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Agriculture and Fisheries

Brussels, 15-16 December 2011

President **Mr Marek SAWICKI**
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Main results of the Council

*Concerning Fisheries, the ministers reached a political agreement on **2012 fishing opportunities for certain fish stocks for EU vessels in Union and certain non-Union waters and on fishing opportunities for certain fish stocks in the Black Sea.***

*Still in Fisheries, the Council had an exchange of views on the **European maritime and fisheries fund and the proposal on certain measures in relation to countries allowing non-sustainable fishing.** Ministers were also briefed on a proposal on **certain measures in relation to countries allowing non-sustainable fishing.***

*As regards Agriculture, proposals for decisions authorising the use of four **genetically modified varieties** in food, feed and for other uses were presented to the Council for adoption. No qualified majority was reached either for or against the authorisations.*

*In addition, ministers had an exchange of views on the CAP reform proposal for a regulation on **rural development.***

*Without discussion, the Council adopted conclusions on the **future of the promotion of agricultural promotion policy.***

*Finally, the Council was briefed on **the protection of animals during transport, on Codex Alimentarius negotiations, progress and prospects, on aid for processed citrus fruit and on decisions authorising the placing on the market of genetically modified organisms.***

*Over lunch, ministers discussed on **risk management toolkit and innovation** in the framework of the CAP reform (second pillar).*

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- Where declarations, conclusions or resolutions have been formally adopted by the Council, this is indicated in the heading for the item concerned and the text is placed between quotation marks.
- Documents for which references are given in the text are available on the Council's Internet site (<http://www.consilium.europa.eu>).
- Acts adopted with statements for the Council minutes which may be released to the public are indicated by an asterisk; these statements are available on the Council's Internet site or may be obtained from the Press Office.

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Mr Richard BENYON

Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Natural Environment and Fisheries

Commission:

Ms Maria DAMANAKI

Member

Mr John DALLI

Member

Mr Dacian CIOLOȘ

Member

.....

The Government of the Acceding State was represented as follows:

Croatia:

Mr Stjepan MIKOLČIĆ

Secretary of State, Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and
Rural Development

ITEMS DEBATED

Total allowable catches (TACs) and quotas for 2012

The Council reached a political agreement on fishing opportunities for 2012 for EU vessels in Union and certain non-Union waters on the basis of a Presidency compromise, drawn up in agreement with the Commission. This agreement concerns fish stocks which are not subject to international negotiations or agreements and stocks subject to international negotiations or agreements ([14751/11](#); [16650/11](#)).

The Council will adopt these regulations, following finalisation by the legal/linguistic experts, at one of its forthcoming meetings.

The following table sets out the indicative values of the principal TACs for 2012 compared with those for 2011 and the Commission proposal.

Fishing opportunities 2012 for EU vessels in Union waters

<i>Species Latin name</i>	Species English name	Espèces nom français	ICES fishing zone	COUNCIL TACs 2012	COUNCIL TACs 2011	COUNCIL comparison 2012/2011	COMMISSION Proposal for 2012	comparison Council TAC 2011 / Commis. Prop. 2012
						%		
ANNEX IB SKATTEGAT, ICES zones I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VII, VIII, IX, X, XII and XIV, EC waters of CECAF, French Guyana waters								
<i>Argentina silus</i>	Greater silver smelt	Grande argentine	I & II (EU and internat. waters) (ARU/1/2)	95	103	-8%	77	-25%
<i>Argentina silus</i>	Greater silver smelt	Grande argentine	III & IV (EU and internat. waters) (ARU/3/4)	1.082	1.176	-8%	882	-25%
<i>Argentina silus</i>	Greater silver smelt	Grande argentine	EU and internat. Waters of V, VI, VII (ARU/567)	4.316	4.691	-8%	3.518	-25%
<i>Brosme brosme</i>	Tusk	Brosmes	IIIa, EU waters of subdivisions 22-32 (USK/3A/BCD)	24	24	0%	20	-17%
<i>Caproidae</i>	Boarfish	Sangler	Union and international waters of VI, VII and VIII (BOR/678)	82.000	33.000	148%	28050	-15%
<i>Clupea harengus</i>	Herring	Hareng	VIaS, VIIb-c (HER/6AS7BC)	4.247	4.471	-5%	3.353	-25%
<i>Clupea harengus</i>	Herring	Hareng	VIa Clyde (HER/06ACL)	To be established			To be established	
<i>Clupea harengus</i>	Herring	Hareng	VIIa (HER/07A/MM)	4.752	5.280	-10%	3.960	-25%
<i>Clupea harengus</i>	Herring	Hareng	VIIe-f (HER/7EF)	980	980	0%	833	-15%
<i>Clupea harengus</i>	Herring	Hareng	VIIg, h, j, k (HER/7G-K)	21.100	13.200	60%	21.100	60%
<i>Engraulis encrasicolus</i>	Anchovy	Anchois	IX, X; EU waters of CECAF 34.1.1 (ANE/9/3411)	8.360	7.600	10%	6.460	-15%
<i>Gadus morhua</i>	Cod	Cabillaud	Kattegat (COD/03AS)	133	190	-30%	0	-100%
<i>Gadus morhua</i>	Cod	Cabillaud	VIb; EU & internat. waters of Vb west of of 12°00'W and of XII & XIV (COD/5W6-14)	78	78	0%	59	-24%

<i>Gadus morhua</i>	Cod	Cabillaud	VIa, EU & internat. waters of Vb east of 12°00'W (COD/5BE6A)	0	182	-100%	0	-100%
<i>Gadus morhua</i>	Cod	Cabillaud	VIIa (COD/07A)	380	506	-25%	0	-100%
<i>Gadus morhua</i>	Cod	Cabillaud	VIIb-c, VIIe-k, VIII, IX & X; EU waters of CECAF 34.1.1 (COD/7XAD34)	10.059	4.023	150%	9.679	141%
<i>Lamna nasus</i>	Porbeagle	Requin taupe commun	French Guyana waters, Kattegat; EU waters of Skagerrak, I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VII, VIII, IX, X, XII and XIV; EU waters of CECAF 34.1.1, 34.1.2 and 34.2 (POR/3-1234)	0	0		0	
<i>Lepidorhombus spp.</i>	Megrims	Cardines	EU waters of IIa & IV (LEZ/2AC4-C)	1.845	1.845	0%	1.568	-15%
<i>Lepidorhombus spp.</i>	Megrims	Cardines	VI, EU and internat. waters of Vb; intern. Waters of XII & XIV (LEZ/56-14)	3.387	3.387	0%	2.879	-15%
<i>Lepidorhombus spp.</i>	Megrims	Cardines	VII (LEZ/07)	13.725	18.300	-25%	13.725	-25%
<i>Lepidorhombus spp.</i>	Megrims	Cardines	VIIIa, VIIIb, VIIIc, VIIIe (LEZ/8ABDE)	1.716	1.806	-5%	1.355	-25%
<i>Lepidorhombus spp.</i>	Megrims	Cardines	VIIIc, IX & X; EU waters of CECAF 34.1.1 (LEZ/8C3411)	1.214	1.094	11%	1.182	8%
<i>Lophiidae</i>	Anglerfish	Baudroie	VI, EU & internat. waters of Vb, int. waters of XII & XIV (ANF/561214)	5.183	5.456	-5%	4.092	-25%
<i>Lophiidae</i>	Anglerfish	Baudroie	VII (ANF/07)	30.677	32.292	-5%	24.219	-25%
<i>Lophiidae</i>	Anglerfish	Baudroie	VIIIa,b,d,e (ANF/8ABDE)	8.220	8.653	-5%	6.490	-25%
<i>Lophiidae</i>	Anglerfish	Baudroie	VIIIc, IX, X, EU waters of CECAF 34.1.1 (ANF/8C3411)	3.300	1.571	110%	3.300	110%
<i>Melanogrammus aeglefinus</i>	Haddock	Eglefin	EU and internat. water of Vb, VIa (HAD/5BC6A)	6.015	2.005	200%	2.506	25%
<i>Melanogrammus aeglefinus</i>	Haddock	Eglefin	VIIb-k, VIII, IX, X; EU waters of CECAF 34.1.1 (HAD/7X7A34)	16.645	13.316	25%	9.987	-25%

