

16912/14

(OR. en)

PROVISIONAL VERSION

PRESSE 649
PR CO 72

PRESS RELEASE

3360th Council meeting

Agriculture and Fisheries

Brussels, 15 and 16 December 2014

President **Maurizio MARTINA**
Minister for Agricultural, Food and Forestry Policy

P R E S S

Main results of the Council

Fisheries

The Council reached agreement on the **2015 fishing opportunities for certain fish stocks in EU and non-EU waters and in the Black Sea**. The President of the Council noted “We have reached a balanced compromise that allows the sustainable use of fisheries resources, in line with the key pillars of the new Common Fisheries Policy”.

Agriculture

The Council adopted conclusions on the **error rate for agriculture expenditure**. A large number of member states also supported Presidency conclusions on **strengthening the EU policies for young farmers**. Minister Martina underscored that "The young farmers issue is a key priority of the Italian Presidency. Generational renewal in agriculture is essential not only for Italy but also for many other European countries, where the share of workers under 35 represents only an average of 8%. The conclusions adopted on the initiative of Italy include a plan to provide favourable credit conditions for young farmers who want to start or have recently started a business with the help of the European investment bank (EIB), the possibility to provide mortgages at zero interest and transfers of experiences between young European farmers through an exchange programme. This constitute major investments to renovate the entire sector."

Ministers had an exchange of views on the **future of the dairy sector**. In view of the recent deterioration of the dairy market conditions, they focused on the main challenges faced by this sector, in particular the importance of volatility and the possible tools to alleviate its consequences, the role of the European Milk Market Observatory (EMMO) and the consequences of the end of the milk quotas next year.

As regards **organic farming**, the Council had a political debate and took note of the document prepared by the Presidency and the large support for the annex providing a political orientation.

The Presidency reported to the Council on the progress achieved during the second half of 2014 on a number of legislative proposals:

- School fruit, vegetable and milk scheme
- Official controls,
- Plant health
- Zootechnical conditions for trade of breeding animals.

CONTENTS¹

PARTICIPANTS..... 6

ITEMS DEBATED

FISHERIES 8

Fishing opportunities 2015 for certain fish stocks in EU and non EU waters 8

Fishing opportunities for 2015 in the Black Sea 28

AGRICULTURE 29

Conclusions 29

Future of the dairy sector 29

Organic farming 30

Progress reports on legislative proposals 30

– School fruit, vegetables and milk scheme 30

– Official controls 31

– Plant health 32

– Zootechnical conditions for trade of breeding animals 32

ANY OTHER BUSINESS 33

– Implementation of the landing obligation 33

– Simplification of the agricultural policy 33

– 35th and 36th conferences of directors of EU paying agencies 34

– Additional measures for the fruit and vegetables sector 34

– Market situation for pig meat 34

– Rural development programme for 2007-2013 and 2014-2020 periods 35

¹

- 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.

–	Damage to forest caused by the sleety rain	35
–	Plant reproductive material law	36
–	Meeting on animal welfare	36
–	Indication of the country of origin for food	37
–	Losses for beekeepers caused by migratory birds	37

OTHER ITEMS APPROVED

FOOD LAW

–	Caseins intended for human consumption	38
---	--	----

AGRICULTURE

–	Cyprus tax exemption on motor fuel in agriculture	38
–	Council conclusions on Court of auditors reports	39

FISHERIES

–	Deep sea fishing opportunities 2015-2016	40
–	Illegal fishing - Belize removed from the list of non-cooperating countries	40
–	Partnership agreement between EU and Cape Verde - New protocol	41
–	Partnership agreement between EU and Madagascar - New protocol	41

JUSTICE AND HOME AFFAIRS

–	Visa facilitation agreement - Tunisia	42
–	Readmission agreement - Tunisia	42

ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

–	Capital requirements directive: liquidity coverage requirement and leverage ratio	42
---	---	----

CUSTOMS UNION

–	Tariffs and quotas on certain products	43
---	--	----

CULTURE

–	European Capitals of Culture 2020-2033	43
---	--	----

TRANSPORT

–	Air traffic controllers' licences	44
–	Trans-European rail system's interoperability – telematics	44

EMPLOYMENT

- Mobilisation of the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund for four member states 45

TRANSPARENCY

- Public access to documents 45

PARTICIPANTS

Belgium:

Mr René COLLIN

Mr. Willy BORSUS

Ms. Joke SCHAUVLIEGE

Minister for Agriculture, Nature, Rural Affairs, Tourism and Sports Infrastructure
Minister for the Middle Class, the Self-Employed, SMEs, Agriculture and Social Integration
Flemish Minister for the Environment, Nature and Agriculture

Bulgaria:

Mr Desislava TANEVA

Minister for Agriculture and Food

Czech Republic:

Mr Marian JUREČKA

Minister for Agriculture

Denmark:

Mr Dan JØRGENSEN

Minister for Food, Agriculture and Fisheries

Germany:

Mr Christian SCHMIDT

Federal Minister for Food and Agriculture

Estonia:

Mr Ivari PADAR

Minister for Agriculture

Ireland:

Mr Simon COVENEY

Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine

Greece:

Mr Georgios KARASMANIS

Minister for Rural Development and Food

Spain:

Ms Isabel GARCÍA TEJERINA

Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Environment

France:

Mr Alain VIDALIES

Secretary of State with responsibility for Transport, Oceans and Fisheries

Croatia:

Mr Tihomir JAKOVINA

Minister for Agriculture

Italy:

Mr Maurizio MARTINA

Mr Giuseppe CASTIGLIONE

Minister for Agricultural, Food and Forestry Policy
State Secretary for Agricultural, Food and Forestry Policy

Cyprus:

Mr Nicos KOUYIALIS

Minister for Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environment

Latvia:

Mr Jānis DŪKLAVS

Mr. Juris STALMEISTARS

Minister for Agriculture

Deputy Permanent Representative

Lithuania:

Ms Virginija BALTRAITIENĖ

Minister for Agriculture

Luxembourg:

Mr Fernand ETGEN

Minister for Agriculture, Viticulture and Consumer Protection, Minister for Relations with the Parliament

Hungary:

Mr Márton BITAY

Mr Olivér VÁRHELYI

State Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture

Deputy Permanent Representative

Malta:

Mr Roderick GALDES

Parliamentary Secretary for Agriculture, Fisheries and Animal Rights within the Ministry for Sustainable Development, the Environment and Climate Change

Netherlands:

Mr. Wepke KINGMA

Deputy Permanent Representative

Austria:

Mr Andr a RUPPRECHTER

Federal Minister for Agriculture, Forestry, the
Environment and Water Management

Poland:

Mr Marek SAWICKI

Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development

Portugal:

Ms Assun o CRISTAS
Mr. Manuel PINTO DE ABREU

Minister for Agriculture and Maritime Affairs
State Secretary for Maritime Affairs

Romania:

Mr Daniel BOT NOIU

State Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural
Development

Slovenia:

Mr Dejan  IDAN

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Agriculture,
Forestry and Food

Slovakia:

Ms Magdal na LACKO-BARTO OV 

State Secretary at the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural
Development

Finland:

Mr Petteri ORPO

Minister for Agriculture and Forestry

Sweden:

Mr Sven-Erik BUCHT
Ms.  sa WEBBER

Minister for Rural Affairs
Deputy Permanent Representative

United Kingdom:

Mr George EUSTICE

Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Farming, Food
and Marine Environment, Department for Environment,
Food and Rural Affairs

Mr Richard LOCHHEAD

Ms Michelle O'NEILL

Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs and the Environment
Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development

Commission:

Mr Phil HOGAN
Mr Karmenu VELLA
Mr Vytenis ANDRIUKAITIS

Member
Member
Member

ITEMS DEBATED

FISHERIES

Fishing opportunities 2015 for certain fish stocks in EU and non EU waters

The Council reached a political agreement on fishing opportunities for 2015 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 ([14950/14](#) + 14950/14 ADD1 + 14950/14 ADD2 + 14950/14 ADD3).

This is the first time that those fishing opportunities are set under the rules of the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) reformed last year. The new CFP establishes that decision-making such as fixing fishing opportunities must be guided, among others things, by scientific advice. Furthermore, the new CFP aims to restore and maintain a maximum sustainable yield (MSY) of the fish stocks and provides for a progressive elimination of discards in all EU fisheries through the introduction of an obligation to land all catches.

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

As the existing provisions in the area of the proposal are applicable until 31 December 2014, with the exception of certain effort limitations which are applicable until 31 January 2015, the regulation will apply from 1 January 2015 on.

The following table sets out the indicative values of the principal TACs for 2015 compared with those for 2014 and the Commission proposal.

