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COUNCIL REGULATION (EC) No 1224/2009
of 20 November 2009

establishing a ► **M5** ► **C2** Union ◀ ◀ control system for ensuring compliance with the rules of the common fisheries policy, amending Regulations (EC) No 847/96, (EC) No 2371/2002, (EC) No 811/2004, (EC) No 768/2005, (EC) No 2115/2005, (EC) No 2166/2005, (EC) No 388/2006, (EC) No 509/2007, (EC) No 676/2007, (EC) No 1098/2007, (EC) No 1300/2008, (EC) No 1342/2008 and repealing Regulations (EEC) No 2847/93, (EC) No 1627/94 and (EC) No 1966/2006

(OJ L 343, 22.12.2009, p. 1)

Amended by:

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► <u>M1</u>	Regulation (EU) No 1379/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2013	L 354	1	28.12.2013
► <u>M2</u>	Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2013	L 354	22	28.12.2013
► <u>M3</u>	Council Regulation (EU) No 1385/2013 of 17 December 2013	L 354	86	28.12.2013
► <u>M4</u>	Regulation (EU) No 508/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 May 2014	L 149	1	20.5.2014
► <u>M5</u>	Regulation (EU) 2015/812 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 May 2015	L 133	1	29.5.2015
► <u>M6</u>	Regulation (EU) 2019/473 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 March 2019	L 83	18	25.3.2019
► <u>M7</u>	Regulation (EU) 2019/1241 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 June 2019	L 198	105	25.7.2019
► <u>M8</u>	Regulation (EU) 2023/2842 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 November 2023	L 2842	1	20.12.2023

Corrected by:

- **C1** Corrigendum, OJ L 149, 16.6.2015, p. 23 (1224/2009)
 ► **C2** Corrigendum, OJ L 319, 4.12.2015, p. 21 (2015/812)

▼B**COUNCIL REGULATION (EC) No 1224/2009****of 20 November 2009**

establishing a ►M5 ►C2 Union ◄◄ control system for ensuring compliance with the rules of the common fisheries policy, amending Regulations (EC) No 847/96, (EC) No 2371/2002, (EC) No 811/2004, (EC) No 768/2005, (EC) No 2115/2005, (EC) No 2166/2005, (EC) No 388/2006, (EC) No 509/2007, (EC) No 676/2007, (EC) No 1098/2007, (EC) No 1300/2008, (EC) No 1342/2008 and repealing Regulations (EEC) No 2847/93, (EC) No 1627/94 and (EC) No 1966/2006

TITLE I**GENERAL PROVISIONS***Article 1***Subject matter**

This Regulation establishes a ►M5 Union ◄◄ system for control, inspection and enforcement (hereinafter referred to as ►M5 Union ◄◄ control system) to ensure compliance with the rules of the common fisheries policy.

*Article 2***Scope**

1. This Regulation shall apply to all activities covered by the common fisheries policy carried out on the territory of Member States or in ►M5 Union ◄◄ waters or by ►M5 Union ◄◄ fishing vessels or, without prejudice to the primary responsibility of the flag Member State, by nationals of Member States.

2. Activities within maritime waters of the overseas territories and countries referred to in Annex II of the Treaty shall be treated as taking place within maritime waters of third countries.

▼M3*Article 2a***Application of the Union control system to certain segments of the fleet of Mayotte as an outermost region**

1. Until 31 December 2021, Article 5(3) and Articles 6, 8, 41, 56, 58 to 62, 66, 68 and 109 shall not apply to France in respect of fishing vessels which are less than 10 metres in overall length and which operate from Mayotte, an outermost region within the meaning of Article 349 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (hereinafter ‘Mayotte’), and the activities and catch of such fishing vessels.

2. By 30 September 2014, France shall establish a simplified and provisional scheme of control applicable to fishing vessels which are less than 10 metres in overall length and which operate from Mayotte. That scheme shall address the following issues:

- (a) knowledge of fishing capacity;
- (b) access to Mayotte waters;
- (c) implementation of declaration obligations;
- (d) designation of the authorities responsible for the control activities;

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- (e) measures ensuring that any enforcement on vessels longer than 10 metres length is carried out on a non-discriminatory basis.

By 30 September 2020, France shall present to the Commission an action plan setting out the measures to be taken in order to ensure the full implementation of Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009 from 1 January 2022 concerning fishing vessels which are less than 10 metres in overall length and which operate from Mayotte. That action plan shall be the subject of a dialogue between France and the Commission. France shall take all necessary measures to implement that action plan.

▼B*Article 3***Relationship with international and national provisions**

1. This Regulation shall apply without prejudice to special provisions contained in fisheries agreements concluded between the ►**M5** Union ◄ and third countries or applicable in the framework of regional fisheries management organisations or similar agreements to which the ►**M5** Union ◄ is a Contracting Party or a non-contracting Cooperating Party.

2. This Regulation shall apply without prejudice to any national control measures which go beyond its minimum requirements, provided that they comply with ►**M5** Union ◄ legislation and are in conformity with the common fisheries policy. At the request of the Commission, Member States shall notify those control measures.