<i>Melanogrammus aeglefinus</i>	Haddock	Eglefin	VIIa (HAD/07A)	1.251	1.317	-5%	988	-25%
<i>Merlangius merlangus</i>	Whiting	Merlan	VI, EU and internat. waters of Vb; internat. waters of XII and XIV (WHG/56-14)	307	323	-5%	242	-25%
<i>Merlangius merlangus</i>	Whiting	Merlan	VIIa (WHG/07A)	89	118	-25%	89	-25%
<i>Merlangius merlangus</i>	Whiting	Merlan	VIIb-h, and VIIj-k (WHG/7X7A-C)	19.053	16.568	15%	14.083	-15%
<i>Merlangius merlangus</i>	Whiting	Merlan	VIII (WHG/08)	3.175	3.175	0%	2.699	-15%
<i>Merlangius merlangus</i>	Whiting	Merlan	IX, X. EU waters of CECAF 34.1.1 (WHG/9/3411)	To be established	To be established		To be established	
<i>Merluccius merluccius</i>	Hake	Merlu	IIIa; EU waters of subdivisions 22-32 (HKE/3A/BCD)	1.561	1.661	-6%	1.482	-11%
<i>Merluccius merluccius</i>	Hake	Merlu	EU waters of IIa and IV (HKE/2AC4-C)	1.819	1.935	-6%	1.726	-11%
<i>Merluccius merluccius</i>	Hake	Merlu	VI, VII; EU and internat. waters of Vb; internat. waters of XII, XIV (HKE/571214)	30.900¹	30.900	0%	27.575	-11%
<i>Merluccius merluccius</i>	Hake	Merlu	VIIIa-b, VIII d-e (HKE/8ABDE)	19.373	20.609	-6%	18.391	-11%
<i>Merluccius merluccius</i>	Hake	Merlu	VIIIc, IX, X, EU waters of CECAF 34.1.1 (HKE/8C3411)	12.299	10.695	15%	12.299	15%
<i>Molva dypterigia</i>	Blue ling	Lingue bleue	International waters of XII (BLI/12INT)	815	815	0%	611	-25%
<i>Molva molva</i>	Ling	Lingue	IIIa, EU waters of IIIb-d (LIN/3A/BCD)	92	92	0%	78	-15%
<i>Nephrops norvegicus</i>	Norway lobster	Langoustine	EU waters of IIa and IV (NEP/2AC4-C)	21.929	23.453	-6%	20.849	-11%

¹ TAC for Northern Hake: 55.000 t (roll-over).

<i>Nephrops norvegicus</i>	Norway lobster	Langoustine	VI, EU and internat. waters of Vb (NEP/5BC6)	14.091	13.681	3%	13.950	2%
<i>Nephrops norvegicus</i>	Norway lobster	Langoustine	VII (NEP/07)	21.759	21.759	0%	17.551	-19%
<i>Nephrops norvegicus</i>	Norway lobster	Langoustine	VIII a, b, d, e (NEP/8ABDE)	3.899	3.899	0%	3.314	-15%
<i>Nephrops norvegicus</i>	Norway lobster	Langoustine	VIIIc (NEP/08C)	82	91	-10%	82	-10%
<i>Nephrops norvegicus</i>	Norway lobster	Langoustine	IX, X, EU waters of CECAF 34.1.1 (NEP/9/3411)	273	303	-10%	273	-10%
<i>Penaeus spp.</i>	'Penaeus' shrimps	Crevette royale	French Guyana (PEN/FGU)	To be established	To be established		To be established	
<i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>	Plaice	Plie	VI; EU and internat. waters of Vb, internat. waters of XII and XIV (PLE/56-14)	693	693	0%	589	-15%
<i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>	Plaice	Plie	VIIa (PLE/07A)	1.627	1.627	0%	1.220	-25%
<i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>	Plaice	Plie	VII b, c (PLE/07BC)	78	78	0%	66	-15%
<i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>	Plaice	Plie	VII d, e (PLE/07DE)	5062	4665	9%	4179	-10%
<i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>	Plaice	Plie	VII f, g (PLE/7FG)	369	410	-10%	308	-25%
<i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>	Plaice	Plie	VII h, j, k (PLE/7HJK)	176	185	-5%	139	-25%
<i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>	Plaice	Plie	VIII, IX, X, EU waters of CECAF 34.1.1 (PLE/8/3411)	395	395	0%	336	-15%
<i>Pollachius pollachius</i>	Pollack	Lieu jaune	VI, EU and internat. waters of Vb, internat. waters of XII, XIV (POL/56-14)	397	397	0%	298	-25%
<i>Pollachius pollachius</i>	Pollack	Lieu jaune	VII (POL/07)	13.495	13.495	0%	10.121	-25%
<i>Pollachius pollachius</i>	Pollack	Lieu jaune	VIII a, b, d, e (POL/8ABDE)	1.482	1.482	0%	1.260	-15%

<i>Pollachius pollachius</i>	Pollack	Lieu jaune	VIIIc (POL/08C)	231	231	0%	196	-15%
<i>Pollachius pollachius</i>	Pollack	Lieu jaune	IX, X, EU waters of CECAF 34.1.1 (POL/9/3411)	282	282	0%	240	-15%
<i>Pollachius virens</i>	Saithe	Lieu noir	VII, VIII, IX, X, EU waters of CECAF 34.1.1 (POK/7/3411)	3.343	3.343	0%	2.842	-15%
<i>Rajidae</i>	Skates and rays	Requins et Raies	EU waters of IIa and IV (SRX/2AC4-C)	1.186	1.397	-15%	1.186	-15%
<i>Rajidae</i>	Skates and rays	Requins et Raies	EU waters of IIIa (SRX/03A-C)	58	58	0%	49	-16%
<i>Rajidae</i>	Skates and rays	Requins et Raies	EU waters of VIa-b, VIIa-c and VIIe-k (SRX/67AKXD)	9.915	11.379	-13%	8.548	-25%
<i>Rajidae</i>	Skates and rays	Requins et Raies	EU waters of VIId (SRX/07D)	887	887	0%	754	-15%
<i>Rajidae</i>	Skates and rays	Requins et Raies	EU waters of VIII et IX (SRX/89-C)	4.222	4.640	-9%	3.480	-25%
<i>Solea solea</i>	Common sole	Sole commune	IIIa; EU waters of Subdivisions 22-32 (SOL/3A/BCD)	610	840	-27%	520	-38%
<i>Solea solea</i>	Common sole	Sole commune	VI; EU and internat. waters of Vb; internat. waters of XII, XIV (SOL/56-14)	60	60	0%	51	-15%
<i>Solea solea</i>	Common sole	Sole commune	VIIa (SOL/07A)	300	390	-23%	220	-44%
<i>Solea solea</i>	Common sole	Sole commune	VIIb-c (SOL/7BC)	44	44	0%	37	-16%
<i>Solea solea</i>	Common sole	Sole commune	VIIId (SOL/07D)	5.580	4.852	15%	5.300	9%
<i>Solea solea</i>	Common sole	Sole commune	VIIe (SOL/07E)	777	710	9%	777	9%
<i>Solea solea</i>	Common sole	Sole commune	VIIIf, g (SOL/7FG)	1060	1.241	-15%	1060	-15%
<i>Solea solea</i>	Common sole	Sole commune	VIIIh, j, k (SOL/7HJK)	423	423	0%	360	-15%
<i>Solea solea</i>	Common sole	Sole commune	VIIIa, b (SOL/8AB)	4.250	4.250	0%	3.755	-12%
<i>Solea spp.</i>	Sole	Sole	VIIIc, d, e, IX, X. EU waters of CECAF 34.1.1 (SOX/8CDE34)	1.072	1.072	0%	911	-15%
<i>Sprattus sprattus</i>	Sprat	Sprat	VIIId-e (SPR/7DE)	5.150	5.421	-5%	4.066	-25%
<i>Squalus acanthias</i>	Spurdog/ dogfish	Aiguillat/ chien de mer	EU waters of IIIa (DGS/03A-C)	0	0	Not relevant	0	Not relevant
<i>Squalus acanthias</i>	Spurdog / dogfish	Aiguillat/ chien de mer	EU waters of IIa & IV (DGS/2AC4-C)	0	0	Not relevant	0	Not relevant