<i>Species Latin name</i>	Species English name	Espèces nom français	ICES fishing zone	COUNCIL TACs 2015 (UE)	COUNCIL TACs 2014 (UE)	COUNCIL % comparison 2015/2014	COMMISSION Proposal for 2015	comparison Council TAC 2014 / Commis. Prop. 2015	Notes
ANNEX IA - SKAGERRAK, KATTEGAT, ICES zones I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VII, VIII, IX, X, XII and XIV, EU waters of CECAF, French Guiana waters									
<i>Ammodytes spp.</i>	Sandeel	Lançon	Norwegian waters of IV (SAN/04-N)	0	0	Not relevant	0	Not relevant	
<i>Ammodytes spp.</i>	Sandeel and associated by-catches	Lançon et prises accessoires associées	EU waters of IIa, IIIa and IV (SAN/2A3A4)	0	207.219	Not relevant	0	Not relevant	
<i>Argentina silus</i>	Greater silver smelt	Grande argentine	I & II (EU and internat. waters) (ARU/1/2)	90	90	0%	90	0%	
<i>Argentina silus</i>	Greater silver smelt	Grande argentine	III & IV (EU and internat. waters) (ARU/3/4)	1.028	1.028	0%	1.028	0%	
<i>Argentina silus</i>	Greater silver smelt	Grande argentine	EU and internat. Waters of V, VI, VII (ARU/567)	4.316	4.316	0%	3.798	-12%	
<i>Brosme brosme</i>	Tusk	Brosmes	EU and internat. waters of I, II & XIV (USK/1214EI)	21	21	0%	21	0%	
<i>Brosme brosme</i>	Tusk	Brosmes	IIIa, EU waters of subdivisions 22-32 (USK/3A/BCD)	29	29	0%	29	0%	
<i>Brosme brosme</i>	Tusk	Brosmes	EU waters of IV (USK/04-C)	235	235	0%	235	0%	
<i>Brosme brosme</i>	Tusk	Brosmes	EU and internat. waters of V, VI, and VII (USK/567EI)	937	937	0%	937	0%	
<i>Brosme brosme</i>	Tusk	Brosmes	Norwegian waters of IV (USK/04-N)	170	170	0%	170	0%	(1)
<i>Caproidae</i>	Boarfish	Sanglier	Union and international waters of VI, VII and VIII (BOR/678)	53.296	127.509	-58%	53.296	-58%	
<i>Clupea harengus</i>	Herring	Hareng	IIIa (HER/03A)	37.188	39.987	-7%	43.004	8%	(2)
<i>Clupea harengus</i>	Herring	Hareng	EU and Norwegian waters of IV north of 53°30' N (HER/4AB)	267.197	282.022	-5%	267.197	-5%	(2)
<i>Clupea harengus</i>	Herring	Hareng	Norwegian waters south of 62° N (HER/04-N)	1.093	866	26%	1.093	26%	(1)

<i>Species Latin name</i>	Species English name	Espèces nom français	ICES fishing zone	COUNCIL TACs 2015 (UE)	COUNCIL TACs 2014 (UE)	COUNCIL % comparison 2015/2014	COMMISSION Proposal for 2015	comparison Council TAC 2014 / Commis. Prop. 2015	Notes
<i>Clupea harengus</i>	Herring	Hareng	Herring by-catches in IIIa (HER/03A-BC)	6.659	6.659	0%	6.659	0%	(2)
<i>Clupea harengus</i>	Herring	Hareng	by-catches in IV, VIIId and in EU waters of IIa (HER/2A47DX)	pm	13.085		pm		(2)
<i>Clupea harengus</i>	Herring	Hareng	IVc, VIIId (HER/4CXB7D)	pm	51.704		pm		(2)
<i>Clupea harengus</i>	Herring	Hareng	EU and internat. waters of Vb and VIb and VIaN (HER/5B6ANB)	22.690	28.067	-19%	22.690	-19%	
<i>Clupea harengus</i>	Herring	Hareng	VIaS, VIIb-c (HER/6AS7BC)	0	3.676	-100%	0	-100%	
<i>Clupea harengus</i>	Herring	Hareng	VIa Clyde (HER/06ACL)	To be established	To be established		To be established		
<i>Clupea harengus</i>	Herring	Hareng	VIIa (HER/07A/MM)	4.854	5.251	-8%	4.854	-8%	
<i>Clupea harengus</i>	Herring	Hareng	VIIe-f (HER/7EF)	930	930	0%	930	0%	
<i>Clupea harengus</i>	Herring	Hareng	VIIg, h, j, k (HER/7G-K)	15.652	22.360	-30%	15.652	-30%	
<i>Engraulis encrasicolus</i>	Anchovy	Anchois	VIII (ANE/08.)	25.000			25.000		
<i>Engraulis encrasicolus</i>	Anchovy	Anchois	IX, X; EU waters of CEECAF 34.1.1 (ANE/9/3411)	9.656	8.778	10%	8.778	0%	
<i>Gadus morhua</i>	Cod	Cabillaud	Skagerrak (COD/03AN.)	pm	3.843		pm		(2)
<i>Gadus morhua</i>	Cod	Cabillaud	Kattegat (COD/03AS)	100	100	0%	80	-20%	
<i>Gadus morhua</i>	Cod	Cabillaud	IV, EU waters of IIa, the part of IIIa not covered by the Skagerrak and Kattegat (COD/2A3AX4)	pm	23.073		pm		(2)
<i>Gadus morhua</i>	Cod	Cabillaud	Norwegian waters south of 62° N (COD/04-N)	pm	382		pm		(1)
<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)	74	74	0%	74	0%	
<i>Gadus morhua</i>	Cod	Cabillaud	VIa, EU & internat. waters of Vb east of 12°00'W (COD/5BE6A)	0	0		0		

<i>Species Latin name</i>	Species English name	Espèces nom français	ICES fishing zone	COUNCIL TACs 2015 (UE)	COUNCIL TACs 2014 (UE)	COUNCIL % comparison 2015/2014	COMMISSION Proposal for 2015	comparison Council TAC 2014 / Commis. Prop. 2015	Notes
<i>Gadus morhua</i>	Cod	Cabillaud	VIIa (COD/07A)	182	228	-20%	182	-20%	
<i>Gadus morhua</i>	Cod	Cabillaud	VIIb-c, VIIe-k, VIII, IX & X; EU waters of CECAF 34.1.1 (COD/7XAD34)	5.072	6.848	-26%	2.471	-64%	
<i>Gadus morhua</i>	Cod	Cabillaud	VIIId (COD/07D)	pm	1.620		pm		(2)
<i>Lepidorhombus spp.</i>	Megrim	Cardines	EU waters of IIa & IV (LEZ/2AC4-C)	2.083	2.083	0%	2.083	0%	
<i>Lepidorhombus spp.</i>	Megrim	Cardines	VI, EU and internat. waters of Vb; intern. Waters of XII & XIV (LEZ/56-14)	4.129	4.074	1%	4.129	1%	
<i>Lepidorhombus spp.</i>	Megrim	Cardines	VII (LEZ/07)	17.385	17.385	0%	13.814	-21%	
<i>Lepidorhombus spp.</i>	Megrim	Cardines	VIIIa, VIIIb, VIIIId, VIIIe (LEZ/8ABDE)	1.716	1.716	0%	1.366	-20%	
<i>Lepidorhombus spp.</i>	Megrim	Cardines	VIIIc, IX & X; EU waters of CECAF 34.1.1 (LEZ/8C3411)	1.377	2.257	-39%	1.013	-55%	
<i>Limanda limanda and Platichthys flesus</i>	Dab and Flounder	Dabé et Flet	EU waters of IIa and IV (DAB/2AC4-C & FLE/2AC4-C)	18.434	18.434	0%	14.747	-20%	
<i>Lophiidae</i>	Anglerfish	Baudroie	EU waters of IIa and IV (ANF/2AC4-C)	9.390	7.833	20%	9.390	20%	
<i>Lophiidae</i>	Anglerfish	Baudroie	Norwegian waters of IV (ANF/04-N)	pm	1.500		pm		(1)
<i>Lophiidae</i>	Anglerfish	Baudroie	VI, EU & internat. waters of Vb, int. waters of XII & XIV (ANF/561214)	5.313	4.432	20%	5.313	20%	
<i>Lophiidae</i>	Anglerfish	Baudroie	VII (ANF/07)	33.516	33.516	0%	29.536	-12%	
<i>Lophiidae</i>	Anglerfish	Baudroie	VIIIa,b,d,e (ANF/8ABDE)	8.980	8.980	0%	7.914	-12%	
<i>Lophiidae</i>	Anglerfish	Baudroie	VIIIc, IX, X, EU waters of CECAF 34.1.1 (ANF/8C3411)	2.987	2.629	14%	2.987	14%	

<i>Species Latin name</i>	Species English name	Espèces nom français	ICES fishing zone	COUNCIL TACs 2015 (UE)	COUNCIL TACs 2014 (UE)	COUNCIL % comparison 2015/2014	COMMISSION Proposal for 2015	comparison Council TAC 2014 / Commis. Prop. 2015	Notes
<i>Melanogrammus aeglefinus</i>	Haddock	Eglefin	IIIa, EU waters of 22-32 (HAD/3A/BCD)	pm	2.256		pm		(2)
<i>Melanogrammus aeglefinus</i>	Haddock	Eglefin	IV, EU waters of IIa (HAD/2AC4)	pm	20.635		pm		(2)
<i>Melanogrammus aeglefinus</i>	Haddock	Eglefin	Norwegian waters south of 62° N (HAD/04-N)	pm	707		pm		(1)
<i>Melanogrammus aeglefinus</i>	Haddock	Eglefin	VIIb; XII and XIV (EU and internat. waters) (HAD/6B1214)	2.580	1.210	113%	2.580	113%	
<i>Melanogrammus aeglefinus</i>	Haddock	Eglefin	EU and internat. water of Vb, VIa (HAD/5BC6A)	pm	3.988		pm		
<i>Melanogrammus aeglefinus</i>	Haddock	Eglefin	VIIb-k, VIII, IX, X; EU waters of CECAF 34.1.1 (HAD/7X7A34)	8.342	9.479	-12%	5.605	-41%	
<i>Melanogrammus aeglefinus</i>	Haddock	Eglefin	VIIa (HAD/07A)	1.181	1.181	0%	945	-20%	
<i>Merlangius merlangus</i>	Whiting	Merlan	IIIa (WHG/03A)	pm	1.031		pm		(2)
<i>Merlangius merlangus</i>	Whiting	Merlan	IV; EU waters of IIa (WHG/2AC4)	pm	15.233		pm		(2)
<i>Merlangius merlangus</i>	Whiting	Merlan	VI, EU and internat. waters of Vb; internat. waters of XII and XIV (WHG/56-14)	263	292	-10%	234	-20%	
<i>Merlangius merlangus</i>	Whiting	Merlan	VIIa (WHG/07A)	80	80	0%	80	0%	
<i>Merlangius merlangus</i>	Whiting	Merlan	VIIb-h, and VIIj-k (WHG/7X7A-C)	pm	20.668		pm		
<i>Merlangius merlangus</i>	Whiting	Merlan	VIII (WHG/08)	3.175	3.175	0%	2.540	-20%	
<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>Species Latin name</i>	Species English name	Espèces nom français	ICES fishing zone	COUNCIL TACs 2015 (UE)	COUNCIL TACs 2014 (UE)	COUNCIL % comparison 2015/2014	COMMISSION Proposal for 2015	comparison Council TAC 2014 / Commis. Prop. 2015	Notes
<i>Merlangius merlangus and Pollachius pollachius</i>	Whiting and Pollack	Merlan et Lieu jaune	Norwegian waters south of 62° N (WHG/04-N)&(POL/04-N)	pm	190		pm		(1)
<i>Merluccius merluccius</i>	Hake	Merlu	IIIa; EU waters of subdivisions 22-32 (HKE/3A/BCD)	2.466	2.466	0%	2.364	-4%	TAC 2015 Northern hake = 81846
<i>Merluccius merluccius</i>	Hake	Merlu	EU waters of IIa and IV (HKE/2AC4-C)	2.874	2.874	0%	2.755	-4%	
<i>Merluccius merluccius</i>	Hake	Merlu	VI, VII; EU and internat. waters of Vb; internat. waters of XII, XIV (HKE/571214)	45.896	45.896	0%	43.995	-4%	
<i>Merluccius merluccius</i>	Hake	Merlu	VIIIa-b, VIII d-e (HKE/8ABDE)	30.610	30.610	0%	29.343	-4%	
<i>Merluccius merluccius</i>	Hake	Merlu	VIIIc, IX, X, EU waters of CECAF 34.1.1 (HKE/8C3411)	13.826	16.266	-15%	13.826	-15%	
<i>Micromesistius poutassou</i>	Blue whiting	Merlan bleu	Norwegian waters of II and IV (WHB/4AB-N)	pm	0		pm		
<i>Micromesistius poutassou</i>	Blue whiting	Merlan bleu	EU and international waters of I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VII, VIIIa,b,d,e, XII and XIV (WHB/1X14)	pm	185.525		pm		
<i>Micromesistius poutassou</i>	Blue whiting	Merlan bleu	VIIIc, IX and X; EU waters of CECAF 34.1.1 (WHB/8C3411)	pm	30.823		pm		
<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)	pm	0		pm		
<i>Microstomus kitt & Glyptocephalus cynoglossus</i>	Lemon sole and Witch	Limande sole et plie grise	EU waters of IIa and IV (LEM/2AC4-C) (WIT/2AC4-C)	6.391	6.391	0%	6.391	0%	
<i>Molva dypterigia</i>	Blue ling	Lingue bleue	EU waters and internat. waters of Vb, VI, VII (BLI/5B67)	pm	2.240		pm		

