 and 21), which prolonged existing measures for one year. Those measures should be implemented in Union law.”

3. Recital (13 new) is introduced in the Commission proposal:

“At its 44th annual meeting in 2021, the GFCM adopted Recommendation GFCM/44/2021/7 on management measures for sustainable trawl fisheries targeting giant red shrimp and blue and red shrimp in the Strait of Sicily, amending Recommendation GFCM/43/2019/6 (GFCM geographical subareas 12, 13, 14, 15 and 16), which prolonged existing measures for one year. Those measures should be implemented in Union law.”

6. Fishing opportunities for Union fishing vessels in the Alboran Sea

Recital (17 new) is introduced in the Commission proposal:

“At its 44th annual meeting in 2021, the GFCM adopted Recommendation GFCM/44/2021/4 on a management plan for the sustainable exploitation of blackspot seabream in the Alboran Sea, amending Recommendation GFCM/43/2019/2 (GFCM geographical subareas 1, 2 and 3), which prolonged existing measures for one year. Those measures should be implemented in Union law.”

7. Fishing opportunities for Union fishing vessels in the Black Sea

In Annex VII of the Commission proposal, the footnote shall be replaced by:

“(*) No fishing activity, including transshipment, retaining on board, landing and first sale shall be permitted from 15 April to 15 June 2022.”