<i>Squalus acanthias</i>	Spurdog dogfish	Aiguillat chien de mer	EU and internat. waters of I, V, VI, VII, VIII, XII & XIV (DGS/15X14)	0	0	Not relevant	0	Not relevant
<i>Trachurus spp.</i>	Horse mackerel	Chinchard	VIIIc (JAX/08C)	25.011	25.137	-1%	25.011	-1%
<i>Trachurus spp.</i>	Horse mackerel	Chinchard	IX (JAX/09)	30.800	29.585	4%	30.800	4%
<i>Trachurus spp.</i>	Horse mackerel	Chinchard	X: EU waters of CECAF - Azores (JAX/X34PRT)	To be established	To be established		To be established	
<i>Trachurus spp.</i>	Horse mackerel	Chinchard	EU waters of CECAF Madeira Islands (JAX/341PRT)	To be established	To be established		To be established	
<i>Trachurus spp.</i>	Horse mackerel	Chinchard	EU waters of CECAF - Canary Islands (JAX/341SPN)	To be established	To be established		To be established	

Fishing opportunities 2012 for EU vessels in certain non-Union waters

<i>Species Latin name</i>	Species English name	Espèces nom français	ICES fishing zone	COUNCIL TACs 2012	COUNCIL TACs 2011	COUNCIL comparison 2012/2011	COMMISSION Proposal for 2012	comparison Council TAC 2011 / Commis. Prop. 2012
						%		
ANNEX IB SKATTEGAT, ICES zones I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VII, VIII, IX, X, XII and XIV, EC waters of CECAF, French Guyana waters								
<i>Ammodytidae</i>	Sandeel	Lançon	Norwegian waters of IV (SAN/04-N)	Not relevant	0	Not relevant	0	Not relevant
<i>Ammodytidae</i>	Sandeel	Lançon	EU waters of IIa, IIIa and IV (SAN/2A3A4)	180000	354420	-49%	180000	-49%
<i>Brosme brosme</i>	Tusk	Brosmes	EU and internat. waters of I, II & XIV (USK/1214EI)	21	21	0%	18	-14%
<i>Brosme brosme</i>	Tusk	Brosmes	EU waters of IV (USK/04-C)	196	196	0%	167	-15%
<i>Brosme brosme</i>	Tusk	Brosmes	EU and internat. waters of V, VI, and VII (USK/567EI)	294	294	0%	294	0%
<i>Brosme brosme</i>	Tusk	Brosmes	Norwegian waters of IV (USK/04-N)	170	170	0%	170	0%
<i>Clupea harengus</i>	Herring	Hareng	IIIa (HER/03A)	38.998	25.999	50%	38.998	50%
<i>Clupea harengus</i>	Herring	Hareng	EU and Norwegian waters of IV north of 53°30' N (HER/4AB)	243.000	115.464	110%	241.565	109%
<i>Clupea harengus</i>	Herring	Hareng	Norwegian waters south of 62° N (HER/04-N)	922	846	9%	922	9%
<i>Clupea harengus</i>	Herring	Hareng	by-catches in IIIa (HER/03A-BC)	6.659	6.659	0%	6.659	0%
<i>Clupea harengus</i>	Herring	Hareng	by-catches in IV, VIIId and in EU waters of IIa	17.900	16.539	8%	17.900	8%

			(HER/2A47DX)					
<i>Clupea harengus</i>	Herring	Hareng	IVc, VIIId (HER/4CXB7D)	44.550	26.536	68%	31.631	19%
<i>Clupea harengus</i>	Herring	Hareng	EU and internat. waters of Vb and VIb and VIaN (HER/5B6ANB)	22.290	22.481	-1%	22.290	-1%
<i>Gadus morhua</i>	Cod	Cabillaud	Skagerrak (COD/03AN.)	3.660	3.711	-1%	3.660	-1%
<i>Gadus morhua</i>	Cod	Cabillaud	IV, EU waters of IIa, the part of IIIa not covered by the Skagerrak and Kattegat (COD/2A3AX4)	21.974	22.279	-1%	21.974	-1%
<i>Gadus morhua</i>	Cod	Cabillaud	Norwegian waters south of 62° N (COD/04-N)	382	382	0%	382	0%
<i>Gadus morhua</i>	Cod	Cabillaud	VIIId (COD/07D)	1.543	1.564	-1%	1.543	-1%
<i>Limanda limanda and Platichthys flesus</i>	Dabe and Flounder	Dabé et Flet	EU waters of IIa and IV (D/F/2AC4-C)	18.434	18.434	0%	15.669	-15%
<i>Lophiidae</i>	Anglerfish	Baudroie	EU waters of IIa and IV (ANF/2AC4-C)	9.161	9.643	-5%	7.232	-25%
<i>Lophiidae</i>	Anglerfish	Baudroie	Norwegian waters of IV (ANF/04-N)	1.500	1.500	0%	1.500	0%
<i>Melanogrammus aeglefinus</i>	Haddock	Eglefin	IIIa, EU waters of 22-32 (HAD/3A/BCD)	2.308	2.007	15%	2.308	15%
<i>Melanogrammus aeglefinus</i>	Haddock	Eglefin	IV, EU waters of IIa (HAD/2AC4)	30.158	26.432	14%	30.158	14%
<i>Melanogrammus aeglefinus</i>	Haddock	Eglefin	Norwegian waters south of 62° N (HAD/04-N)	707	707	pm	707	0%
<i>Melanogrammus aeglefinus</i>	Haddock	Eglefin	VIb; XII and XIV (EU and internat. waters) (HAD/6B1214)	3.300	3.748	-12%	3.300	-12%
<i>Merlangius merlangus</i>	Whiting	Merlan	IIIa (WHG/03A)	1031	1.031	0%	1031	0%
<i>Merlangius merlangus</i>	Whiting	Merlan	IV; EU waters of IIa (WHG/2AC4)	15.750	13.349	18%	15.750	18%

<i>Merlangius merlangus and Pollachius pollachius</i>	Whiting and Pollack	Merlan et Lieu jaune	Norwegian waters south of 62° N (W/P/04-N)	190	190	0%	190	0%
<i>Micromesistius poutassou</i>	Blue whiting	Merlan bleu	Norwegian waters of II and IV (WHB/4AB-N)	0	0	Not relevant	0	Not relevant
<i>Micromesistius poutassou</i>	Blue whiting	Merlan bleu	EU and international waters of I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VII, VIIa,b,d,e, XII and XIV (WHB/1X14)	63.421	10.042	532%	63.421	532%
<i>Micromesistius poutassou</i>	Blue whiting	Merlan bleu	VIIIc, IX and X; EU waters of CECAF 34.1.1 (WHB/8C3411)	10.043	1.030	875%	10.043	875%
<i>Micromesistius poutassou</i>	Blue whiting	Merlan bleu	EU waters of II, IVa, V, VI north of 56°30N and VII west of 12°W (WHB/24A567)	Not relevant	Not relevant	Not relevant	Not relevant	
<i>Microstomus kitt & Glyptocephalus cynoglossus</i>	Lemon sole and Witch	Limande sole et plie grise	EU waters of IIa and IV (L/W/2AC4-C)	6.391	6.391	0%	5.432	-15%
<i>Molva dypterigia</i>	Blue ling	Lingue bleue	EU waters and internat. waters of Vb, VI, VII, XIIIb (BLI/5BX12B)	1.882	1717	10%	1374	-20%
<i>Molva molva</i>	Ling	Lingue	EU and internat, waters of I, II (LIN/1/2)	36	36	0%	31	-14%
<i>Molva molva</i>	Ling	Lingue	EU waters of IV (LIN/04)	2.428	2.428	0%	2.064	-15%
<i>Molva molva</i>	Ling	Lingue	EC and internat. waters of V (LIN/05)	33	33	0%	28	-15%
<i>Molva molva</i>	Ling	Lingue	EU waters and internat. waters of VI, VII, VIII, IX, X, XII, XIV (LIN/6X14)	7.824	8.024	-2,5%	5.899	-26%
<i>Molva molva</i>	Ling	Lingue	Norwegian waters of IV (LIN/04-N)	850	850	0%	850	0%
<i>Nephrops norvegicus</i>	Norway lobster	Langoustine	IIIa; EU waters of IIIb-c and Subdivisions 22-32 (NEP/3A/BCD)	6.000	5.170	16%	6.000	16%