<i>Species Latin name</i>	Species English name	Espèces nom français	ICES fishing zone	COUNCIL TACs 2015 (UE)	COUNCIL TACs 2014 (UE)	COUNCIL % comparison 2015/2014	COMMISSION Proposal for 2015	comparison Council TAC 2014 / Commis. Prop. 2015	Notes
<i>Molva dypterigia</i>	Blue ling	Lingue bleue	International waters of XII (BLI/12INT)	558	697	-20%	558	-20%	
<i>Molva dypterigia</i>	Blue ling	Lingue bleue	EU and international waters of II, IV (BLI/24)	53	53	0%	53	0%	
<i>Molva dypterigia</i>	Blue ling	Lingue bleue	EU and international waters of III (BLI/03)	8	8	0%	8	0%	
<i>Molva molva</i>	Ling	Lingue	EU and internat. waters of I, II (LIN/1/2)	36	36	0%	36	0%	
<i>Molva molva</i>	Ling	Lingue	IIIa, EU waters of IIIb-d (LIN/3A/BCD)	87	87	0%	87	0%	
<i>Molva molva</i>	Ling	Lingue	EU waters of IV (LIN/04-C)	2.428	2.428	0%	2.428	0%	
<i>Molva molva</i>	Ling	Lingue	EU and internat. waters of V (LIN/05EI)	33	33	0%	33	0%	
<i>Molva molva</i>	Ling	Lingue	EU waters and internat. waters of VI, VII, VIII, IX, X, XII, XIV (LIN/6X14)	8.464	8.464		pm		
<i>Molva molva</i>	Ling	Lingue	Norwegian waters of IV (LIN/04-N)	pm	950		pm		(1)
<i>Nephrops norvegicus</i>	Norway lobster	Langoustine	IIIa; EU waters of subdivisions 22-32 (NEP/3A/BCD)	5.318	5.019	6%	5.318	6%	
<i>Nephrops norvegicus</i>	Norway lobster	Langoustine	EU waters of IIa and IV (NEP/2AC4-C)	17.843	15.499	15%	17.843	15%	
<i>Nephrops norvegicus</i>	Norway lobster	Langoustine	Norwegian waters of IV (NEP/04-N)	pm	1.000		pm		(1)
<i>Nephrops norvegicus</i>	Norway lobster	Langoustine	VI, EU and internat. waters of Vb (NEP/5BC6)	14.190	15.287	-7%	14.190	-7%	
<i>Nephrops norvegicus</i>	Norway lobster	Langoustine	VII (NEP/07)	21.619	20.989	3%	18.118	-14%	
<i>Nephrops norvegicus</i>	Norway lobster	Langoustine	VIII a, b, d, e (NEP/8ABDE)	3.899	3.899	0%	3.214	-18%	
<i>Nephrops norvegicus</i>	Norway lobster	Langoustine	VIIIc (NEP/08C)	60	67	-10%	60	-10%	

<i>Species Latin name</i>	Species English name	Espèces nom français	ICES fishing zone	COUNCIL TACs 2015 (UE)	COUNCIL TACs 2014 (UE)	COUNCIL % comparison 2015/2014	COMMISSION Proposal for 2015	comparison Council TAC 2014 / Commis. Prop. 2015	Notes
<i>Nephrops norvegicus</i>	Norway lobster	Langoustine	IX, X, EU waters of CECAF 34.1.1 (NEP/9/3411)	254	221	15%	199	-10%	
<i>Pandalus borealis</i>	Northern prawn	Crevette nordique	IIIa (PRA/03A)	pm	3.551		pm		(2)
<i>Pandalus borealis</i>	Northern prawn	Crevette nordique	EU waters of IIa and IV (PRA/2AC4-C)	pm	2.446		pm		
<i>Pandalus borealis</i>	Northern prawn	Crevette nordique	Norwegian waters south of 62°00' N (PRA/04-N)	pm	480		pm		(1)
<i>Penaeus spp.</i>	'Penaeus' shrimps	Crevette royale	French Guiana (PEN/FGU)	To be established	To be established		To be established		
<i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>	Plaice	Plie	Skagerrak (PLE/03AN)	pm	9.855		pm		(2)
<i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>	Plaice	Plie	Kattegat (PLE/03AS)	2.626	2.626	0%	2.626	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)	pm	104.117		pm		(2)
<i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>	Plaice	Plie	VI; EU and internat. waters of Vb, internat. waters of XII and XIV (PLE/56-14)	658	658	0%	658	0%	
<i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>	Plaice	Plie	VIIa (PLE/07A)	1.098	1.220	-10%	976	-20%	
<i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>	Plaice	Plie	VII b, c (PLE/07BC)	74	74	0%	74	0%	
<i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>	Plaice	Plie	VII d, e (PLE/07DE)	4.597	4.787	-4%	4.787	0%	
<i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>	Plaice	Plie	VII f, g (PLE/7FG)	461	461	0%	420	-9%	
<i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>	Plaice	Plie	VII h, j, k (PLE/7HJK)	135	135	0%	135	0%	

<i>Species Latin name</i>	Species English name	Espèces nom français	ICES fishing zone	COUNCIL TACs 2015 (UE)	COUNCIL TACs 2014 (UE)	COUNCIL % comparison 2015/2014	COMMISSION Proposal for 2015	comparison Council TAC 2014 / Commis. Prop. 2015	Notes
<i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>	Plaice	Plie	VIII, IX, X, EU waters of CEEAF 34.1.1 (PLE/8/3411)	395	395	0%	395	0%	
<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%	397	0%	
<i>Pollachius pollachius</i>	Pollack	Lieu jaune	VII (POL/07)	13.495	13.495	0%	10.796	-20%	
<i>Pollachius pollachius</i>	Pollack	Lieu jaune	VIII a, b, d, e (POL/8ABDE)	1.482	1.482	0%	1.186	-20%	
<i>Pollachius pollachius</i>	Pollack	Lieu jaune	VIIIc (POL/08C)	231	231	0%	231	0%	
<i>Pollachius pollachius</i>	Pollack	Lieu jaune	IX, X, EU waters of CEEAF 34.1.1 (POL/9/3411)	282	282	0%	282	0%	
<i>Pollachius virens</i>	Saithe	Lieu noir	IIIa and IV; EU waters of IIa,b,c,d (POK/2A34)	pm	36.917		pm		(2)
<i>Pollachius virens</i>	Saithe	Lieu noir	VI; EU and internat. waters of Vb, XII and XIV (POK/56-14)	pm	7.545		pm		(2)
<i>Pollachius virens</i>	Saithe	Lieu noir	Norwegian waters south of 62° N (POK/04-N)	pm	880		pm		(1)
<i>Pollachius virens</i>	Saithe	Lieu noir	VII, VIII, IX, X, EU waters of CEEAF 34.1.1 (POK/7/3411)	3.176	3.176	0%	3.176	0%	
<i>Psetta maxima & Scophthalmus rhombus</i>	Turbot and brill	Turbot et barbue	EU waters of IIa and IV (TUR/2AC4-C) (BLL/2AC4-C)	4.642	4.642	0%	4.642	0%	
<i>Rajidae</i>	Skates and rays	Requins et Raies	EU waters of IIa and IV (SRX/2AC4-C)	1.256	1.256	0%	1.005	-20%	
<i>Rajidae</i>	Skates and rays	Requins et Raies	EU waters of IIIa (SRX/03A-C)	47	47	0%	38	-19%	
<i>Rajidae</i>	Skates and rays	Requins et Raies	EU waters of VIa-b, VIIa-c and VIIe-k (SRX/67AKXD)	8.032	8.032	0%	6.426	-20%	

