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# COUNCIL REGULATION (EU) No 1221/2014

of 10 November 2014

fixing for 2015 the fishing opportunities for certain fish stocks and groups of fish stocks applicable in the Baltic Sea and amending Regulations (EU) No 43/2014 and (EU) No 1180/2013

(OJ L 330, 15.11.2014, p. 16)

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#### COUNCIL REGULATION (EU) No 1221/2014

#### of 10 November 2014

fixing for 2015 the fishing opportunities for certain fish stocks and groups of fish stocks applicable in the Baltic Sea and amending Regulations (EU) No 43/2014 and (EU) No 1180/2013

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

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

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

Whereas:

- (1) Article 43(3) of the Treaty provides that the Council is to adopt measures on the fixing and allocation of fishing opportunities, on a proposal from the Commission.
- (2) Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council (¹) requires that conservation measures are adopted taking into account available scientific, technical and economic advice, including, where relevant, reports drawn up by the Scientific, Technical and Economic Committee for Fisheries (STECF) and other advisory bodies, as well as in the light of any advice received from Advisory Councils.
- (3) It is incumbent upon the Council to adopt measures on the fixing and allocation of fishing opportunities, including certain conditions functionally linked thereto, as appropriate. Fishing opportunities should be allocated to Member States in such a way as to ensure relative stability of fishing activities of each Member State for each stock or fishery and having due regard to the objectives of the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) established in Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013.
- (4) The total allowable catches (TACs) should therefore be established, in line with Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013 and taking into account the principles mentioned in recital 2.
- (5) For small pelagic (herring and sprat), cod and salmon fisheries in the Baltic Sea the landing obligation provided for in Article 15(1) of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013 applies from 1 January 2015. Article 16(2) of that Regulation provides that, when the landing

<sup>(</sup>¹) Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2013 on the Common Fisheries Policy, amending Council Regulations (EC) No 1954/2003 and (EC) No 1224/2009 and repealing Council Regulations (EC) No 2371/2002 and (EC) No 639/2004 and Council Decision 2004/585/EC (OJ L 354, 28.12.2013, p. 22).

obligation is introduced in respect of a fish stock, fishing opportunities are to be fixed taking into account the change from fixing fishing opportunities that reflect landings to fixing fishing opportunities that reflect catches.

- (6) For stocks subject to specific multiannual plans, the fishing opportunities should be established in accordance with the rules laid down in those plans. Consequently, the catch limits should be established in accordance with the rules laid down in Council Regulation (EC) No 1098/2007 (¹) (the 'Baltic Sea Cod Plan').
- (7) The scientific advice provided in respect of fishing effort for Baltic cod by the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES) indicated that where a landing obligation applies to a specific stock, fixing of lower effort limitations would not contribute to the achievement of the objectives of the reformed CFP. It is, therefore, appropriate to fix the effort limits for cod stocks in ICES subdivisions 22-24 at the level of 2014. Fixing the fishing effort limits at the level of 2014 will facilitate the introduction of the landing obligation and will contribute to the achievement of the objectives of the CFP as defined in Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013.
- (8) In the light of the scientific advice provided, flexibility in the management of the fishing effort for cod stock in ICES subdivisions 22-24 in the Baltic Sea can be introduced without jeopardising the objectives of the Baltic Sea Cod Plan and without causing an increase in fishing mortality. Such flexibility would allow for a more efficient management of the fishing effort where quotas are not allocated equally among the fleet of a Member State and would facilitate swift reactions to quota exchanges. A Member State should, therefore, be allowed to allocate additional days absent from port to fishing vessels flying its flag where an equal amount of days absent from port is withdrawn from other fishing vessels flying its flag.
- (9) Recent scientific advice shows that ICES could not establish the biological reference points for cod stocks in ICES subdivisions 25-32 and instead it advised that the TAC for that cod stock be based on the data limited approach. The absence of biological reference points makes it impossible to follow the rules for setting the fishing opportunities for cod stocks in ICES subdivisions 25-32. As not fixing fishing opportunities could constitute a serious threat to the sustainability of that stock, it is appropriate to fix the TAC for those cod stocks at a level corresponding to the approach developed and advised by ICES