<i>Nephrops norvegicus</i>	Norway lobster	Langoustine	Norwegian waters of IV (NEP/4AB-N)	1.200	1.200	0%	1.200	0%
<i>Pandalus borealis</i>	Northern prawn	Crevette nordique	IIIa (PRA/03A)	3.780	4.448	-15%	3.780	-15%
<i>Pandalus borealis</i>	Northern prawn	Crevette nordique	EU waters of IIa and IV (PRA/2AC4-C)	3.058	3.598	-15%	3.058	-15%
<i>Pandalus borealis</i>	Northern prawn	Crevette nordique	Norwegian waters south of 62°00' N (PRA/04-N)	480	480	0%	480	0%
<i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>	Plaice	Plie	Skagerrak (PLE/03AN)	7.791	7.791	0%	7.791	0%
<i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>	Plaice	Plie	Kattegat (PLE/03AS)	1.988	1.988	0%	1.988	0%
<i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>	Plaice	Plie	IV; EU waters of IIa; that part of IIIa not covered by the Skagerrak and Kattegat (PLE/2A3AX4)	79.201	68.862	15%	79.201	15%
<i>Pollachius virens</i>	Saithe	Lieu noir	IIIa and IV; EU waters of IIa,b,c,d (POK/2A34)	37.774	43.842	-14%	37.774	-14%
<i>Pollachius virens</i>	Saithe	Lieu noir	VI; EU and internat. waters of Vb, XII and XIV (POK/561214)	7.830	9.682	-19%	7.830	-19%
<i>Pollachius virens</i>	Saithe	Lieu noir	Norwegian waters south of 62° N (POK/04-N)	880	880	0%	880	0%
<i>Psetta maxima & Scophthalmus rhombus</i>	Turbot and brill	Turbot et barbue	EU waters of IIa and IV (T/B/2AC4-C)	4.642	4.642	0%	3.946	-15%
<i>Reinhardtius hippoglossoides</i>	Greenland halibut	Flétan du Groenland	EU waters of IIa and IV; EU and internat. waters Vb and VI (GHL/2A-C46)	169	169	0%	169	0%
<i>Scomber scombrus</i>	Mackerel	Maquereau	IIIa and IV; EU waters of IIa, IIIb-c and Subdivisions 22-32 (MAC/2A34)	19.855	20.002	-1%	19.855	-1%
<i>Scomber scombrus</i>	Mackerel	Maquereau	VI, VII, VIII a-b, VIII d-e; EU and internat. waters of Vb; Internat. waters of Iia, XII, XIV (MAC/2CX14)	259.129	325.245	-20%	259.129	-20%

<i>Scomber scombrus</i>	Mackerel	Maquereau	VIIIc, IX, X; EU waters of CECAF 34.1.1 (MAC/8C3411)	29.651	37.139	-20%	29.651	-20%
<i>Scomber scombrus</i>	Mackerel	Maquereau	Norwegian waters of Iia and IVa (MAC/xxxx)	10.176	13.018	-22%	10.176	-22%
<i>Solea solea</i>	Common sole	Sole commune	EU waters of II and IV (SOL/24)	16.150	14.050	15%	15.650	11%
<i>Sprattus sprattus</i>	Sprat	Sprat	IIIa (SPR/03A)	48.100	48.100	0%	48.100	0%
<i>Sprattus sprattus</i>	Sprat	Sprat	EU waters of IIa and IV (SPR/2AC4-C)	117.500	160.000	-27%	132.924	-17%
<i>Trachurus spp.</i>	Horse mackerel	Chinchard	EU waters of IVb, IVc, VIIId (JAX/47D)	31.329	42.955	-27%	31.329	-27%
<i>Trachurus spp.</i>	Horse mackerel	Chinchard	EU waters of IIa, IVa, VI, VIIa-c, VIIe-k, VIIIa,b,d,e; Vb; EU and internat. waters of Vb; internat. Waters of XII & XIV (JAX/2A-14)	157.989	158.787	-1%	157.989	-1%
<i>Trachurus spp.</i>	Horse mackerel	Chinchard	X: EU waters of CECAF - Azores (JAX/X34PRT)	To be established	3.072		To be established	
<i>Trachurus spp.</i>	Horse mackerel	Chinchard	EU waters of CECAF Madeira Islands (JAX/341PRT)	To be established	1.229		To be established	
<i>Trachurus spp.</i>	Horse mackerel	Chinchard	EU waters of CECAF - Canary Islands (JAX/341SPN)	To be established	1.229		To be established	
<i>Trisopterus esmarki</i>	Norway pout	Tacaud norvégien	IIIa; EU waters of IIa, IV (EC waters) (NOP/2A3A4)	0	0		0	
<i>Trisopterus esmarki</i>	Norway pout	Tacaud norvégien	Norwegian water of IV (NOP/4AB-N)	0	0		0	
		Industrial fish	Norwegian waters of IV (I/F/4AB-N)	800	800	0%	800	na
		Combined quota	EU waters of Vb; VI and VII (R/G/5B67-C)	Not relevant	Not relevant		Not relevant	
		Other species	Norwegian waters IV (OTH/4AB-N)	5.000	5.000		5.000	

		Other species	EU waters of IIa, IV and VIa north of 56°30N (OTH/2A46AN)	Not relevant	Not relevant		Not relevant	
ANNEX IB NORTH EAST ATLANTIC AND GREENLAND AND ICES zones I, II, V, XII, XIV and Greenland waters of NAFO 0 and 1								
<i>Chionoecetes spp.</i>	Crabe	Snow crab	Greenland waters of NAFO 0 and 1 (PCR/N01GRN)	500	499	0%	500	0%
<i>Clupea harengus</i>	Herring	Hareng	EU and Internat. waters of I and II (HER/1/2)	54.228	64.319	-16%	54.228	-16%
<i>Gadus morhua</i>	Cod	Cabillaud	Norwegian waters of I and II (COD/1N2AB)	16.309	14.127	15%	16.309	15%
<i>Gadus morhua</i>	Cod	Cabillaud	Greenland waters of NAFO 0 and 1, Greenland waters of V and XIV (COD/NO1514)	2.500	2.500	0%	2.500	0%
<i>Gadus morhua</i>	Cod	Cabillaud	Internat. waters of I and IIb (COD/1/2B)	27.785	25.575	9%	27.785	9%
<i>Gadus morhua and Melanogrammus aeglefinus</i>	Cod and haddock	Cabillaud et églefin	Faroese waters of Vb (C/H/05B-F)	0	0		0	
<i>Hippoglossus hippoglossus</i>	Atlantic halibut	Flétan	Greenland waters of V, XIV (HAL/514GRN)	1.075	1.075	0%	1.200	12%
<i>Hippoglossus hippoglossus</i>	Atlantic halibut	Flétan	Greenland waters of NAFO 0 and 1 (HAL/N01GRN)	200	75	167%	200	167%
<i>Mallotus villosus</i>	Capelin	Capelan	IIb (CAP/02B)	0	0		0	
<i>Mallotus villosus</i>	Capelin	Capelan	Greenland waters of V, XIV (CAP/514GRN)	56364	56364	0%	15400	
<i>Melanogrammus aeglefinus</i>	Haddock	Eglefin	Norwegian waters of I, II (HAD/1N2AB)	1.350	1.350	0%	1.350	0%
<i>Micromesistius poutassou</i>	Blue whiting	Merlan bleu	Faroese waters (WHB/2A4AXF)	0	0		0	
<i>Molva molva and Molva dyptergia</i>	Ling and Blue ling	Lingue et lingue bleue	Faroese waters of Vb (B/L/05B-F)	0	0		0	
<i>Pandalus borealis</i>	Northern prawn	Crevette nordique	Greenland waters of V and XIV (PRA/514GRN)	8.000	7.000	14%	8.000	14%