<i>Species Latin name</i>	Species English name	Espèces nom français	ICES fishing zone	COUNCIL TACs 2015 (UE)	COUNCIL TACs 2014 (UE)	COUNCIL % comparison 2015/2014	COMMISSION Proposal for 2015	comparison Council TAC 2014 / Commis. Prop. 2015	Notes
<i>Rajidae</i>	Skates and rays	Requins et Raies	EU waters of VIIId (SRX/07D)	798	798	0%	638	-20%	
<i>Rajidae</i>	Skates and rays	Requins et Raies	EU waters of VIII et IX (SRX/89-C)	3.420	3.420	0%	3.078	-10%	
<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)	1.500	1.000	50%	pm		
<i>Scomber scombrus</i>	Mackerel	Maquereau	IIIa and IV; EU waters of IIa, IIIb-c and Subdivisions 22-32 (MAC/2A34)	pm	42.304		pm		(2)
<i>Scomber scombrus</i>	Mackerel	Maquereau	VI, VII, VIII a-b, VIIId-e; EU and internat. waters of Vb; Internat. waters of Iia, XII, XIV (MAC/2CX14)	pm	494.941		pm		(2)
<i>Scomber scombrus</i>	Mackerel	Maquereau	VIIIc, IX, X; EU waters of CECAF 34.1.1 (MAC/8C3411)	pm	56.635		pm		(2)
<i>Scomber scombrus</i>	Mackerel	Maquereau	Norwegian waters of IIa and IVa (MAC/2A4A-N.)	16.521	19.437	-15%	pm		(1)
<i>Solea solea</i>	Common sole	Sole commune	IIIa; EU waters of Subdivisions 22-32 (SOL/3A/BCD)	205	353	-42%	205	-42%	
<i>Solea solea</i>	Common sole	Sole commune	EU waters of IIa and IV (SOL/24-C)	11.890	11.890	0%	11.365	-4%	
<i>Solea solea</i>	Common sole	Sole commune	VI; EU and internat. waters of Vb; internat. waters of XII, XIV (SOL/56-14)	57	57	0%	57	0%	
<i>Solea solea</i>	Common sole	Sole commune	VIIa (SOL/07A)	90	95	-5%	90	-5%	
<i>Solea solea</i>	Common sole	Sole commune	VIIb-c (SOL/7BC)	42	42	0%	42	0%	
<i>Solea solea</i>	Common sole	Sole commune	VIIId (SOL/07D)	3.483	4.838	-28%	1.931	-60%	
<i>Solea solea</i>	Common sole	Sole commune	VIIe (SOL/07E)	851	832	2%	851	2%	

<i>Species Latin name</i>	Species English name	Espèces nom français	ICES fishing zone	COUNCIL TACs 2015 (UE)	COUNCIL TACs 2014 (UE)	COUNCIL % comparison 2015/2014	COMMISSION Proposal for 2015	comparison Council TAC 2014 / Commis. Prop. 2015	Notes
<i>Solea solea</i>	Common sole	Sole commune	VIIIf, g (SOL/7FG)	851	1.001	-15%	652	-35%	
<i>Solea solea</i>	Common sole	Sole commune	VIIIf, j, k (SOL/7HJK)	382	382	0%	382	0%	
<i>Solea solea</i>	Common sole	Sole commune	VIIIa, b (SOL/8AB)	3.800	3.800	0%	3.420	-10%	
<i>Solea spp.</i>	Sole	Sole	VIIIc, d, e, IX, X. EU waters of CECAF 34.1.1 (SOO/8CDE34)	1.072	1.072	0%	1.072	0%	
<i>Sprattus sprattus</i>	Sprat and associated by-catches	Sprat et prises accessoires associées	IIIa (SPR/03A)	pm	30.784		pm		(2)
<i>Sprattus sprattus</i>	Sprat and associated by-catches	Sprat et prises accessoires associées	EU waters of IIa and IV (SPR/2AC4-C)	pm	135.000		pm		
<i>Sprattus sprattus</i>	Sprat	Sprat	VIIId-e (SPR/7DE)	5.150	5.150	0%	5.150	0%	
<i>Squalus acanthias</i>	Spurdog/dogfish	Aiguillat/chien de mer	EU waters of IIIa (DGS/03A-C)	0	0		0		
<i>Trachurus spp.</i>	Horse mackerel and associated by-catches	Chinchard et prises accessoires associées	EU waters of IVb, IVc, VIIId (JAX/4BC7D)	not applicable	28.170		not applicable		
<i>Trachurus spp.</i>	Horse mackerel and associated by-catches	Chinchard et prises accessoires associées	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)	85.732	115.212	-26%	85.732	-26%	
<i>Trachurus spp.</i>	Horse mackerel	Chinchard	VIIIc (JAX/08C)	13.572	18.508	-27%	13.572	-27%	

<i>Species Latin name</i>	Species English name	Espèces nom français	ICES fishing zone	COUNCIL TACs 2015 (UE)	COUNCIL TACs 2014 (UE)	COUNCIL % comparison 2015/2014	COMMISSION Proposal for 2015	comparison Council TAC 2014 / Commis. Prop. 2015	Notes
<i>Trachurus spp.</i>	Horse mackerel	Chinchard	IX (JAX/09)	59.500	35.000	70%	59.500	70%	
<i>Trachurus spp.</i>	Horse mackerel	Chinchard	X: EU waters of CECAF - Azores (JAX/X34PRT)	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		
<i>Trachurus spp.</i>	Horse mackerel	Chinchard	EU waters of CECAF - Canary Islands (JAX/341SPN)	To be established			To be established		
<i>Trisopterus esmarki</i>	Norway pout and associated by-catches	Tacaud norvégien	IIIa; EU waters of IIa, IV (EC waters) (NOP/2A3A4)	not applicable	106.250		not applicable		
<i>Trisopterus esmarki</i>	Norway pout and associated by-catches	Tacaud norvégien	Norwegian water of IV (NOP/04-N)	pm	0		pm		
		Industrial fish	Norwegian waters of IV (I/F/4AB-N)	pm	800		0		(1)
		Other species	EU waters of Vb; VI and VII (OTH/5B67-C)	Not relevant	Not relevant		Not relevant		
		Other species	Norwegian waters IV (OTH/04-N)	pm	7.250		pm		(1)
		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 - ICES SUBAREAS I, II, V, XII, XIV AND GREENLAND WATERS OF NAFO 1									
<i>Chionoecetes spp.</i>	Snow crab	Crabe des neiges	Greenland waters of NAFO 0 and 1 (PCR/N01GRN)	pm	200		pm		
<i>Clupea harengus</i>	Herring	Hareng	EU and Internat. waters of I and II (HER/1/2)	pm	13.697		pm		
<i>Gadus morhua</i>	Cod	Cabillaud	Norwegian waters of I and II (COD/1N2AB)	pm	20.524		pm		(1)

<i>Species Latin name</i>	Species English name	Espèces nom français	ICES fishing zone	COUNCIL TACs 2015 (UE)	COUNCIL TACs 2014 (UE)	COUNCIL % comparison 2015/2014	COMMISSION Proposal for 2015	comparison Council TAC 2014 / Commis. Prop. 2015	Notes
<i>Gadus morhua</i>	Cod	Cabillaud	Greenland waters of NAFO 1, Greenland waters of XIV (COD/N1GL14)	pm	2.200		pm		
<i>Gadus morhua</i>	Cod	Cabillaud	Internat. waters of I and IIb (COD/1/2B)	pm	36.908		pm		
<i>Gadus morhua and Melanogrammus aeglefinus</i>	Cod and haddock	Cabillaud et églefin	Faroese waters of Vb (C/H/05B-F)	pm	950		pm		
<i>Hippoglossus hippoglossus</i>	Atlantic halibut	Flétan	Greenland waters of V, XIV (HAL/514GRN)	pm	125		pm		
<i>Hippoglossus hippoglossus</i>	Atlantic halibut	Flétan	Greenland waters of NAFO 1 (HAL/N1GRN)	pm	125		pm		
<i>Macrourus spp.</i>	Grenadiers	Grenadiers	Greenland waters of V and XIV (GRV/514GRN)	pm	40		pm		
<i>Macrourus spp.</i>	Grenadiers	Grenadiers	Greenland waters of NAFO 1 (GRV/N1GRN)	pm	40		pm		
<i>Mallotus villosus</i>	Capelin	Capelan	IIb (CAP/02B)	pm	0		pm		
<i>Mallotus villosus</i>	Capelin	Capelan	Greenland waters of V, XIV (CAP/514GRN)	pm	34.650		pm		
<i>Melanogrammus aeglefinus</i>	Haddock	Eglefin	Norwegian waters of I, II (HAD/1N2AB)	pm	1.200		pm		(1)
<i>Micromesistius poutassou</i>	Blue whiting	Merlan bleu	Faroese waters (WHB/2A4AXF)	pm	2.000		pm		
<i>Molva molva and Molva dypterigia</i>	Ling and Blue ling	Lingue et lingue bleue	Faroese waters of Vb (B/L/05B-F)	pm	1.500		pm		
<i>Pandalus borealis</i>	Northern prawn	Crevette nordique	Greenland waters of V and XIV (PRA/514GRN)	pm	2.650		pm		

