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WORKING PAPER

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NOTE

From: General Secretariat of the Council
To: Delegations
Subject: Coastal States consultations on mackerel in the North-East Atlantic for 2022 (19 to 22 October 2021)

Delegations will find attached the draft agenda and draft terms of reference for a Working Group on mackerel relating to the above-mentioned consultations.
COASTAL STATES CONSULTATIONS
ON
MACKEREL IN THE NORTH-EAST ATLANTIC FOR 2022

NORTH-EAST ATLANTIC FISHERIES COMMISSION (NEAFC)
44 BAKER STREET, LONDON
19-22 OCTOBER 2021

DRAFT AGENDA

1. Opening of the consultations for 2022
2. Adoption of the agenda
3. Scientific advice from ICES for 2022
4. Exchange of information on catch statistics for 2020 and provisional catch statistics for 2021
5. Information on management measures taken by the Parties for 2021
6. Working group on the distribution of mackerel in the Northeast Atlantic
7. Mackerel sharing framework agreement
8. Management measures for 2022, including TAC
9. NEAFC measures for 2022
10. Dates and venue for the consultations for 2023
11. Any other business

12. Closing of the consultations for 2022
Draft Terms of Reference for a Working Group on Mackerel in the Northeast Atlantic

[The European Union], [the Faroe Islands], [Greenland], [Iceland], [Norway], [the Russian Federation] and [the United Kingdom] agree to establish a Working Group to collect and collate information on the distribution of all life stages of mackerel in the North-East Atlantic, and on the distribution of catches from this stock.

The Working Group shall:

1. Present currently available fishery independent data on the geographical distribution on an annual, quarterly and/or monthly/survey basis for all life stages of Northeast Atlantic mackerel (biomass and abundance or their appropriate proxies) by age and by relevant areas under national fisheries jurisdiction and in international waters.
2. For each survey contributing data on mackerel distribution, document:
   a. Changes to coverage
   b. Changes to survey protocols
   c. Proportion of the stock within the survey area
3. Tabulate catch data on a monthly basis, both total and divided by country, distributed by areas under national fisheries jurisdiction and beyond as precise as the data allow.
4. Describe the quality of the catch and survey data for the purposes of assessing the distribution of the stock in time and space.

Fisheries Managers will provide to the Working Group, for inclusion in the report, details of all relevant regulations in force in a given year with respect to mackerel fisheries in the North-East Atlantic.

The Working Group shall present a report by 28 February 2022, and the delegations agreed to meet in March 2022 to consider next steps.