<sup>(</sup>¹) Council Regulation (EC) No 1098/2007 of 18 September 2007 establishing a multiannual plan for the cod stocks in the Baltic Sea and the fisheries exploiting those stocks, amending Regulation (EEC) No 2847/93 and repealing Regulation (EC) No 779/97 (OJ L 248, 22.9.2007, p. 1).

and to fix fishing effort limits at the level of 2014. Fixing the fishing effort limits at the level of 2014 will facilitate the introduction of the landing obligation, will provide for more selective fishing and will contribute to the achievement of the objectives of the CFP as defined in Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013.

- (10) The use of fishing opportunities set out in this Regulation is subject to Council Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009 (¹), and in particular Articles 33 and 34 of that Regulation, concerning the recording of catches and fishing effort and the information on data on the exhaustion of fishing opportunities respectively. It is therefore necessary to specify the codes relating to landings of stocks subject to this Regulation which are to be used by the Member States when sending data to the Commission.
- Council Regulation (EC) No 847/96 (2) introduced additional conditions for year-to-year management of TACs, including flexibility provisions under Articles 3 and 4 for precautionary and analytical TACs respectively. Under Article 2 of that Regulation, when fixing the TACs, the Council is to decide to which stocks Articles 3 or 4 shall not apply, in particular on the basis of the biological status of the stocks. More recently, the year-to-year flexibility mechanism was introduced by Article 15(9) of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013 for all stocks that are subject to the landing obligation. Therefore, in order to avoid excessive flexibility that would undermine the principle of rational and responsible exploitation of living marine biological resources, hinder the achievement of the objectives of CFP and deteriorate the biological status of the stocks, it should be established that Articles 3 and 4 of Regulation (EC) No 847/96 apply to analytical TACs only where the year-to-year flexibility provided for in Article 15(9) of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013 is not used.
- from July to June the following year, even though the TAC is set for the period from January to December. The latest scientific advice for the period from July 2014 to June 2015 indicates that the TAC can be significantly increased. There is therefore a greater availability of sprat in the second half of 2014 than was foreseen. Since that stock is subject to an analytical assessment and is within safe biological limits, the conditions for the application of Articles 3 and 4 of Regulation (EC) No 847/96 allowing

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, amending Regulations (EC) No 847/96, (EC) No 2371/2002, (EC) No 811/2004, (EC) No 768/2005, (EC) No 2115/2005, (EC) No 2166/2005, (EC) No 388/2006, (EC) No 509/2007, (EC) No 676/2007, (EC) No 1098/2007, (EC) No 1300/2008, (EC) No 1342/2008 and repealing Regulations (EEC) No 2847/93, (EC) No 1627/94 and (EC) No 1966/2006 (OJ L 343, 22.12.2009, p. 1).
 Council Regulation (EC) No 847/96 of 6 May 1996 introducing additional

<sup>(2)</sup> Council Regulation (EC) No 847/96 of 6 May 1996 introducing additional conditions for year-to-year management of TACs and quotas (OJ L 115, 9.5.1996, p. 3).

inter-annual quota flexibility are fulfilled, and should be permitted in order to allow the fisheries to utilise the increased availability of sprat in the most efficient way. Regulation (EU) No 43/2014 should therefore be amended accordingly.

- Regulation (EU) No 43/2014 currently allows that a Member (13)State use any unused quantities in 2015, up to 10 % of the quota available to it in 2014, in respect of certain stocks. On 6 August 2014, the Russian Federation imposed an embargo on the importation of certain agricultural and fisheries products from the Union. As a consequence, some of the exports that producers had envisaged to make to Russia in the autumn of 2014 have become impossible and in some cases alternative markets cannot be found at short notice. In view of those exceptional circumstances and the urgency of the matter, it is necessary to allow certain adjustments for the 2014 fishing season. In view of positive scientific advice as well as a positive approach of the relevant coastal states, it is appropriate to allow, exceptionally and only in respect of the stocks that are the most severely or directly affected by the Russian embargo, an increase in the percentage of the quantities unused in 2014 that can be carried over to 2015. That exceptional measure is limited to the 2014 fishing season. It is expected that this measure would allow new markets to be found or catches to be adapted should the embargo continue to apply in 2015. For the same reasons, a corresponding possibility to transfer unused fishing opportunities should be introduced in Council Regulation (EU) No 1180/2013 (1). Regulations (EU) No 43/2014 and (EU) No 1180/2013 should therefore be amended accordingly.
- (14) In order to avoid interruption of fishing activities and to ensure the livelihoods of Union fishermen, this Regulation should apply from 1 January 2015. For reasons of urgency, this Regulation should enter into force immediately after its publication. For reasons set out in recital 13, the provisions concerning the possibility to transfer fishing opportunities unused in 2014 should apply with effect from 1 January 2014,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