<i>Species Latin name</i>	Species English name	Espèces nom français	ICES fishing zone	COUNCIL TACs 2015 (UE)	COUNCIL TACs 2014 (UE)	COUNCIL % comparison 2015/2014	COMMISSION Proposal for 2015	comparison Council TAC 2014 / Commis. Prop. 2015	Notes
<i>Pandalus borealis</i>	Northern prawn	Crevette nordique	Greenland waters of NAFO 1 (PRA/N1GRN)	pm	3.400		pm		
<i>Pollachius virens</i>	Saithe	Lieu noir	Norwegian waters I, II (POK/1N2AB)	pm	2.550		pm		(1)
<i>Pollachius virens</i>	Saithe	Lieu noir	International waters of I and II (POK/1/2INT)	pm	0		pm		
<i>Pollachius virens</i>	Saithe	Lieu noir	Faroese waters of Vb (POK/05B-F)	pm	3.000		pm		
<i>Reinhardtius hippoglossoides</i>	Greenland halibut	Flétan du Groenland	Norwegian waters of I and II (GHL/1N2AB)	pm	50		pm		(1)
<i>Reinhardtius hippoglossoides</i>	Greenland halibut	Flétan du Groenland	International waters of I and II (GHL/12/INT)	pm	0		pm		
<i>Reinhardtius hippoglossoides</i>	Greenland halibut	Flétan du Groenland	Greenland waters of NAFO 1 (GHL/N1GRN)	pm	1.925		pm		
<i>Reinhardtius hippoglossoides</i>	Greenland halibut	Flétan du Groenland	Greenland waters of V and XIV (GHL/514GRN)	pm	3.780		pm		
<i>Sebastes spp.</i>	Redfish (shallow pelagic)	Sébaste	EU and internat. waters of V ; internat. waters of XII and XIV (RED/51214S)	0	0		0		
<i>Sebastes spp.</i>	Redfish (deep pelagic)	Sébaste	EU and internat. waters of V ; internat. waters of XII and XIV (RED/51214D)	pm	1.468		pm		
<i>Sebastes spp.</i>	Redfish	Sébaste	Norwegian waters of I and II (RED/1N2AB)	pm	1.500		pm		(1)
<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 NAFO 1F and V, XIV (RED/N1F14G)	pm	1.950		pm		

<i>Species Latin name</i>	Species English name	Espèces nom français	ICES fishing zone	COUNCIL TACs 2015 (UE)	COUNCIL TACs 2014 (UE)	COUNCIL % comparison 2015/2014	COMMISSION Proposal for 2015	comparison Council TAC 2014 / Commis. Prop. 2015	Notes
	Redfish (demersal)	Sébaste	Greenland waters of NAFO 1F and V, XIV (RED/N1F14D)	pm	2.000		pm		
<i>Sebastes spp.</i>	Redfish	Sébaste	Icelandic waters of Va (RED/05A-IS)	pm	0		pm		
<i>Sebastes spp.</i>	Redfish	Sébaste	Faroese waters of Vb (RED/05B-F)	pm	1.300		pm		
	Other species		Norwegian waters of I, II (OTH/1N2AB)	pm	350		pm		(1)
	Other species		Faroese waters of Vb (OTH/05B-F)	pm	800		pm		
	Flatfish		Faroese waters of Vb (FLX/05B-F)	pm	300		pm		
ANNEX IC - NORTH WEST ATLANTIC - NAFO CONVENTION AREA									
<i>Gadus morhua</i>	Cod	Cabillaud	NAFO 2J3KL (COD/N2J3KL)	0	0	0%	0	0%	
<i>Gadus morhua</i>	Cod	Cabillaud	NAFO 3NO (COD/N3NO.)	0	0	0%	0	0%	
<i>Gadus morhua</i>	Cod	Cabillaud	NAFO 3M (COD/N3M)	7.867	8.281	-5%	7.867	-5%	
<i>Glyptocephalus cynoglossus</i>	Witch flounder	Plie grise	NAFO 2J3KL (WIT/N2J3KL)	0	0	0%	0	0%	
<i>Glyptocephalus cynoglossus</i>	Witch flounder	Plie grise	NAFO 3NO (WIT/N3NO.)	133			133		
<i>Hippoglossoides platessoides</i>	American Plaice	Faux Flétan	NAFO 3M (PLA/N3M.)	0	0	0%	0	0%	
<i>Hippoglossoides platessoides</i>	American Plaice	Faux Flétan	NAFO 3LNO (PLA/N3LNO.)	0	0	0%	0	0%	
<i>Illex illecebrosus</i>	Shortfin squid	Calmar à nageoires courtes	NAFO sub-zones 3 and 4 (SQI/N34)	Not relevant	Not relevant		Not relevant		

<i>Species Latin name</i>	Species English name	Espèces nom français	ICES fishing zone	COUNCIL TACs 2015 (UE)	COUNCIL TACs 2014 (UE)	COUNCIL % comparison 2015/2014	COMMISSION Proposal for 2015	comparison Council TAC 2014 / Commis. Prop. 2015	Notes
<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 (CAP/N3NO.)	0	0	0%	0	0%	
<i>Pandalus borealis</i>	Northern prawn	Crevette nordique	NAFO 3L (PRA/N3L)	0	240	-100%	0	-100%	
<i>Pandalus borealis</i>	Nothern 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)	6.768	6.709	1%	6.768	1%	
<i>Rajidae</i>	Skate	Raie cendrée	NAFO 3LNO (SKA/N3LNO)	4.408	4.408	0%	4.408	0%	
<i>Sebastes spp.</i>	Redfish	Sébaste	NAFO 3LN (RED/L3LN)	1.896	1.276	49%	1.896	49%	
<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 (RED/N1F3K.)	0	0		0		
<i>Urophycis tenuis</i>	White hake	Merluche blanche	NAFO 3NO (HKW/N3NO)	588	588	0%	588	0%	
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)	9.373	7.939	18%	9.373	18%	
<i>Xiphias gladius</i>	Swordfish	Espadon	Atlantic Ocean, north of latitude 5° N (SWO/AN05N)	8.347	8.347	0%	8.347	0%	
<i>Xiphias gladius</i>	Swordfish	Espadon	Atlantic Ocean, south of latitude 5° N (SWO/AS05N)	5.695	5.142	11%	5.695	11%	

<i>Species Latin name</i>	Species English name	Espèces nom français	ICES fishing zone	COUNCIL TACs 2015 (UE)	COUNCIL TACs 2014 (UE)	COUNCIL % comparison 2015/2014	COMMISSION Proposal for 2015	comparison Council TAC 2014 / Commis. Prop. 2015	Notes
<i>Thunnus alalunga</i>	Northern Albacore	Thon blanc	Atlantic Ocean, north of latitude 5° N (ALB/AN05N)	26.939	26.535	2%	26.939	2%	
<i>Thunnus alalunga</i>	Southern Albacore	Thon blanc	Atlantic Ocean, south of latitude 5° N (ALB/AS05N)	1.719	1.470	17%	1.470	0%	
<i>Thunnus obesus</i>	Bigeye tuna	Thon obèse	Atlantic Ocean (BET/ATLANT)	29.467	29.467	0%	29.467	0%	
<i>Makaira nigricans</i>	Blue marlin	Makaïre bleu	Atlantic Ocean (BUM/ATLANT)	480	480	0%	480	0%	
<i>Tetrapturus alba</i>	White marlin	Makaïre blanc	Atlantic Ocean (WHM/ATLANT)	52	50	4%	52	4%	
ANNEX IE - ANTARCTIC - CCAMLR CONVENTION AREA									
<i>Champscephalus gunnari</i>	Mackerel icefish	Poisson des glaces antarctique	FAO 48.3 Anatarctic (ANI/F483)	2.659	4.635	-43%	2.659	-43%	(3)
<i>Champscephalus gunnari</i>	Mackerel icefish	Poisson des glaces antarctique	FAO 58.5.2 Antarctic (ANI/F5852)	309	1.267	-76%	309	-76%	(3)
<i>Chaenocephalus aceratus</i>	Blackfin icefish	Grande-gueule antarctique	FAO 48.3 Antarctic (SSI/F483)	2.200	2.200	0%	2.200	0%	(3)
<i>Channichtyx rhinoceratus</i>	Unicorn icefish	Grande gueule	FAO 58.5.2 Antarctic (LIC/F5852)	150	150	0%	150	0%	(3)
<i>Dissostichus eleginoides</i>	Patagonian toothfish	Légine australe	FAO 48.3 Antarctic (TOP/F483)	2.400	2.400	0%	2.400	0%	(3)
<i>Dissostichus eleginoides</i>	Patagonian toothfish	Légine australe	FAO 48.4 Antarctic north (TOP/F484N)	42	45	-7%	42	-7%	(3)
<i>Dissostichus mawsoni</i>	Antartic Toothfish	Légine antartique	FAO 48.4 Antarctic south (TOP/F484S)	28	24	17%	28	17%	(3)

<i>Species Latin name</i>	Species English name	Espèces nom français	ICES fishing zone	COUNCIL TACs 2015 (UE)	COUNCIL TACs 2014 (UE)	COUNCIL % comparison 2015/2014	COMMISSION Proposal for 2015	comparison Council TAC 2014 / Commis. Prop. 2015	Notes
<i>Dissostichus eleginoides</i>	Patagonian toothfish	Légine australe	FAO 58.5.2 Antarctic (TOP/F5852)	4.410	2.730	62%	4.410	62%	(3)
<i>Euphausia superba</i>	Krill	Krill	FAO 48 (KRI/F48)	5.610.000	5.610.000	0%	5.610.000	0%	(3)
<i>Euphausia superba</i>	Krill	Krill	FAO 58.4.1 Antarctic (KRI/F5841)	440.000	440.000	0%	440.000	0%	(3)
<i>Euphausia superba</i>	Krill	Krill	FAO 58.4.2 Antarctic (KRI/F5842)	2.645.000	2.645.000	0%	2.645.000	0%	(3)
<i>Gobionotothen gibberifrons</i>	Humped rockcod	Bocasse bossue	FAO 48.3 Antarctic (NOG/F483)	1.470	1.470	0%	1.470	0%	(3)
<i>Lepidonotothen squamifrons</i>	Grey rockcod	Bocasse grise	FAO 48.3 Antarctic (NOS/F483)	300	300	0%	300	0%	(3)
<i>Lepidonotothen squamifrons</i>	Grey rockcod	Bocasse grise	FAO 58.5.2 Antarctic NOS/F5852	80	80	0%	80	0%	(3)
<i>Macrourus spp.</i>	Grenadier	Grenadier	FAO 58.5.2 Antarctic (GRV/F5852)	360	360	0%	360	0%	(3)
<i>Macrourus spp.</i>	Grenadier	Grenadier	FAO 48.3 Antarctic (GRV/F483)	120	120	0%	120	0%	(3)
<i>Macrourus spp.</i>	Grenadier	Grenadier	FAO 48.4 Antarctic (GRV/F484)	11			11		
<i>Notothenia rossii</i>	Marbled rockcod	Bocasse marbrée	FAO 48.3 Antarctic (NOR/F483)	300	300	0%	300	0%	(3)
<i>Paralomis spp.</i>	Crab	Crabe	FAO 48.3 Antarctic (PAI/F483)	0	0	0%	0	0%	(3)
<i>Pseudochaenichthys georgianus</i>	South Georgia icefish	Crocodile de Géorgie	FAO 48.3 Antarctic (SIG/F483)	300	300	0%	300	0%	(3)
<i>Rajidae</i>	Skates and rays	Requins et raies	FAO 58.5.2 Antarctic (SRX/F5852)	120	120	0%	120	0%	(3)

