

**COMMISSION REGULATION (EU) 2021/440****of 8 March 2021****establishing a fisheries closure for Northern albacore in the Atlantic Ocean, north of 5° N for vessels flying the flag of Portugal**

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009 of 20 November 2009 establishing a Union control system for ensuring compliance with the rules of the common fisheries policy <sup>(1)</sup>, and in particular Article 36(2) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Council Regulation (EU) 2020/123 <sup>(2)</sup> lays down quotas for 2020.
- (2) According to the information received by the Commission, catches of the stock of Northern albacore in the Atlantic Ocean, north of 5° N by vessels flying the flag of or registered in Portugal have exhausted the quota allocated for 2020.
- (3) It is therefore necessary to prohibit certain fishing activities for that stock,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

*Article 1***Quota exhaustion**

The fishing quota allocated to Portugal for the stock of Northern albacore in the Atlantic Ocean, north of 5° N for 2020 referred to in the Annex shall be deemed to be exhausted from the date set out in that Annex.

*Article 2***Prohibitions**

Fishing activities for the stock referred to in Article 1 by vessels flying the flag of or registered in Portugal shall be prohibited from the date set out in the Annex. In particular it shall be prohibited to retain on board, relocate, tranship or land fish from that stock caught by those vessels after that date.

*Article 3***Entry into force**This Regulation shall enter into force on the day following that of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

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

<sup>(1)</sup> OJ L 343, 22.12.2009, p. 1.<sup>(2)</sup> Council Regulation (EU) 2020/123 of 27 January 2020 fixing for 2020 the fishing opportunities for certain fish stocks and groups of fish stocks, applicable in Union waters and, for Union fishing vessels, in certain non-Union waters (OJ L 25, 30.01.2020, p. 1).

Done at Brussels, 8 March 2021.

*For the Commission,  
On behalf of the President,  
Virginijus SINKEVIČIUS  
Member of the Commission*

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## ANNEX

No	40/TQ123
Member State	Portugal
Stock	ALB/AN05N
Species	Northern albacore ( <i>Thunnus alalunga</i> )
Zone	Atlantic Ocean, north of 5° N
Closing date	24.12.2020