

COMMISSION REGULATION (EU) No 767/2012**of 17 August 2012****establishing a prohibition of fishing for Bluefin tuna in the Atlantic Ocean, east of 45° W, and Mediterranean by vessels flying the flag of Portugal**

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

*Article 1***Quota exhaustion**Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009 of 20 November 2009 establishing a Community control system for ensuring compliance with the rules of the common fisheries policy ⁽¹⁾, and in particular Article 36(2) thereof,

The fishing quota allocated to the Member State referred to in the Annex to this Regulation for the stock referred to therein for 2012 shall be deemed to be exhausted from the date set out in that Annex.

Whereas:

*Article 2***Prohibitions**(1) Council Regulation (EU) No 44/2012 of 17 January 2012 fixing for 2012 the fishing opportunities available in EU waters and, to EU vessels, in certain non- EU waters for certain fish stocks and groups of fish stocks which are subject to international negotiations or agreements ⁽²⁾, lays down quotas for 2012.

Fishing activities for the stock referred to in the Annex to this Regulation by vessels flying the flag of or registered in the Member State referred to therein shall be prohibited from the date set out in that Annex. In particular it shall be prohibited to retain on board, relocate, tranship or land fish from that stock caught by those vessels after that date.

(2) According to the information received by the Commission, catches of the stock referred to in the Annex to this Regulation by vessels flying the flag of or registered in the Member State referred to therein have exhausted the quota allocated for 2012.

*Article 3***Entry into force**

(3) It is therefore necessary to prohibit fishing activities for that stock,

This Regulation shall enter into force on the day following that of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Brussels, 17 August 2012.

*For the Commission,
On behalf of the President,*

Lowri EVANS

Director-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries⁽¹⁾ OJ L 343, 22.12.2009, p. 1.⁽²⁾ OJ L 25, 27.01.2012, p. 55.

ANNEX

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| No | 14/TQ44 |
| Member State | Portugal |
| Stock | BFT/AE045WM |
| Species | Bluefin tuna (<i>Thunnus thynnus</i>) |
| Zone | Atlantic Ocean, east of 45° W, and Mediterranean |
| Date | 29.7.2012 |