<i>Species Latin name</i>	Species English name	Espèces nom français	ICES fishing zone	COUNCIL TACs 2015 (UE)	COUNCIL TACs 2014 (UE)	COUNCIL % comparison 2015/2014	COMMISSION Proposal for 2015	comparison Council TAC 2014 / Commis. Prop. 2015	Notes
<i>Rajidae</i>	Skates and rays	Requins et raies	FAO 48.3 Antarctic (SRX/F483)	120	120	0%	120	0%	(3)
<i>Rajidae</i>	Skates and rays	Requins et raies	FAO 48.4 Antarctic (SRX/F484)	3			3		
	Other species	Autres espèces	FAO 58.5.2 Antarctic (OTH/F5852)	50	50	0%	50	0%	(3)
ANNEX IF - SOUTH-EAST ATLANTIC OCEAN - SEAFO CONVENTION AREA									
<i>Beryx spp.</i>	Alfonsinos	Béryx	SEAFO (ALF/SEAFO)	pm	200		pm		(4)
<i>Chaceon spp.</i>	Deep-sea Red crab	Gérion ouest-africain	SEAFO Sub Division B1 (GER/F47NAM)	pm	200		pm		(4)
<i>Chaceon spp.</i>	Deep-sea Red crab	Gérion ouest-africain	SEAFO excluding Sub division B1 (GER/F47X)	pm	200		pm		(4)
<i>Dissostichus eleginoides</i>	Patagonian Toothfish	Légine australe	SEAFO Sub-Area D (TOP/F47D)	pm	276		pm		(4)
<i>Hoplostethus atlanticus</i>	Orange roughy	Hoplosthète orange	SEAFO Sub Division B1 (ORY/F47NAM)	pm	0		pm		(4)
<i>Hoplostethus atlanticus</i>	Orange roughy	Hoplosthète orange	SEAFO, excluding Sub Division B1 (ORY/F47X)	pm	50		pm		(4)
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 - WCPFC CONVENTION AREA									
<i>Xiphias gladius</i>	Swordfish	Espadon	WCPFC area south of 20° S	3.170	3.170	0%	3.170	0%	
ANNEX IJ - SPRFMO CONVENTION AREA									
<i>Trachurus murphyi</i>	Jack mackerel	Chinchard du Chili	SPRFMO Convention area (CJM/SPRFMO)	To be established	To be established		To be established		

Notes:

- (1) Stocks in Norwegian waters: no fishing opportunities pending the consultations on those arrangements for 2014.
- (2) Stocks shared with Norway: provisional fishing opportunities subjects to the bilateral fisheries agreements with Norway, pending the consultations on those arrangements for 2014.
- (3) TACs adopted by the Commission for the conservation of Antarctic marine living resources (CCAMLR) are not allocated to the members of CCAMLR and hence the Union's share is undetermined.
- (4) These TACs are not allocated to the members of South East Atlantic Fisheries Organisation (SEAFO) and hence the Union's share is undetermined.

Fishing opportunities for 2015 in the Black Sea

Ministers reached a political agreement on a regulation fixing for 2015 the fishing opportunities for certain fish stocks applicable in the Black Sea ([15830/14 ADD 1](#)) 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 2015 compared with those for 2014 and the Commission proposal.

<i>Species Latin name</i>	Species English name	Espèces nom français	ICES fishing zone	COUNCIL TACs 2015	COUNCIL TACs 2014	COUNCIL comparison 2015/2014	COMMISSION proposal for 2015	comparison Council TAC 2014 / Commission proposal 2015
<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 it was appropriate to reinforce the control and monitoring measures in order to address the misreporting an illegal fishery for turbot in the Black Sea. Such measures have been developed jointly by Member States concerned and the Commission since 2012.

In addition, the Council and the Commission agreed that existing regional cooperation on fishing in the Black Sea should be further enhanced to promote sustainable stock management in this area in particular in the framework of the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM) and that they would each take actions in line with their competence including possible establishment of international management measures, such as long term management plans.

As the existing provisions are applicable until 31 December 2014 the regulation will apply from 1 January 2015.

AGRICULTURE

Conclusions

A large number of member states supported Presidency conclusions on **strengthening the EU policies for young farmers** exploring possible solutions complementing the CAP tools in favour of young farmers to reduce the existing barriers to enter in the sector ([see document](#)).

The Council adopted also conclusions on the **error rate for agriculture expenditure** ([see document](#)).

Future of the dairy sector

Ministers had an exchange of views on the future of the dairy sector ([16764/14](#)) and took stock of a Polish request for additional measures for the milk market ([16550/14](#)).

In view of the recent deterioration of the dairy market conditions and in light of the forthcoming end of the milk quotas, most of the member states considered that the market volatility was one of the main concern and challenges in the near future. While some delegations called for further measures to alleviate this volatility, some others considered that the existing "safety net" offered enough protection to the milk sector and should be properly implemented first.

Most of the member states welcomed the setting up of the European Milk Market Observatory (EMMO) but some pointed out that this tool could be improved with more updated and timely data or by taking into account not only milk prices but also other indicators.

On the actions which could usefully help farmers to face the possible consequences of the end of the milk quotas, views diverged between member states on the possibility to facilitate the payments of the super-levies for exceeding quotas in the year 2014/2015, through non-interest instalments. Some member states regretted that a proper "soft landing" to facilitate the transition after the end of the quota system had not been put in place some months ago.

The Commission noted that the milk production in the EU had considerably increased in the recent months in some member states. It stressed also that while a decrease in the milk prices was observed in several member states, the sector was not considered to be in crisis.

Organic farming

The Council had a political debate and took note of the document prepared by the Presidency and the large support for the annex providing a political orientation on the proposal on organic farming ([16628/14](#)).

Following the discussions in the Council and its preparatory bodies, the Presidency made progress to try to reply to the concerns expressed by the member states and proposed:

- a significant reduction of the number and scope of delegated acts;
- maintaining the status quo as regards mixed farms (where there is at the same time, organic and non-organic production);
- the introduction of the derogations for the use of non-organic seeds, non-organic animals and non-organic juveniles, in line with the existing rules;

The proposal aims to review the existing legislation on organic production and labelling of organic products and amend the regulation on official controls (not yet adopted - see below) with the objective of removing obstacles to the development of organic production in the EU, guaranteeing fair competition for farmers and operators and improving consumer confidence in organic products.

Progress reports on legislative proposals

The Council took note of the Presidency reports on the progress achieved during the second half of 2014 on number of legislative proposals currently examined by the Council and its preparatory bodies.

School fruit, vegetables and milk scheme

This proposal amends the new regulation for a Single Common Market Organisation (CMO) adopted in the framework of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) reform ([5958/14](#)). This amendment aims to streamline the existing schemes with a view to increasing their efficiency and effectiveness and reducing the administrative burden. School milk and milk products, fruit and vegetables schemes were established in the EU in 1977 and 2007 respectively to promote the consumption of fruit and vegetable and milk products in schools. As a supplement to this proposal, the Commission has also tabled a proposal amending the regulation determining **measures on fixing certain aids and refunds** related to the CMO ([6054/14](#)).

In the light of the discussions in the Council, the Presidency has identified the following main issues ([16700/14](#)):

- the legal basis of the proposals;
- the objective and the scope of the regime;
- the criteria for the allocation of EU aid.

The European Parliament started its work on the proposal in July 2014. The European Parliament is currently working on the report, which is due to be voted at committee level in February/March 2015.

– ***Official controls***

The aim of the proposal on official controls is to simplify and streamline the existing legal framework, in order to improve the efficiency of official controls performed by the member states along the food chain while minimizing the burden for operators and ensuring they are on a level-playing field ([9464/13](#)). The proposal also intends to establish a unique set of rules applicable to all sectors (in particular, plant health, plant reproductive material, animal by-products and organic farming are now included in the proposal).

While many difficulties identified in the discussions in the Council have been overcome since the submission of the proposal in May 2013, the Presidency considered that further work is still needed on the following issues ([16398/14](#)):

- the financing of the official controls and other official activities (Articles 76 to 84);
- the role of the official veterinarian in the performance of official controls on live animals and products of animal origin in the EU and at EU borders (Articles 15, 47 and 53);
- specific rules for official controls and action taken by the competent authorities in the different sectors covered by the scope of the proposal (Articles 15 to 24).

The European Parliament adopted its position at first reading on 15 April 2014. This position was subsequently confirmed by the newly elected European Parliament in July 2014.

– ***Plant health***

The proposal on protective measures against pests of plants aims to address increased risks in this area, which stem from new pests and diseases. It will also modernise instruments related to intra-EU trade or trade with third countries focusing on a risk-based approach. Better surveillance and early eradication of outbreaks of new pests are the tools which should be used to ensure plant health ([9574/13](#)).

Together with proposals on animal health, official controls (see above) and plant reproductive material (see below) the regulation on plant health aims to strengthen the enforcement of health and safety standards for the whole agri-food chain.

The proposal have been examined by the Council and its preparatory bodies and the main issues have been clarified by the Presidency during the discussions with member states ([16414/14](#)).

The European Parliament adopted its opinion at first reading on 15 April 2014. Political contact with the Parliament will be initiated once a mandate for negotiation has been adopted for the Council.

– ***Zootechnical conditions for trade of breeding animals***

The proposal on the zootechnical and genealogical conditions for trade in and imports into the EU of breeding animals and their germinal products aims at streamlining the current EU zootechnical legislation ([6445/14](#)). This legislation promotes the free trade in breeding animals and their genetic material considering the sustainability of breeding programs and preservation of genetic resources. In addition, as the breeding of animals is not intended to fall within the scope of the official controls proposal (see previous item), further **amendments to the proposal on zootechnical legislation** are proposed to provide specific control measures on breeding animals ([6444/14](#)).

