

**Recommendation on Conservation and Management Measures for Blue Whiting
in the NEAFC Regulatory Area for 2019**

The Commission hereby adopts the following Recommendation pursuant to Article 5 of the Convention:

1. NEAFC notes that, as Coastal States to the management of the blue whiting stock, the European Union, the Faroe Islands, Iceland and Norway have agreed that the level of total catches of blue whiting in 2019 in the North-East Atlantic should be no more than 1,143,629 tonnes, based on the long-term management strategy and corresponding to F_{MSY} as advised by ICES.
2. The Coastal States will establish their individual quotas for 2019 within the framework of the total catch limitation referred to in paragraph 1.
3. The individual Coastal State quotas may be fished within their respective zones of fisheries jurisdiction as well as in the Regulatory Area.
4. Catches taken by Coastal States in the Regulatory Area shall be deducted from the respective individual quotas of those Coastal States.
5. Within the total level of catches referred to in paragraph 1 above, the Contracting Parties hereby establish an allowable catch limitation of 91,020 tonnes of blue whiting for 2019 in the Regulatory Area, which is allocated as follows:
 - a. Denmark in respect of Greenland 6,192 tonnes
 - b. Russian Federation 84,828 tonnes
6. Each Contracting Party shall notify the measures it has taken for 2019 to the Secretary by 1 May 2019. The Secretary shall notify these measures to the other Contracting Parties.
7. Each Contracting Party may transfer unutilised quantities of up to 10% of the quota established by the Party for 2018 to the quota established by that Party for 2019. Such transfer shall be in addition to the quota established by the Party concerned for 2019.

In the event of overfishing of quotas by any Contracting Party in 2018, the quantity overfished shall be deducted from the quota for that Party or those Parties for 2019.

8. Each Contracting Party may transfer unutilised quantities of up to 10% of the quota established by the Party for 2019 to the quota established by that Party for 2020. Such transfer shall be in addition to the quota established by the Party concerned for 2020.

In the event of overfishing of quotas by any Contracting Party in 2019, the quantity overfished shall be deducted from the quota for that Party or those Parties for 2020.

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9. Only those vessels entitled to fly the flag of a NEAFC Contracting Party, having been authorised by its flag State to fish for blue whiting in the NEAFC Regulatory Area in 2019, may take part in the fishery.
10. These conservation and management measures are taken without prejudice to any future conservation and management measures to be taken for the blue whiting stock in the North-East Atlantic.