<i>Pandalus borealis</i>	Northern prawn	Crevette nordique	Greenland waters of NAFO 0 and 1 (PRA/N01GRN)	4.000	4.000	0%	4.000	0%
<i>Pollachius virens</i>	Saithe	Lieu noir	Norwegian waters I, II (POK/1N2AB)	2.550	2.550	0%	2.550	0%
<i>Pollachius virens</i>	Saithe	Lieu noir	International waters of I and II (POK/1/2INT)	0	0		0	
<i>Pollachius virens</i>	Saithe	Lieu noir	Faroese waters of Vb (POK/05B-F)	0	0		0	
<i>Reinhardtius hippoglossoides</i>	Greenland halibut	Flétan du Groenland	Norwegian waters of I and II (GHL/1N2AB)	50	50	0%	50	0%
<i>Reinhardtius hippoglossoides</i>	Greenland halibut	Flétan du Groenland	International waters of I and II (GHL/12/INT)	0	0		0	
<i>Reinhardtius hippoglossoides</i>	Greenland halibut	Flétan du Groenland	Greenland waters of V and XIV (GHL/514GRN)	6.320	7.000	-10%	6.320	-10%
<i>Reinhardtius hippoglossoides</i>	Greenland halibut	Flétan du Groenland	Greenland waters of NAFO 0 and 1 (GHL/N01GRN)	2.650	2.650	0%	2.650	0%
<i>Sebastes spp.</i>	Redfish (shallow pelagic)	Sébaste	EU and internat. waters of V; internat. waters of XII and XIV (RED/51214S)	0	0			
<i>Sebastes spp.</i>	Redfish (deep pelagic)	Sébaste	EU and internat. waters of V; internat. waters of XII and XIV (RED/51214D)	4944	5831	-15%	4944	-15%
<i>Sebastes spp.</i>	Redfish	Sébaste	Norwegian waters of I and II (RED/1N2AB)	1.500	1.500	0%	1.500	0%
<i>Sebastes spp.</i>	Redfish	Sébaste	Internat. Waters of I and II (RED/1/2INT)	Not relevant	Not relevant		Not relevant	
<i>Sebastes spp.</i>	Redfish (pelagic)	Sébaste	Greenland waters of V, XIV (RED/514GRN)	6000	5227	15%	6000	15%
<i>Sebastes spp.</i>	Redfish	Sébaste	Icelandic waters of Va (RED/05A-IS)	0	0		0	
<i>Sebastes spp.</i>	Redfish	Sébaste	Faroese waters of Vb (RED/05B-F)	0	0		0	
	By-catches		Greenland waters of NAFO 0, 1 (XBC/N01GRN)	2.300	2.300	0%	2.300	0%
	Other species		Norwegian waters of I, II (OTH/1N2AB)	350	350	0%	350	0%

	Other species		Faroese waters of Vb (OTH/05B-F)	0	0		0	
	Flatfish		Faroese waters of Vb (FLX/05B-F)	0	0		0	
ANNEX IC NORTH WEST ATLANTIC Area of NAFO								
<i>Gadus morhua</i>	Cod	Cabillaud	NAFO 2J3KL	0	0	0%	0	0%
<i>Gadus morhua</i>	Cod	Cabillaud	NAFO 3NO	0	0	0%	0	0%
<i>Gadus morhua</i>	Cod	Cabillaud	NAFO 3M (COD/N3M)	5292	5703	-7%	5292	-7%
<i>Glyptocephalus cynoglossus</i>	Witch flounder	Plie grise	NAFO 2J3KL	0	0	0%	0	0%
<i>Glyptocephalus cynoglossus</i>	Witch flounder	Plie grise	NAFO 3NO	0	0	0%	0	0%
<i>Hippoglossoides platessoides</i>	American Plaice	Faux Flétan	NAFO 3M	0	0	0%	0	0%
<i>Hippoglossoides platessoides</i>	American Plaice	Faux Flétan	NAFO 3LNO	0	0	0%	0	0%
<i>Illex illecebrosus</i>	Short fin squid	Calmar à nageoires courtes	NAFO sub-zones 3 and 4 (SQI/N34)	Not relevant	Not relevant		Not relevant	
<i>Limanda ferruginea</i>	Yellowtail flounder	Limande à queue jaune	NAFO 3LNO (YEL/N3LNO)	0	0	0%	0	0%
<i>Mallotus villosus</i>	Capelin	Capelan	NAFO 3NO	0	0	0%	0	0%
<i>Pandalus borealis</i>	Northern prawn	Crevette nordique	NAFO 3L (PRA/N3L)	670	1069	-37%	670	-37%
<i>Pandalus borealis</i>	Northern prawn	Crevette nordique	NAFO 3M (PRA/N3M)	Not relevant	Not relevant		Not relevant	
<i>Reinhardtius hippoglossoides</i>	Greenland halibut	Flétan du Groenland	NAFO 3LMNO (GHL/N3LMNO)	7.093	7.466	-5%	7.093	-5%
<i>Rajidae</i>	Skate	Raie cendrée	NAFO 3LNO (SRX/N3LNO)	5.352	7.556	-29%	5.352	-29%
<i>Sebastes spp.</i>	Redfish	Sébaste	NAFO 3LN (RED/L3LN)	1094	1094	0%	1094	0%
<i>Sebastes spp.</i>	Redfish	Sébaste	NAFO 3M (RED/N3M)	7.813	7.813	0%	7.813	0%
<i>Sebastes spp.</i>	Redfish	Sébaste	NAFO 3O (RED/N3O)	7.000	7.000	0%	7.000	0%
<i>Sebastes spp.</i>	Redfish	Sébaste	NAFO Subarea 2, divisions 1F and 3K	0	0		0	
<i>Urophycis tenuis</i>	White hake	Merluche blanche	NAFO 3NO (HKW/N3NO)	2.941	3.529	-17%	2.941	-17%

ANNEX ID HIGHLY MIGRATORY FISH - All AREAS								
<i>Thunnus thynnus</i>	Bluefin tuna	Thon rouge	Atlantic Ocean, east of longitude 45°W and Mediterranean (BFT/AE045W)	5.756	5.756	0%	5.756	0%
<i>Xiphias gladius</i>	Swordfish	Espadon	Atlantic Ocean (north of latitude 5° N)	8.997	8.636	4%	8.997	4%
<i>Xiphias gladius</i>	Swordfish	Espadon	Atlantic Ocean (south of latitude 5° N)	5.379	5.318	1%	5.379	1%
<i>Thunnus alalunga</i>	Northern Albacore	Thon blanc	Atlantic Ocean (north of latitude 5° N)	26.939	27.917	-4%	26.939	-4%
<i>Thunnus alalunga</i>	Southern Albacore	Thon blanc	Atlantic Ocean (south of latitude 5° N)	1.540	1.915	-20%	1.540	-20%
<i>Thunnus obesus</i>	Bigeye tuna	Thon obèse	Atlantic Ocean	29.867	29.867	0%	29.867	0%
<i>Makaira nigricans</i>	Blue marlin	Makaïre bleu	Atlantic Ocean	73	103	-29%	73	-29%
<i>Tetrapturus alba</i>	White marlin	Makaïre blanc	Atlantic Ocean	56	47	19%	56	19%
ANNEX IE ANTARCTIC Area of CCAMLR								
<i>Champocephalus gunnari</i>	Antarctic icefish	Poisson des glaces antarctique	FAO 48.3 Anatarctic (ANI/F483)	3072	2305	33%	3072	33%
<i>Champocephalus gunnari</i>	Antarctic icefish	Poisson des glaces antarctique	FAO 58.5.2 Antarctic (ANI/F5852)	0	78	-100%	0	-100%
<i>Dissostichus eleginoides</i>	Patagonian toothfish	Légines	FAO 48.3 Antarctic (TOP/F483)	2600	3000	-13%	2600	-13%
<i>Dissostichus eleginoides</i>	Patagonian toothfish	Légines	FAO 48.4 Antarctic north (TOP/F484N)	48	40	20%	40	0%
<i>Dissostichus eleginoides</i>	Toothfish	Légines	FAO 48.4 Antarctic south (TOP/F484)	33	30	10%	30	0%
<i>Dissostichus spp.</i>	Patagonian toothfish	Légines	FAO 58.5.2 Antarctic TOP/F5852	2730	2550	7%	2730	7%
<i>Euphausia superba</i>	Krill	Krill	FAO 48 KRI/F48	5.610.000	5610000	0%	5.610.000	0%
<i>Euphausia superba</i>	Krill	Krill	FAO 58.4.1 Antarctic KRI/F5841	440 000	440 000	0%	440 000	0%
<i>Euphausia superba</i>	Krill	Krill	FAO 58.4.2 Antarctic	2 645 000	2 645 000	0%	2 645 000	0%