#### CHAPTER I

#### GENERAL PROVISIONS

#### Article 1

# Subject matter

This Regulation fixes the fishing opportunities for certain fish stocks and groups of fish stocks in the Baltic Sea for 2015.

<sup>(1)</sup> Council Regulation (EU) No 1180/2013 of 19 November 2013 fixing for 2014 the fishing opportunities for certain fish stocks and groups of fish stocks applicable in the Baltic Sea (OJ L 313, 22.11.2013, p. 4).

#### Article 2

#### Scope

This Regulation shall apply to Union fishing vessels operating in the Baltic Sea.

#### Article 3

#### **Definitions**

For the purposes of this Regulation the following definitions shall apply:

- (1) 'ICES' means International Council for the Exploration of the Sea;
- (2) 'Baltic Sea' means ICES zones IIIb, IIIc and IIId;
- (3) 'subdivision' means an ICES subdivision of the Baltic sea as defined in Annex I to Council Regulation (EC) No 2187/2005 (1);
- (4) 'fishing vessel' means any vessel equipped for commercial exploitation of marine biological resources;
- (5) 'Union fishing vessel' means a fishing vessel flying the flag of a Member State and registered in the Union;
- (6) 'fishing effort' means the product of the capacity and the activity of a fishing vessel; for a group of fishing vessels it is the sum of the fishing effort of all fishing vessels in the group;
- (7) 'stock' means a marine biological resource that occurs in a given management area;
- (8) 'total allowable catch' (TAC) means the quantity of each stock that can be:
  - (i) caught over the period of a year, in the fisheries that are subject to the landing obligation pursuant to Article 15 of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013; or
  - (ii) landed over the period of a year, in the fisheries that are not subject to the landing obligation pursuant to Article 15 of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013;
- (9) 'quota' means a proportion of the TAC allocated to the Union, a Member State or a third country;

<sup>(</sup>¹) Council Regulation (EC) No 2187/2005 of 21 December 2005 for the conservation of fishery resources through technical measures in the Baltic Sea, the Belts and the Sound, amending Regulation (EC) No 1434/98 and repealing Regulation (EC) No 88/98 (OJ L 349, 31.12.2005, p. 1).

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(10) 'days absent from port' means any continuous period of 24 hours or part thereof during which a fishing vessel is not present in a port.

#### CHAPTER II

#### FISHING OPPORTUNITIES

#### Article 4

#### TACs and allocations

The TACs, the quotas and the conditions functionally linked thereto, where appropriate, are set out in Annex I.

#### Article 5

#### Special provisions on allocations of fishing opportunities

The allocation of fishing opportunities to Member States as set out in this Regulation shall be without prejudice to:

- (a) exchanges made pursuant to Article 16(8) of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013;
- (b) deductions and reallocations made pursuant to Article 37 of Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009;
- (c) additional landings allowed under Article 3 of Regulation (EC) No 847/96 or under Article 15(9) of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013;
- (d) 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;
- (e) deductions made pursuant to Articles 105, 106 and 107 of Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009.