The proposals have been examined by the Council and its preparatory bodies and the Presidency has identified the main issues raised by the texts through contributions from Member States ([16367/14](#)).

The European Parliament has just begun its examination of the proposal and is expected to adopt its position on 5 May 2015.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

– ***Implementation of the landing obligation***

The Presidency briefed the ministers about the progress of discussions between Council and EP on the "omnibus" regulation, in preparation for the implementation of the landing obligation.

The Presidency indicated that the first scheduled trilogue took place on 10 December 2014. Parties made good progress on a number of issues but an agreement on the whole package could not be reached due to diverging views on the scope. The Parliament argues in favour of limiting the scope of the proposal to 2015 only (pelagic fish and Baltic Sea) while the Council continues to insist that the "omnibus" regulation should cover all phases of the landing obligation.

While supporting the Presidency's efforts and approach, many member states regretted the delay in the preparations of the "omnibus" regulation. They expressed concerns on the possible inconsistencies generated by this situation and urged the Presidency and the Commission to finalise an agreement with the Parliament as soon as possible.

A central objective of the reformed common fisheries policy (CFP) is the progressive elimination of discards in all EU fisheries through the introduction of an obligation to land all catches. In order to make the landing obligation operational certain provisions within the current technical measures and control regulations should be removed or amended. All the identified changes were combined in a single text, so called "omnibus" regulation proposed by the Commission.

– ***Simplification of the agricultural policy***

The Commission presented to the ministers the key elements of the simplification agenda it launched to reduce the burden adding costs to farmers and other operators.

Most of the member states supported the Commission initiative simplify the agricultural legislative. Many pointed out the "greening" of the CAP as a priority for simplification. Some stressed that the simplification of the rules for Geographical indication should not led to a weakening of the framework.

The Commission identified areas where rules could be simplified:

- any current proposal should deliver in terms of simplification;
- Commission regulations implementing the CMO (Common market organisation) will be revised to reduce their number;
- direct payments (including a review of the rules on the ecological focus areas after the first year of application);
- rules for Geographical Indications should be closely examined to ensure that they are as effective and simple as possible.

– ***35th and 36th conferences of directors of EU paying agencies***

The Greek delegation and the Presidency presented the conclusions of the 35th and the 36th conferences of EU paying agency directors which took place respectively in Komotini (Greece) from 9 to 11 April 2014 and in Rome from 10 to 12 November 2014 ([16615/14](#); [16631/14](#)).

The conferences of the paying agency directors takes place every six months, in whichever member state is holding the EU Presidency at this time.

The key topics of the 35th conference in Greece were orientated to the implementation of the CAP reform for the period 2014-2020 and to the effort of reducing error rates in agriculture expenditure under the light of the new legal framework.

The 36th conference in Italy discussed the implementation of "greening" requirements in the reformed CAP (in particular ecological focus areas or EFA's), the error rates in agriculture expenditure and the audit opinions on legality and regularity for agricultural funds.

– ***Additional measures for the fruit and vegetables sector***

The Council took stock of demands of the Polish delegation on additional measures for the fruit and vegetable sector, in particular apples ([16317/14](#)) and of a similar demand by the Spanish and the Cyprus delegations which requested the extension of the Commission delegated regulation 1031/2014 laying down further temporary exceptional support measures for producers of certain fruit and vegetables ([16878/14](#)).

Together with these delegations, some member states pointed out that the extension of the support for certain fruit and vegetables adopted by the Commission should be better adapted to the need of the countries affected. They considered that the scope or the period retained for applying the measures should be adapted.

– ***Market situation for pig meat***

Belgium, Denmark, Ireland, France, Hungary, Poland and Romania delegations supported by Estonia and Austria delegations expressed their concerns about the market situation for pig meat in light of the Russian import restrictions ([16674/14](#)).

Some delegations shared the concerns of these member states and requested the introduction of a temporary support scheme for private storage which would ease the market before alternative markets can be found. The Commission noted that in addition to the Russian embargo, the overproduction in some member states is also responsible of this situation. Even if the decrease in the price of pig meat observed in several member states is not yet at a crisis level, the Commission will review this demand at the beginning of next year in light of the evolution in this sector.

– ***Rural development programme for 2007-2013 and 2014-2020 periods***

The Council was briefed by the Polish delegation together with the Bulgarian, Czech, Greek, Croatian, Cyprus, Lithuanian, Hungarian, Maltese, Romanian, Slovenian and Slovak delegations about a request for extending the eligibility of expenditure for the rural development programmes 2007-2013.

Some other member states supported this initiative which should allow a better use of the rural development funds. The Commission intends to accelerate the adoption of rural development programmes but could explore the possibility to extend the eligibility if needed.

The programming period for rural development programmes from 2007 to 2013 is normally set to end on 31 December this year. However the delegations mentioned above stressed that this deadline should be postponed by six months to enable the full and effective use of funds in member states, in particular those affected by difficult economic situation and those participating to the Leader programme.

About the same issue, the Presidency also briefed the ministers about the approval of rural development programmes for the period 2014-2020 and on the treatment of 2014 commitments of programmes co-financed by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD). In addition, the Belgian delegation requested an extension of the transitional arrangements for rural development programmes to ensure an effective continuation between the programming periods 2007-2013 and 2014-2020.

– ***Damage to forest caused by the sleety rain***

The Hungarian delegation briefed the ministers on the serious damage to the forests caused by extreme recent weather conditions, in particular sleety rains which built up a thick layer of ice on both vegetation and soil.

The exact extent of damages is still difficult to estimate, since most of the affected area is still inaccessible. However, Hungary intends to obtain more data on the damages from January 2015 onwards. On this basis, resources potentially made available out of the rural development programme 2014-2020 will be used for restoration activities. The Commission listed the financial measures which could be initiated to compensate the damages to the Hungarian forest.

– ***Plant reproductive material law***

The Presidency informed the ministers on the state of play of the discussions on the regulation on the production and making available on the market of plant reproductive material. The main objective of the proposal is to ensure the health, identity and quality of plant reproductive material (including seeds and plant propagating material) to the users, in particular farmers.

Further to the rejection of the Commission proposal by the Parliament at first reading on 11 March 2014, the Council took position on the issue in June 2014 and on 5 December 2014. The Presidency addressed a letter to the Commission asking to present the amendments to the text on plant reproductive material requested by the Council as soon as possible. The letter emphasized that the proposal being part of a package of new regulations concerning official controls, plant health and animal health, any further delay with the proposal could cause a misalignment of legislation, with serious consequences for all sectors involved.

The Commission will examine in the coming days how to reply to this demand.

– ***Meeting on animal welfare***

The Council was briefed by the Danish, German and the Netherlands delegations about the outcome of a trilateral ministerial meeting on animal welfare which took place on 14 December 2014 in Vught in the Netherlands ([16414/14](#)). In this context, a joint declaration was adopted by the three member states ([16923/14](#)).

Several member states supported the initiative. However some noted that considering the high level of EU standards for animal welfare, reciprocity should be requested from third countries exporting to the EU. Some pointed out also that one should ensure that existing legislation is correctly applied before having new proposals in this area.

Denmark, Germany and the Netherlands considered that the EU should work further on the animal welfare policy and regulation and focus on:

- better regulation, to develop proposals for a simpler and modern legislation in the area;
- better welfare, to improve the current level of animal welfare in several areas when legislation exists;
- promotion of knowledge and raise awareness on animal welfare issues.

– ***Indication of the country of origin for food***

The Presidency invited the Commission to provide information to the Council about the reports on applicability and appropriateness of the mandatory indication of the country of origin or place of provenance for certain type of foods which should have been submitted by the Commission by 13 December 2014 ([16825/14](#)).

According to regulation 1169/2011 on the provision of food information to consumers (food labelling), possible mandatory requirement for the indication of the origin on the labelling of certain food products should be considered in a report the Commission must submit to the European Parliament and the Council on the feasibility and analysis of the costs and benefits of such measures, including the legal impact on the internal market and the impact on international trade.

The Commission confirmed that those reports will be submitted beginning of next year.

– ***Losses for beekeepers caused by migratory birds***

The Cyprus delegation briefed the Council about the losses registered by beekeepers following the intervention of migratory birds feeding on bees and called upon the Commission to examine a possible compensation for its beekeepers affected by those losses ([16776/14](#)).

The Commission underscored that a possible compensation for beekeepers affected should be part of a specific rural development programme submitted by Cyprus.

OTHER ITEMS APPROVED

FOOD LAW

Caseins intended for human consumption

The Council agreed a general approach on a draft directive approximating the member states' laws relating to caseins and caseinates intended for human consumption ([15875/14](#)).

The draft directive is aimed at

- aligning the provisions conferring implementing powers to the Commission to the rules introduced by the Lisbon Treaty
- aligning the compositional requirements of caseins and caseinates to the relevant Codex Alimentarius standard
- updating the provisions applicable to caseins and caseinates taking into account EU legislation adopted in the meantime

AGRICULTURE

Cyprus tax exemption on motor fuel in agriculture

The Council adopted a decision of the Cyprus request for a state aid to farmers in the form of a temporary tax exemption on motor fuel used for agricultural purposes ([16616/1/14](#)).

Cyprus farmers have been severely affected by the economic and financial crisis in the country, a recent drought and the Russian ban on agricultural products. In this context, Cyprus proposed to alleviate the burden on its farmers by extending the existing tax exemption on motor fuel used for agricultural purposes.

Under the community guidelines for state aid in the agriculture and forestry sector for 2007-2013 , it was possible to grant reduced tax rates and exemptions to agricultural taxation, by applying a taxation level down to zero. Taking advantage of that possibility, since 2004, the Cypriot legislation has provided for state aid in the form of this tax exemption. However, the EU guidelines for state aid in the agriculture and forestry sectors for 2014-2020 no longer provide for such a possibility. The existing tax exemption in question was not repealed following the new EU guidelines on state aid. Cyprus would like it to be extended from 1 July to 31 December 2014 before complying with the general rules for state aids from the 1 January 2015.