			KRI/F5842					
<i>Lepidonotothen squamifrons</i>	Grey rockcod	Colin austral	FAO 58.5.2 Antarctic NOS/F5852	80	80	0%	80	0%
<i>Paralomis spp.</i>	Crab	Crabe	FAO 48.3 Antarctic PAI/F483	0	1600	-100%	0	-100%
<i>Macrourus spp.</i>	Grenadier	Grenadier	FAO 58.5.2 Antarctic GRV/F5852	360	360	0%	360	0%
	Other species	Autres espèces	FAO 58.5.2 Antarctic OTH/F5852	50	50	0%	50	0%
<i>Rajidae</i>	Skates and rays	Requins et raies	FAO 58.5.2 Antarctic SRX/F5852	120	120	0%	120	0%
<i>Channichtyx rhinoceratus</i>	Unicorn icefish		FAO 58.5.2 Antarctic LIC/F5852	150	150	0%	150	0%
ANNEX IF SOUTH-EAST ATLANTIC OCEAN Area of SEAFO								
<i>Beryx spp.</i>	Alfonsinos	Béryx	SEAFO	200	200	0%	200	0%
<i>Chaceon spp.</i>	Deep-sea Red crab	Gérion ouest-africain	SEAFO Sub Division B1	200	200	0%	200	0%
<i>Chaceon spp.</i>	Deep-sea Red crab	Gérion ouest-africain	SEAFO excluding Sub division B1	200	200	0%	200	0%
<i>Dissostichus eleginoides</i>	Patagonian Toothfish	Légine australe	SEAFO	230	230	0%	230	0%
<i>Hoplostethus atlanticus</i>	Orange roughy	Hoplosthète orange	SEAFO Sub Division B1 (ORY/F47NAM)	0	0		0	
<i>Hoplostethus atlanticus</i>	Orange roughy	Hoplosthète orange	SEAFO, excluding Sub Division B1 (ORY/F47X)	50	50		50	

ANNEX IG SOUTHERN BLUEFIN TUNA - All Areas								
<i>Thunnus maccoyii</i>	Southern bluefin tuna	Thon rouge	By-catches in all areas (SBF/F41-81)	10	10	0%	10	0%
ANNEX IH WCFPC Area								
<i>Xiphias gladius</i>	Swordfish	Espadon	WCPFC area south of 20° S	3.170	3.170		3170	
ANNEX IJ SPFO Area								
Trachurus murphyi	Jack mackerel	Chinchard du Chili	SPFO (CJM)	To be established	40.649		To be established	

As regards data poor stocks, the Council and the Commission agreed that lack of reliable data impairs analytical advice for fish stocks. Member States should improve data availability to the relevant scientific bodies and to ensure that such data are consistent with the needs of the analytical assessments, in order to facilitate sustainable management of the relevant fisheries. For stocks where ICES has identified data deficiencies, the cause of these deficiencies and appropriate actions should be identified.

Concerning the long term plan for cod (regulation 1342/2008) the Council and the Commission agreed on a common interpretation of the article 13 for the establishment of fishing effort.

In addition to the fishing opportunities 2012 for the Black Sea on which the ministers reached a political agreement in this Council session (see below), the fishing opportunities 2012 for the Baltic Sea were already adopted on 30 November 2011.

According to Article 43(3) of the Treaty, the Council adopts measures on a proposal from the Commission on the fixing and allocation of fishing opportunities.

As the existing provisions in the area of the proposal are applicable until 31 December 2011, with the exception of certain effort limitations which are applicable until 31 January 2012, the regulation will apply from 1 January 2012 on.

Fishing opportunities for 2012 in the Black Sea

Ministers reached a political agreement on a regulation fixing for 2012 the fishing opportunities for certain fish stocks applicable in the Black Sea (17396/11) on the basis of a Presidency compromise, drawn up in agreement with the Commission.

The Council will adopt this regulation, after finalisation by the legal/linguistic experts, through a written procedure.

The main element of the Presidency compromise endorsed by the Commission is a roll-over in the EU total allowable catches (TACs) in the Black Sea for turbot and sprat.

The following table sets out the indicative values of the TACs in the Black Sea for 2012 compared with those for 2011 and the Commission proposal.

<i>Species Latin name</i>	Species English name	Espèces nom français	ICES fishing zone	COUNCIL TACs 2012	COUNCIL TACs 2011	COUNCIL comparison 2012/2011	COMMISSION proposal for 2012	comparison Council TAC 2011 / Commission proposal 2012
<i>Psetta maxima</i>	Turbot	Turbot	Black Sea (TUR/F3742C)	86,4	86,4	0%	74	-15%
<i>Sprattus sprattus</i>	Sprat	Sprat	Black Sea (SPR/F3742C)	11.475	11.475	0%	11.475	0%

The Council, the Commission and the Member States concerned agreed that it was appropriate to establish adequate measures such as inspection schemes and benchmarks to address misreporting and illegal fishing for turbot in the Black Sea. Such measures should be developed jointly by Member States concerned and the Commission in 2012.

In addition, the Council and the Commission agreed that regional cooperation on fishing in the Black Sea should be established to promote sustainable stock management in this area and that they would each take actions in line with their competence.

According to Article 43(3) of the Treaty, the Council adopts measures on a proposal from the Commission on the fixing and allocation of fishing opportunities in the Black Sea.

As the existing provisions are applicable until 31 December 2011 the regulation will apply from 1 January 2012.

European maritime and fisheries fund

The Council heard the Commission's presentation and hold an exchange of views on the proposal for a regulation on the European maritime and fisheries fund (EMFF) ([17870/11](#)).

The EMFF proposal must be seen in the context of Commission's proposal for a multiannual financial framework for 2014-2020, as well as the package for the reform of the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP).

The general objective of the EMFF is to support the objectives of the CFP and to further develop the EU's integrated maritime policy (IMP). The common procedural provisions are laid down in this proposal for a horizontal regulation. With proposals for reforming the CFP currently being discussed in the Council and the launch of the IMP, it became necessary to adopt a long-term instrument for specific financial support. The Commission proposes that most of the current CFP and IMP instruments be integrated into one fund, with the exception of fisheries partnership agreements and the compulsory contribution to regional fisheries management organisations (RFMOs).

The EMFF is proposed to be structured around 4 pillars:

- Smart green fisheries (shared management);
- Smart green aquaculture (shared management);
- Sustainable and inclusive territorial development (shared management); and
- Integrated maritime policy (direct centralised management).

Authorisation of four genetically modified varieties

Proposals for decisions authorising the use of four genetically modified varieties in food, feed and for other uses, but excluding cultivation, were presented to the Council for adoption. No agreement was reached either in favour of or against the authorisations.

Following the submission of initial applications for authorisation of these genetically modified varieties, the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) had initially been consulted, as provided for by Regulation 1829/2003, and had issued favourable scientific opinions. On that basis, the European Commission drew up proposals for authorising these varieties, which were presented to the Standing Committee on the Food Chain and Animal Health (SCoFCAH). At its meeting on 9 February 2011, the SCoFCAH had been unable to achieve the qualified majority necessary to deliver an opinion for or against the authorisation measures proposed by the Commission. In the absence of an opinion it was up to the Council to act on the Commission proposals within a three-month period.

Today, the Council noted that there was not a qualified majority either in favour of or against the following four proposals:

- proposal for a decision authorising the placing on the market of products containing, consisting of or produced from genetically modified **cotton 281-24-236x3006-210-23** from Dow ([15517/11](#))
- proposal for a decision authorising the placing on the market of products containing, consisting of or produced from genetically modified **maize Bt11xMIR604xGA21** from Syngenta ([15518/11](#)),
- proposal for a decision authorising the placing on the market of products containing, consisting of or produced from genetically modified **maize Bt11xMIR604** from Syngenta ([15520/11](#)), and
- proposal for a decision authorising the placing on the market of products containing, consisting of or produced from genetically modified **maize MIR604xGA21** from Syngenta ([15521/11](#))

Now the Council has concluded its proceedings on this issue, the Commission is entitled to finalise the decision-making procedure in respect of all the proposals.