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#### Article 5a

#### Flexibility in the fixing of fishing opportunities of certain stocks

- 1. This Article shall apply to the following stocks:
- (a) herring in ICES subdivision 30-31;
- (b) herring in Union waters of ICES subdivisions 25-27, 28.2, 29 and 32;
- (c) herring in ICES subdivision 28.1;
- (d) sprat in Union waters of ICES subdivision 22-32.
- 2. Any quantities up to 25 % of a Member State's initial quota of the stocks identified in paragraph 1 that have not been used in 2015 shall be added for the purpose of calculating the quota of the Member State concerned for the relevant stock for 2016. Any quantities transferred

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to other Member States pursuant to Article 16(8) of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013 and any quantities deducted pursuant to Articles 37, 105 and 107 of Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009 shall be taken into account for the purpose of establishing quantities used and quantities not used under this paragraph.

Where a Member State has used the option provided for in paragraph 2 of this Article in respect of a particular stock, no other flexibility as regards a carry-over of unused fishing opportunities shall apply in respect of that stock.

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#### Article 6

### Conditions for landing catches and by-catches not subject to the landing obligation

Catches and by-catches of plaice shall be retained on board or landed only if they have been taken by Union fishing vessels flying the flag of a Member State having a quota and that quota is not exhausted.

#### Article 7

# Fishing effort limits

Fishing effort limits are set out in Annex II.

#### CHAPTER III

#### FLEXIBILITY IN THE FIXING OF FISHING OPPORTUNITIES OF CERTAIN STOCKS

#### Article 8

#### Amendments to Regulation (EU) No 43/2014

Regulation (EU) No 43/2014 is amended as follows:

- (1) Article 18a is amended as follows:
  - (a) in paragraph 1, the following subparagraphs are inserted:
    - '(m) herring in zones VIIa, VIIg, VIIh, VIIj and VIIk;
    - (n) horse mackerel in Union waters of IIa, IVa, VI, VIIa-c, VIIe-k, VIIIa, VIIIb, VIIId and VIIIe; in Union and international waters of Vb; in international waters of XII and XIV.';
  - (b) the following paragraph is inserted:
    - By way of derogation from paragraph 4, the percentage of 10 % shall be increased by an additional 15 % in respect of stocks referred to in paragraph 1(c), (d), (f), (g), (j), (k), (m) and (n).';
- (2) in Annex IA, the entry for sprat and associated by-catches in Union waters of IIa and IV shall be replaced by the following:

'Species:	Sprat and associated by-catches Sprattus sprattus	Zone:	Union waters of IIa and IV (SPR/2AC4-C)
Belgium	1 546 (²)	•	
Denmark	122 383 (²)		
Germany	1 546 (2)		
France	1 546 (2)		
The Netherlands	1 546 (2)		
Sweden	1 330 (1) (2)		
United Kingdom	5 103 (²)		
Union	135 000		
Norway	9 000		
TAC	144 000		Analytical TAC

<sup>(1)</sup> Including sandeel.

#### Article 9

# Amendments to Regulation (EU) No 1180/2013

Regulation (EU) No 1180/2013 is amended as follows:

(1) the following Article is inserted:

# 'Article 5a

#### Flexibility in the fixing of fishing opportunities of certain stocks

- 1. This Article shall apply to the following stocks:
- (a) herring in ICES subdivisions 30-31;
- (b) herring in Union waters of ICES subdivisions 25-27, 28.2, 29 and 32;
- (c) herring in ICES subdivision 28.1;
- (d) sprat in Union waters of ICES subdivisions 22-32.
- 2. Any quantities up to 25 % of a Member State's quota of the stocks identified in paragraph 1 that have not been used in 2014 shall be added for the purpose of calculating the quota of the Member State concerned for the relevant stock for 2015. Any quantities transferred to other Member States pursuant to Article 16(8) of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council (\*) as well as any quantities deducted pursuant to

<sup>(2)</sup> At least 98 % of landings counted against this quota shall be of sprat. By-catches of dab and whiting to be counted against the remaining 2 % of the quota (OTH/\*2AC4C).'

Articles 37, 105 and 107 of Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009 shall be taken into account for the purpose of establishing quantities used and quantities not used under this paragraph.

3. Article 4 of Regulation (EC) No 847/96 shall not apply to stocks identified in paragraph 1 of this Article in respect of the Member States concerned.