This extension under the terms of the third subparagraph of article 108(2) of the TFEU, pursuant to which unanimity is required to decide that a specific state aid will be deemed compatible with the internal market.

Council conclusions on Court of auditors reports

The Council adopted conclusions on special reports from the European Court of Auditors (ECA)

- No 4/2014 entitled "Integration of EU water policy objectives with the CAP: a partial success" ([15563/14](#));
- No 8/2014 entitled "Has the Commission effectively managed the integration of coupled support into the Single Payment Scheme?" ([15564/14](#));
- No 9/2014 entitled "Is the EU investment and promotion support to the wine sector well managed and are its results on the competitiveness of EU wines demonstrated?" ([15565/14](#)).

As regards report No 4/2014, the Council considers that agriculture has a major role to play in the sustainable management of water quantity and quality. A number of ECA's recommendations were already taken up in the 2013 CAP reform. Furthermore, tools and mechanisms are provided in the rural development framework for protecting water resources. The Council insist on the promotion of the growth of the farming sector together with the contribution to the environment.

For report No 8/2014, the Council notes that the reports identifies errors to avoid them in the future. However, the modalities of decoupling in the EU are very different in the member states considering the diversity of national and regional specificities. Moreover, in the framework of the CAP reform, new direct payment rules provide that Member States will implement the coupled support in certain sectors or regions in clearly defined cases, in line with the subsidiarity principle. Clear guidelines on the direct payment schemes should be provided by the Commission.

Concerning report No 9/2014, the Council highlight that the support for both investments and promotion provided for by the CAP has often contributed to enhancing the competitiveness of the EU's wine sector. However, the Council notes that although preference should be given to small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), neither large firms nor brands should be excluded from the schemes so far as they help EU wine producers gain a foothold in third-country markets and their reputation in those markets often has a multiplier effect on SMEs.

FISHERIES

Deep sea fishing opportunities 2015-2016

The Council adopted a regulation fixing for 2015 and 2016 the fishing opportunities for EU vessels for certain deep-sea fish stocks ([15459/14](#)).

A political agreement was reached on this regulation at the Agriculture and Fisheries Council meeting in November this year ([15282/14](#)). This political agreement concerns certain stocks of deep water fish such as certain deep sea sharks, the black scabbardfish (*Aphanopus carbo*), roundnose grenadier (*Coryphaenoides rupestris*) and roughhead grenadier (*Macrorous berglax*), alfonsinos (*Beryx spp.*), red seabream (*Pagellus bogaraveo*) and greater forkbeard (*Phycis blennoides*).

The fishing opportunities for the deep-sea species are fixed biennially at the EU level since 2003.

Illegal fishing - Belize removed from the list of non-cooperating countries

The Council adopted an implementing decision amending the list of non-cooperating third countries in fighting IUU fishing pursuant to regulation 1005/2008 establishing a Community system to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing ([15295/14](#))

This decision removes Belize from the list of non-cooperating third countries. It appears that Belize has implemented its international law obligations and has adopted an adequate legal framework for fighting IUU fishing.

In March 2014, the Council triggered a series of measures affecting the trade in fisheries products and other fisheries- related activities with Belize, Cambodia and Guinea in order to put a stop to commercial benefits stemming from illegal fishing activities. Fisheries products caught by vessels from these countries were banned from being imported into the EU.

Regulation 1005/2008 establishes a Community system to prevent, deter and eliminate IUU fishing. This key instrument in the fight against illegal fishing aims to allow access to the EU market only to fisheries products that have been certified as legal by the flag state or the exporting state concerned.

Partnership agreement between EU and Cape Verde - New protocol

The Council adopted a decision on the signing, on behalf of the EU, and provisional application of the protocol between the EU and the Republic of Cape Verde setting out the fishing opportunities and the financial contribution provided for by the fisheries partnership agreement (FPA) between the two parties ([15845/14](#)).

The FPA between the EU and Cape Verde entered into force in 2007. The main objective of the protocol to this FPA is to define the fishing opportunities offered to EU vessels. Following the negotiations, a new protocol was initialled on 28 August 2014, for a period of four years, with the previous protocol expiring on 31 August 2014. In order to allow EU vessels to carry on fishing activities, the new protocol should be applied from the date of its signature on a provisional basis, pending the completion of the procedures for its formal conclusion.

In addition to the signing and the provisional application of this protocol, the Council adopted also a regulation concerning the allocation of fishing opportunities between member states ([15846/14](#)).

Partnership agreement between EU and Madagascar - New protocol

The Council adopted a decision on the signing, on behalf of the EU, and provisional application of the protocol setting out the fishing opportunities and the financial contribution provided for in the fisheries partnership agreement (FPA) between the EU and the Republic of Madagascar ([15227/14](#)).

The FPA between the EU and Madagascar entered into force in 2007. The main objective of the protocol to this FPA is to define the fishing opportunities offered to EU vessels. Following the negotiations, a new protocol was initialled on 19 June 2014 with the previous protocol due to expire on 31 December 2014. In order to allow EU vessels to carry on fishing activities, the new protocol should be applied from the date of its signature on a provisional basis, pending the completion of the procedures for its formal conclusion.

In addition to the signing and the provisional application of this protocol, the Council adopted also a regulation concerning the allocation of fishing opportunities between member states ([15228/1/14 REV 1](#)).

JUSTICE AND HOME AFFAIRS

Visa facilitation agreement - Tunisia

The Council adopted a decision authorising the Commission to open negotiations for the conclusion of an agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Tunisia on the facilitation of the issuance of short-stay visas.

Readmission agreement - Tunisia

The Council adopted a decision authorising the Commission to open negotiations for the conclusion of an agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Tunisia on readmission.

ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

Capital requirements directive: liquidity coverage requirement and leverage ratio

The Council decided not to object to the adoption by the Commission of two regulations supplementing the so-called capital requirements directive ("CRD4") 2013/36/EU with regard to

the methodology for the determination of liquidity coverage requirements and for the calculation of the leverage ratio.

The regulations are delegated acts pursuant to article 290 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the EU. They can now enter into force, unless the European Parliament objects.

There is currently no requirement in EU law to meet an own funds requirement based on the leverage ratio. But institutions will be required to disclose the leverage ratio as of 1 January 2015. The delegated act amends the method for calculating the leverage ratio.

CUSTOMS UNION

Tariffs and quotas on certain products

The Council adopted a regulation amending regulation 1388/2013 opening and providing for the management of autonomous tariff quotas of the EU for certain agricultural and industrial products ([16081/14](#)).

The regulation aims to ensure that adequate and uninterrupted supplies of products which are not produced in sufficient quantity in the EU can be imported at reduced or zero duty rates of the Common Customs Tariff duty for appropriate volumes, without disturbing the markets for such products.

The Council also adopted a regulation amending regulation 1387/2013 suspending the autonomous Common Customs Tariff duties on certain agricultural, fishery and industrial products ([16082/14](#)).

CULTURE

European Capitals of Culture 2020-2033¹

The Council appointed the following three experts to the selection and monitoring panel for the European Capital of Culture action for the period 2015-2018:

- Mr Pauli Sivonen,
- Mr Ulrich FUCHS,
- Ms Aiva Rozenberga

The experts were recommended by Finland, Germany and Latvia, in accordance with the Council's implementing decision on the practical and procedural arrangements for the appointment by the Council of three experts to the selection panel². The panel has a total of ten experts, the remaining seven are appointed by the European Parliament, the Commission and the Committee of the Regions.

The general aim of the action is to promote greater mutual understanding between European citizens and to strengthen the feeling of European citizenship, simultaneously highlighting the richness of European cultures and both their diversity and their shared features.

¹ OJ L 132, 3.5.2014.

² OJ L 175, 14.6.2014

TRANSPORT

Air traffic controllers' licences

The Council decided not to oppose adoption by the Commission of a regulation laying down technical requirements and administrative procedures relating to air traffic controllers' licences and requirements ([14342/14](#) + [14342/14 ADD1](#)).

The Commission regulation is to be adopted pursuant to regulation 216/2008, which is the European Aviation Safety Agency regulation. It will amend implementing regulation 923/2012 and repeal regulation 805/2011.

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

Trans-European rail system's interoperability – telematics

The Council decided not to oppose adoption by the Commission of a regulation which updates regulation 454/2011 on the technical specification for interoperability relating to the trans-European rail system's subsystem 'telematics applications for passenger services' ([15038/14](#) + [15038/14 ADD1](#)).

The update concerns technical documents amended in accordance with a change management process carried out by the European Railway Agency.

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

EMPLOYMENT

Mobilisation of the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund for four member states

The Council adopted the four following decisions mobilising a total amount of € 35.5 million under the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund (EGF), providing support for workers made redundant in France, Greece, Italy and Poland:

- an amount of € 25.9 million is mobilised after 5 213 workers of Air France having been dismissed as a result of major structural changes in world trade patterns due to globalisation
- € 6.4 million are paid out of the EGF following the dismissal of 600 workers of the Greek retail enterprise Odyssefs Fokas
- € 1.9 million are deployed for 608 dismissed workers of the enterprise Whirlpool, a manufacturer of electrical equipment operating in Italy
- further € 1.3 million are mobilised after 1 079 workers of Fiat Poland having become redundant

The EGF helps workers to find new jobs and develop new skills when they have lost their jobs as a result of changing global trade patterns, e.g. when a large company shuts down or a factory is moved outside the EU, or as a result of the global financial and economic crisis. The help of the EGF consists in co-financing measures such as job-search assistance, careers advice, tailor-made training and re-training, mentoring and promoting entrepreneurship. It also provides one-off, time-limited individual support, such as job-search allowances, mobility allowances and allowances for participating in lifelong learning and training activities.

TRANSPARENCY

Public access to documents

On 15 December 2014, the Council approved:

- the replies to confirmatory applications No 36/c/05/14 (doc. *15621/14*), No 37/c/06/14 (doc. *15654/1/14 REV 1*), No 38/c/07/14 (doc. *15664/1/14 REV 1*) and No 39/c/08/14 (doc. *15667/1/14 REV 1*).
-