In this context, the Council acknowledged an information note by the Hungarian delegation whose examination at the current session had been foreseen to take place under "Any Other Business" (18417/11).

A standard article introduced since October 2007 in all decisions authorising the placing on the market of GMOs extends this authorisation beyond food and feed uses, i.e. to cover "any other uses", with the exception of cultivation. The Hungarian delegation, supported by Austria, Cyprus, Luxemburg, Slovenia and Greece expressed concerns about the fact that a risk assessment is carried out for food and feed purpose while no such assessment is specifically performed for "any other uses for GMOs.

In the light of preliminary clarifications provided by the Council Legal Service, the Commission reassured the Council that the concerns shared by Hungary and other delegations will be taken into account. It was also noted that after the entry into force of regulation 182/2011 on 1 March 2011, similar situations will no longer be examined by the Council. They will rather be dealt with by the competent "Appeal Committee" (chaired by the Commission).

CAP reform - rural development

Ministers held an exchange of views on the proposal for a regulation on support for rural development by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) (the rural development regulation) within the framework of the common agricultural policy (CAP) ([15425/11](#)).

The debate concentrated on the actions envisaged to address new challenges within the second pillar as well as the instruments proposed under rural development and their definition. Most delegations noted that the content of the proposal could only be correctly assessed when the breakdown by Member States of the envelope for the second pillar is known.

As regards how to address new challenges within the second pillar, a number of Member States considered the proposal went in the right direction. However several Member States wished the proposal focused more on innovation and competitiveness. A number of delegations also stressed the need for adequate support the modernisation and restructuring of the sector in order to improve the competitiveness. In addition, a vast majority of delegations stressed the need to ensure that the common strategic framework bringing the EAFRD into line with the structural funds would be consistent with the objective of the simplification of the CAP.

The instruments proposed were generally welcomed, although some Member States considered that a better clarification of some aspects would be useful. These instruments should support the construction of efficient, modern and competitive agricultural sector and rural economy. Flexibility to take into account the specificity of each country at national or regional level and simplification of the procedures would be essential. Most delegations considered that the management risk toolkit could be a useful instrument. Some countries felt that the definition of less favoured areas was not precise enough which meant that some areas normally covered could be excluded from this scheme.

The proposal on rural development is part of the CAP reform package which was presented by the Commission at the Agriculture Council meeting in October. On that occasion, the Council held a public debate on the whole package.

Together with the proposals on direct payments, on the single common market organisation (CMO) and on the financing of the CAP, the proposal for a regulation on rural development is one of the four main proposals to be adopted by the Council and the European Parliament (ordinary legislative procedure).

Concerning the CAP reform, the Council had already held already a policy debate on direct payments at the last Agriculture Council meeting in November and will hold one more policy debate on the Single CMO proposal in January 2012.

OTHER BUSINESS

Measures against countries allowing non-sustainable fishing

Ministers were briefed by the Commission on a proposal for a regulation on certain measures in relation to countries allowing non-sustainable fishing for the purpose of the conservation of fish stocks

Several Member States supported this initiative, whilst stressing that the EU should always favour negotiations. However, if those negotiations failed, many Member States could see the need for a specific tool of this type that would allow the EU to act against third countries taking unilateral decisions on shared fish stocks.

The Commission was proposing to develop a specific instrument to tackle situations like the one that was currently threatening the stock of North-east Atlantic mackerel. That instrument was aimed at protecting fish stocks for under EU responsibility from the unsustainable fishing practices of countries that were resisting any joint management of those stocks.

The EU market for fish products could provide an incentive for some countries to engage in opportunistic and unsustainable fisheries. The EU should be allowed to restrict such trade as a means of protecting fish stocks. The Commission proposal sets out a mechanism that will:

- ensure that the measures are proportionate;
- guarantee respect of international law;
- allow the third countries concerned to be heard and to have an opportunity to rectify their action;
- empower the Commission to adopt measures;
- provide for a rapid termination of the measures wherever appropriate corrective actions have been adopted.

EU-Morocco fishery agreement

As a matter of urgency, the Commission briefed the Council about the European Parliament's refusal to consent to the conclusion of the interim fisheries protocol which has been provisionally applied since February.

Several Member States raised the issue of the economic and financial consequences and attached great importance to seeing a new protocol in place. The European Parliament's rejection was a disappointment and leaves the sector in a situation for which it was unprepared: it will have considerable economic impact for operators who have already paid fees and entered into contracts as well as result in unemployment because they can no more fish.

The Commission prepares a proposal for a decision in order to terminate the provisional application. Meanwhile she considers submitting a new recommendation for a negotiating mandate, based on sustainability, the use of the surplus only, cost-effectiveness with regard to the need for and price of fishing opportunities, and compliance with international law.

Aid for processed citrus fruit

Ministers were briefed by the Cyprus delegation on its request for the extension until 2013 of the transitional period for the partially coupled aid for citrus fruit for processing ([18494/11](#)).

Citrus is an important sector in Cyprus. Following the decoupling in 2008 of all direct support to processed fruit and vegetables, Member States were given the possibility to provide partially coupled support for a transitional period ending in 2012. Cyprus made use of this possibility for areas of citrus fruit previously benefitting from the premium for processing.

In recent years Cyprus's citrus sector has faced numerous problems, mainly due to prolonged droughts and the resulting scarcity of water for irrigation. This has added to structural problems in this sector. Cyprus would like the partially coupled support to the sector to be extended by at least one year to include 2013.

The Commission noted that the modification of regulation 73/2009 in order to meet Cypriot request would, under the ordinary legislative procedure, take time. As a solution, the Commission invited this delegation to resort:

- for 2013, to the rural development measures in order to face the economic and environmental problems encountered in this sector, and
- as of 2014, the possibility given to the Member States, in the framework of the CAP Reform package proposals, to provide coupled support for specific types of farming or specific systems which are experiencing certain difficulties and which are particularly important for economic and/or social reasons.

Decisions authorising the placing on the market of genetically modified organisms

The Hungarian delegation briefed the Council on the scope of Article 2c in decisions authorising the placing on the market of products containing, consisting of, or produced from genetically modified organisms (GMOs) (18417/11).

The standard Article 2c introduced since October 2007 in all decisions authorising the placing on the market of GMOs extends this authorisation beyond food and feed uses, i.e. to cover the same uses as any other relevant non-GMOs, with the exception of cultivation.

The Hungarian delegation, supported by Austria, Cyprus, Luxemburg, Slovenia and Greece expressed concerns about the authorisation of "any other uses" of GMOs which should be considered outside the scope of regulation 1829/2003 that was the legal basis for decisions on GMOs. While a risk assessment is carried out for food and feed purposes no such assessment is specifically performed for "any other uses".

The Commission noted the Hungarian request and will check this legal aspect of the current wording of the regulation. The Council legal service will also analyse the Hungarian request.

Welfare of animals during transport

The Council was briefed by the Commission on a report on the impact of regulation 1/2005 on the protection of animals during transport ([16798/11](#)).

Several delegations welcomed the report, saying that they would look forward to the follow-up to this report. The future Danish Presidency indicated that this issue was one of its priorities.

The report describe progress on the application of the EU regulation on animal transport, and identifies several ways to address the problems that have arisen. However, the report is not accompanied by a legislative proposal. The Commission pointed out the need for a correct enforcement of certain measures and insisted on the harmonisation in the implementation of this regulation within the EU.

It was recalled that the Council had adopted regulation 1/2005 on protection of animal during transport in December 2004 after intense discussions over three consecutive Presidencies.

Article 32 of Regulation 1/2005 instructed the Commission to present a report by 2011 "*on the impact of the Regulation on the welfare of animals being transported and on the trade flows of live animals within the enlarged Community. [...] This report may be accompanied if necessary by appropriate legislative proposals concerning long journeys, in particular as regards journey times, resting periods and space allowances.*"

Draft Codex strategic plan 2014-2019

The Presidency briefed the ministers on the report on progress and prospects of the Codex Alimentarius negotiations ([18334/11](#)).