- (\*) Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2013 on the Common Fisheries Policy, amending Council Regulations (EC) No 1954/2003 and (EC) No 1224/2009 and repealing Council Regulations (EC) No 2371/2002 and (EC) No 639/2004 and Council Decision 2004/585/EC (OJ L 354, 28.12.2013, p. 22).';
- (2) in Annex I, the following footnote shall be included in respect of entries concerning the following stocks: herring in subdivisions 30-31; herring in Union waters of subdivisions 25-27, 28.2, 29 and 32; herring in subdivision 28.1; sprat in Union waters of subdivisions 22-32:

'Article 3 of Regulation (EC) No 847/96 shall not apply.

Article 4 of Regulation (EC) No 847/96 shall not apply.'.

#### CHAPTER IV

#### FINAL PROVISIONS

### Article 10

#### Data transmission

When, pursuant to Articles 33 and 34 of Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009, Member States send the Commission data relating to quantities of stocks caught or landed, they shall use the stock codes set out in Annex I to this Regulation.

#### Article 11

### **Flexibility**

- 1. Except where otherwise specified in Annex I to this Regulation, Article 3 of Regulation (EC) No 847/96 shall apply to stocks subject to precautionary TAC and Article 3(2) and (3) and Article 4 of that Regulation shall apply to stocks subject to analytical TAC.
- 2. Article 3(2) and (3) and Article 4 of Regulation (EC) No 847/96 shall not apply where a Member State uses the year-to-year flexibility provided for in Article 15(9) of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013.

# Article 12

# Entry into force

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

It shall apply from 1 January 2015.

However, Articles 8 and 9 shall apply with effect from 1 January 2014.

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

#### ANNEX I

# TACS APPLICABLE TO UNION FISHING VESSELS IN AREAS WHERE TACS EXIST BY SPECIES AND BY AREA

The following tables set out the TACs and quotas (in tonnes live weight, except where otherwise specified) by stock, and conditions functionally linked thereto.

The references to fishing zones are references to ICES zones, unless otherwise specified.

The fish stocks are referred to using the alphabetical order of the Latin names of the species.

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

	Scientific name		Alpha-3 code	Common name
Clupea hare	engus		HER	Herring
Gadus morl	hua		COD	Cod
Pleuronecte.	s platessa		PLE	Plaice
Salmo salar			SAL	Atlantic salmon
Sprattus spr	rattus		SPR	Sprat
Species:	Herring Clupea harengus		Zone:	Subdivisions 30-31 HER/3D30.; HER/3D31.
Finland		129 923	•	
Sweden		28 547		
Union		158 470		
TAC		158 470		Analytical TAC
Species:	Herring		Zone:	Subdivisions 22-24
	Clupea harengus			HER/3B23.; HER/3C22.; HER/3D24.
Denmark		3 115		
Germany		12 259		
Finland		2		
Poland		2 891		
Sweden		3 953		
Union		22 220		
TAC		22 220		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.

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Species:	Herring Clupea harengus	Zone:	Union waters of Subdivisions 25-27, 28.2, 29 and 32 HER/3D25.; HER/3D26.; HER/3D27.; HER/3D28.2; HER/3D29.; HER/3D32.
Denmark	3 596	•	
Germany	953		
Estonia	18 363		
Finland	35 845		
Latvia	4 532		
Lithuania	4 772		
Poland	40 723		
Sweden	54 667		
Union	163 451		
TAC	Not relevant		
TAC	Not relevant		Analytical TAC
Species:	Harring	Zone:	Subdivision 28.1
species:	Herring Clupea harengus	Zone:	HER/03D.RG
Estonia	17 908	-1	
Latvia	20 872		
Union	38 780		
TAC	38 780		
			Analytical TAC
Species	Cod Gadus morhua	Zone:	Union waters of Subdivisions 25-32 COD/3D25.; COD/3D26.; COD/3D27.; COD/3D28.; COD/3D29.; COD/3D30.; COD/3D31.; COD/3D32.
Denmark	11 814		
Germany	4 700		
Estonia	1 151		
Finland	904		
Latvia	4 393		
Lithuania	2 894		
Poland	13 603		
Sweden	11 969		
Union	51 429		
TAC	Not relevant		Precautionary 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.

