



Ms Hélène CLARK
Directorate C
Fisheries Policy
Atlantic, North Sea, Baltic and Outermost Regions

Dear Ms. Clark,

I am writing to you on behalf of the South Western Waters Member States Group as Spain is chairing this regional group during 2018.

During discussions at our last Directors' Group meeting in Madrid on 4th October after revising all the proposals made at technical level, we came to the following agreements needed on the solutions to mitigate or eliminate the choke risk in the stocks listed below.

We would like the COM to take into account this agreements and include them in the TAC and quota regulation drafts.

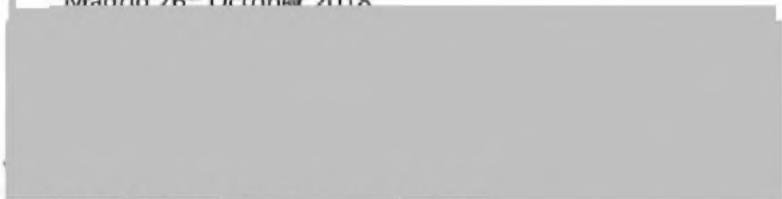
SPECIES	Art 7.2 Eligible stocks for interspecies flexibility (ISF)	MS AGREEMENT
ANF/8ABDE	White anglerfish is a species within safe biological limits As white anglerfish is much more caught than black-bellied anglerfish (2/3 against 1/3), interspecies flexibility should be applied to both or separate the stocks. Apply article 7,2 of TAC and quota regulation (interspecies flexibility) to this stock.	AGREED SWW ESP AND FR
SPECIES	Deletion of Tac and quota management	MS AGREEMENT
BOR/678-	Deletion of the TAC and quota for all gears except from pelagic trawlers targeting this species.	AGREED SWW ESP PRT FR
GFB/89 GFB/1012	Remove from TAC and quota supported by ICES advice	AGREED SWW ESP PRT FR INCLUDED IN COM PROPOSAL
SPECIES	REQUEST SPECIAL CONDITION	MS AGREEMENT
LEZ/8ABDE	35 % of this quota may be fished in area 7 (LEZ/*07).	AGREED SWW ESP AND FR BEL DOUBTS IN PERCENTAGE
LEZ/07	35 % of this quota may be fished in 8a, 8b, 8d and 8e (LEZ/*8ABDE).	AGREED SWW ESP AND FR
HKE/571214	" of which up to 25 % of this quota may be fished in area 8ABDE (HKE/*8ABDE)"	AGREED SWW ESP AND FR

SPECIES	Application of upper Fmsy range	MS AGREEMENT
HKE/8C3411	Apply the upper range of FMSY for this stock as it is the most limiting species from this multi-specific fishery. See annex to support this request	AGREED SWW ESP PRT FR
SPECIES	Deep sea species alternative solutions	MS AGREEMENT
All deep-sea	We would need to, at least, maintain the current TACs to avoid a further choke situation.	AGREED SWW ESP PRT FR
DWS/56789- DWS/10- DWS/F3412C	Give 0 TAC without alternative solutions the same treatment as the prohibited species. Leave the existing footnote for by-catches. Additional conservation measures could be taken.	AGREED SWW ESP PRT FR REVISING COM PROPOSAL
SBR/678.	Implement closed areas and other management and control measures to protect juveniles implemented at national level in this member states. Increase the TAC to 150ton with the commitment from Spain to provide swaps to cover other Member States By-catches.	AGREED SWW ESP FR
SBR/9	Implement closed areas and other management and control measures to protect juveniles.	AGREED SWW ESP PRT
ALF/3X14	Leave this TAC just for by-catch. Target fisheries will not be allowed. Improve data collection and management measures	AGREED SWW ESP PRT FR

We thank the Commission for their help in this process and would like to continue working closely to be able to arrive to the 1st of January 2019 with all the problems solved in order to provide our fleet with all the mechanisms to apply the landing obligation with guarantees.

Yours sincerely,

Madrid 26th October 2018


Chair South West Waters Member States Group.