Four different Codex Alimentarius committees meetings had been held during the Polish Presidency, the most important of which had been, the session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC) itself in July 2011. The main outcomes of the CAC proceedings during the Polish Presidency were as follows:

- The organisation of a vote against the adoption of the maximum residues limits (MRLs) for ractopamine (a chemical used for growth promotion in pigs and cattle in certain third countries). If the proposed MRLs were adopted this might possibly result in a trade dispute between the EU and other WTO members.
- The election of a European vice-chair of the CAC;
- Several other outcomes included:
 - the adoption of the list of acceptable previous cargoes for transport of edible fats and oils in bulk;
 - the adoption of the Guidelines for the control of *Campylobacter* and *Salmonella* spp in chicken meat
 - endorsement of the Compilation of the Codex texts relevant to labelling of foods derived from modern biotechnology (GM food)

In addition, the draft Codex strategic plan for 2014-2019 will be discussed at the forthcoming 66th session of the Executive Committee of the CAC in February 2012 in Geneva. The discussion on the role of science and other important factors in Codex proceedings are key elements of that document. The Commission and the Member States are currently preparing comments on the Draft Strategic Plan.

OTHER ITEMS APPROVED

AGRICULTURE

Vaccination against bluetongue

The Council adopted its position at first-reading on a draft directive amending directive 2000/75/EC as regards vaccination against bluetongue ([16696/11](#)). The Council's position was pre-negotiated with the European Parliament with a view to reaching an early second reading agreement to allow the entry into force of the new rules in time for the vaccination campaigns of 2012.

The directive is aimed at updating the current rules on vaccination against bluetongue set out in directive 2000/75/EC by making them more flexible. Bluetongue is a disease affecting ruminants (such as cattle, sheep and goats) and is transmitted by insect vectors that spread the virus from one animal to another. Vaccination is the preferred tool for bluetongue control and prevention of clinical disease in the EU. The use of vaccines is, however, limited by the current rules set out in directive 2000/75/EC based on the only available vaccines at that time. These vaccines may lead to undesired circulation of the vaccine virus in unvaccinated animals in the areas where the vaccine has been used. The new rules introduced by this text are based on the fact that inactivated vaccines that are now available eliminate this risk.

Financial rural development measures for Member States with economic difficulties

The Council adopted an amendment to regulation 1698/2005 as regards certain provisions relating to financial management for certain Member States experiencing or threatened with serious difficulties with respect to their financial stability ([70/11](#)).

The regulation will allow the Commission to approve higher contribution rates (up to 95%) from the EU (via the European agriculture fund for rural development (EAFRD)) for rural development measures benefiting Member States facing serious difficulties with respect to the financial stability, for as long as they are covered by financial support mechanisms.

The global financial and economic crisis is creating or threatening to create serious difficulties in certain Member States with respect to their economic growth and financial stability and their deteriorating deficit and debt position. These provisions cover five Member States which have been most affected by the crisis and have received financial assistance under a programme from the Balance of payments mechanism for non-euro area countries (Romania and Latvia) or from the European financial stabilisation mechanism (EFSM) for the euro area countries (Portugal, Greece and Ireland).

This regulation belongs to a package of three regulations covering the same five Member States and concerning on one hand the European fishery fund (EFF) and the structural and cohesion funds.

The regulation will not have a financial impact since, as the global envelope of commitment appropriations for rural development remains unchanged as does as its annual breakdown.

Food for the most deprived persons

The Council reached political agreement on the extension into 2012 and 2013 of the programme for the distribution of food to the most deprived persons in the Union (*18586/11* + [18593/11 ADD 1](#)).

For details see press release [18686/11](#).

Future of agricultural promotion policy - *Conclusions*

The Council adopted [conclusions](#) on the future of agricultural promotion policy.

Council conclusions - Report on the single payment scheme

The Council adopted conclusions on the special report No 5/2011 from the European Court of Auditors entitled "Single payment scheme (SPS): issues to be addressed to improve its sound financial management", set out in [17584/11](#).

FISHERIES

Access by Venezuelan fishing vessels to French Guiana

The Council adopted a decision on access by fishing vessels flying the flag of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to the exclusive economic zone off the coast of the French department of Guiana after consultation of the European Parliament ([8202/11](#)).

Fishing vessels from Venezuela have been authorised to operate in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ) of the French overseas department of Guyana for several decades. However, in the absence of an international fisheries agreement with Venezuela, regulation 1006/2008 on fishing authorisation regulation² considers that the current practice is not in line with the EU law.

Considering that in view of the economic and social importance of these fishing activities in this region a sudden discontinuation would be inappropriate, the situation concerning landings of Venezuelan vessels in the ports of French Guyana had to be regularised urgently.

However, due to the context, and given the limited scope of the fishery in question, a fully-fledged fisheries agreement between Venezuela and the EU appeared as disproportionate. Instead, a proposed unilateral declaration by the Council serves a purpose similar to that of a fisheries agreement by consenting to the granting of fishing authorisations to Venezuelan vessels.

Community producer prices for 2012 for certain fishery products

The Council fixed the guide prices and Community producer prices for certain fishery products for the 2012 fishing year ([17089/11](#)).

The objective of this regulation is to ensure the functioning of the price support and intervention mechanisms laid down in regulation 2000/104/EC³ during 2011 to attain a single market in fisheries products. The regulation concerns the guide prices for a specified number of fishery products as well as the Community producer price for specified tuna products. The guide prices form the reference for the subsequent fixing of the different technical parameters needed for the operation of the intervention mechanisms. In addition, the Community producer price is of relevance for the compensatory allowance for tuna delivered to the processing industry, which might be triggered when prices on the world markets fall below a specified trigger level.

² [OJ L 286, 29.10.2008, p. 33.](#)

³ [OJ L 17, 21.1.2000, p. 22.](#)

Pursuant to regulation 104/2000, the relevant prices shall follow both the development of market prices during the three preceding fishing years as well as trends in production and demand. In line with that, the proposal is for increases between +1% and +3% for most whitefish species; for increases between +1.5% and +3% for pelagic species such as herring, mackerel, Spanish mackerel and whole albacore, as well as reductions between -0.5% and -2% for sardines, anchovies and gutted albacore; and for increases between +1% and +3% for most crustaceans. In the field of frozen species, the proposal reflects increases between +1% and +3% for a majority of products. Finally, the proposal is for increasing the EU producer price for tuna products by +2%.

Under article 43(3) of the Treaty, the Council adopts measures on a proposal from the Commission on the guide prices and Community producer prices for certain fishery products.

ENVIRONMENT

Excess CO₂ emissions from new cars

The Council decided not to oppose the adoption of a Commission's decision on a method for the collection of premiums for excess CO₂ emissions from new cars ([16484/11](#)).

The Commission decision is subject to the so called regulatory procedure with scrutiny. This means that now that the Council has given its consent, the Commission may adopt it, unless the European Parliament objects.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Temporary reception of certain Palestinians

The Council decided to prolong by one year the validity of the national permits for entry and stay granted to twelve Palestinians. Pursuant to common position 2002/400/CFSP, they are received on humanitarian grounds by Belgium, Greece, Spain, Ireland, Italy and Portugal.

COMMON FOREIGN AND SECURITY POLICY

Restrictive measures - Belarus

In view of the gravity of the situation in Belarus, the Council reinforced the EU's restrictive measures on those responsible for the continuing repression of civil society, the political opposition and the independent media in Belarus. For details, see press release [18617/11](#).

Restrictive measures - Democratic Republic of the Congo

Following a decision by the United Nations, the Council implemented changes to the restrictive measures in force against the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The amendment adds two persons to the list of individuals and entities subject to the measures.

TRADE POLICY

Anti-counterfeiting trade agreement

The Council adopted a decision authorising the signing of an anti-counterfeiting trade agreement (ACTA) with Australia, Canada, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Mexico, Morocco, New Zealand, Singapore, Switzerland and the United States.

ACTA is aimed at establishing an international framework to improve the enforcement of intellectual property right laws and create improved international standards for actions against large-scale infringements of intellectual property. Negotiations were concluded in November 2010.

SOCIAL POLICY

Coordination of social security schemes - EU/Switzerland

The Council adopted a decision on the position to be taken by the EU concerning an amendment to annex II of the EU/Switzerland agreement on the free movement of persons ([16232/11](#)).

Annex II concerns the co-ordination of social security schemes and needs to be amended to integrate new legal acts of the EU into the agreement.