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Species:	Cod Gadus morhua		Zone:	Subdivisions 22-24 COD/3B23.; COD/3C22.; COD/3D24.
Denmark		6 941	1	
Germany		3 393		
Estonia		154		
Finland		136		
Latvia		574		
Lithuania		372		
Poland		1 857		
Sweden		2 473		
Union		15 900		
TAC		15 900		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:	Plaice Pleuronectes platessa		Zone:	Union waters of Subdivisions 22-32 PLE/3B23.; PLE/3C22.; PLE/3D24.; PLE/3D25.; PLE 3D26.; PLE/3D27.; PLE/3D28.; PLE/3D29.; PLE 3D30.; PLE/3D31.; PLE/3D32.
 Denmark		2 443	1	
Germany		271		
Poland		511		
Sweden		184		
Union		3 409		
TAC		3 409		
				Precautionary TAC
Species:	Atlantic salmon Salmo salar		Zone:	Union waters of Subdivisions 22-31 SAL/3B23.; SAL/3C22.; SAL/3D24.; SAL/3D25.; SAL 3D26.; SAL/3D27.; SAL/3D28.; SAL/3D29.; SAL 3D30.; SAL/3D31.
Denmark		19 879 (¹)	•	
Germany		2 212 (1)		
Estonia		2 020 (1)		
Finland		24 787 (1)		
Latvia		12 644 (1)		
Lithuania		1 486 (1)		
Poland		6 030 (1)		
Sweden		26 870 (1)		
Union		95 928 (1)		
TAC		Not relevant		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.

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	Atlantic salmon Salmo salar	Zone:	Union waters of Subdivision 32 SAL/3D32.
Estonia	1 344 (1)	•	
Finland	11 762 (¹)		
Union	13 106 (¹)		
TAC	Not relevant		Precautionary TAC
(¹) Express	ed by number of individual fish.		
Species:	Sprat Sprattus sprattus	Zone:	Union waters of Subdivisions 22-32 SPR/3B23.; SPR/3C22.; SPR/3D24.; SPR/3D25.; SPR/3D26.; SPR/3D27.; SPR/3D28.; SPR/3D29.; SPR/3D30.; SPR/3D31.; SPR/3D32.
Denmark	21 068	•	
Germany	13 347		
Estonia	24 465		
Finland	11 029		
Latvia	29 548		
Lithuania	10 689		
Poland	62 706		
Sweden	40 729		
Union	213 581		
TAC	Not relevant		Analytical TAC

#### ANNEX II

#### FISHING EFFORT LIMITS

- 1. Member States shall allocate the right to fishing vessels flying their flag and fishing with trawls, Danish seines or similar gear of a mesh size equal to or larger than 90 mm, with gillnets, entangling nets or trammel nets of a mesh size equal to or larger than 90 mm, with bottom set lines, longlines except drifting lines, handlines and jigging equipment, to be up to:
  - (a) 147 days absent from port in ICES subdivisions 22-24, with the exception of the period from 1 to 30 April when Article 8(1)(a) of Regulation (EC) No 1098/2007 applies; and
  - (b) 146 days absent from port in ICES subdivisions 25-28, with the exception of the period from 1 July to 31 August when Article 8(1)(b) of Regulation (EC) No 1098/2007 applies.
- 2. The maximum number of days absent from port per year for which a fishing vessel may be present within the two areas referred to in point 1(a) and (b) fishing with the gear specified in point 1 may not exceed the maximum number of days absent from port allocated for one of those two areas.
- 3. By way of derogation from points 1 and 2, and where efficient management of fishing opportunities so requires, a Member State may allocate the right to additional days absent from port to fishing vessels flying its flag, where an equal amount of days absent from port is withdrawn from other fishing vessels flying its flag that are subject to effort restriction in the same area and where the capacity, in terms of kW, of each of the donor fishing vessels is equal to, or larger than, that of the receiving fishing vessels. The number of receiving fishing vessels may not exceed 15 % of the total number of fishing vessels of the Member State concerned, as indicated in point 1.