*Article 4***Definitions**

For the purposes of this Regulation, the definitions set out in Regulation (EC) No 2371/2002 shall apply. The following definitions shall also apply:

1. ‘fishing activity’ means searching for fish, shooting, setting, towing, hauling of a fishing gear, taking catch on board, transhipping, retaining on board, processing on board, transferring, caging, fattening and landing of fish and fisheries products;
2. ‘rules of the common fisheries policy’ means ►**M5** Union ◄ legislation on the conservation, management and exploitation of living aquatic resources, on aquaculture and on processing, transport and marketing of fisheries and aquaculture products;
3. ‘control’ means monitoring and surveillance;
4. ‘inspection’ means any check which is carried out by officials regarding compliance with the rules of the common fisheries policy and which is noted in an inspection report;
5. ‘surveillance’ means the observation of fishing activities on the basis of sightings by inspection vessels or official aircrafts and technical detection and identification methods;
6. ‘official’ means a person authorised by a national authority, the Commission or the Community Fisheries Control Agency to carry out an inspection;
7. ‘►**M5** Union ◄ inspectors’ means officials of a Member State or of the Commission or the body designated by it, whose names are contained in the list established in accordance with Article 79;

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8. ‘control observer’ means a person authorised by a national authority to observe the implementation of the rules of the common fisheries policy;
9. ‘fishing licence’ means an official document conferring on its holder the right, as determined by national rules, to use a certain fishing capacity for the commercial exploitation of living aquatic resources. It contains minimum requirements concerning the identification, technical characteristics and fitting out of a ►**M5** Union ◄ fishing vessel;
10. ‘fishing authorisation’ means a fishing authorisation issued in respect of a ►**M5** Union ◄ fishing vessel in addition to its fishing licence, entitling it to carry out specific fishing activities during a specified period, in a given area or for a given fishery under specific conditions;
11. ‘automatic identification system’ means an autonomous and continuous vessel identification and monitoring system which provides means for ships to electronically exchange with other nearby ships and authorities ashore ship data including identification, position, course and speed;
12. ‘vessel monitoring system data’ means data on the fishing vessel identification, geographical position, date, time, course and speed transmitted by satellite-tracking devices installed on board fishing vessels to the fisheries monitoring centre of the flag Member State;
13. ‘vessel detection system’ means a satellite based remote sensing technology which can identify vessels and detect their positions at sea;
14. ‘fishing restricted area’ means any marine area under the jurisdiction of a Member State which has been defined by the Council and where fishing activities are either limited or banned;
15. ‘fisheries monitoring centre’ means an operational centre established by a flag Member State and equipped with computer hardware and software enabling automatic data reception, processing and electronic data transmission;
16. ‘transhipment’ means the unloading of all or any fisheries or aquaculture products on board a vessel to another vessel;
17. ‘risk’ means the likelihood of an event that may occur and would constitute a violation of the rules of the common fisheries policy;
18. ‘risk management’ means the systematic identification of risks and the implementation of all measures necessary for limiting the occurrence of these risks. This includes activities such as collecting data and information, analysing and assessing risks, preparing and taking action, and regular monitoring and review of the process and its outcomes, based on international, ►**M5** Union ◄ and national sources and strategies;

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19. ‘operator’ means the natural or legal person who operates or holds any undertaking carrying out any of the activities related to any stage of production, processing, marketing, distribution and retail chains of fisheries and aquaculture products;
20. ‘lot’ means a quantity of fisheries and aquaculture products of a given species of the same presentation and coming from the same relevant geographical area and the same fishing vessel, or group of fishing vessels, or the same aquaculture production unit;
21. ‘processing’ means the process by which the presentation was prepared. It includes filleting, packing, canning, freezing, smoking, salting, cooking, pickling, drying or preparing fish for market in any other manner;
22. ‘landing’ means the initial unloading of any quantity of fisheries products from on board a fishing vessel to land;
23. ‘retail’ means the handling and/or processing of products of living aquatic resources and their storage at the point of sale or delivery to the final consumer, and includes distribution;
24. ‘multiannual plans’ means recovery plans as referred to in Article 5 of Regulation (EC) No 2371/2002, management plans as referred to in Article 6 of Regulation (EC) No 2371/2002 as well as other ►M5 Union ◄ provisions adopted on the basis of Article 37 of the Treaty and providing for specific management measures for particular fish stocks for several years;
25. ‘coastal State’ means the State in the waters under the sovereignty or jurisdiction or in the ports of which an activity takes place;
26. ‘enforcement’ means any actions taken to ensure compliance with the rules of the common fisheries policy;
27. ‘certified engine power’ means the maximum continuous engine power which can be obtained at the output flange of an engine according to the certificate issued by the Member State’s authorities or classification societies or other operators assigned by them;
28. ‘recreational fisheries’ means non-commercial fishing activities exploiting marine living aquatic resources for recreation, tourism or sport;
29. ‘relocation’ means fishing operations where the catch or part thereof is transferred or moved from shared fishing gear to a vessel or from a fishing vessel’s hold or its fishing gear to a keep net, container or cage outside the vessel in which the live catch is kept until landing;

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30. 'relevant geographical area' means a sea area that is considered as a unit for the purposes of geographical classification in fisheries expressed by reference to a FAO sub-area, division or sub-division, or where applicable an ICES statistical rectangle, fishing effort zone, economic zone or area bounded by geographical coordinates;
31. 'fishing vessel' means any vessel equipped for commercial exploitation of living aquatic resources;
32. 'fishing opportunity' means a quantified legal entitlement to fish, expressed in terms of catches and/or fishing effort.

TITLE II

GENERAL PRINCIPLES

*Article 5***General principles**

1. Member States shall control the activities carried out by any natural or legal person within the scope of the common fisheries policy on their territory and within waters under their sovereignty or jurisdiction, in particular fishing activities, transshipments, transfer of fish to cages or aquaculture installations including fattening installations, landing, import, transport, processing, marketing and storage of fisheries and aquaculture products.
2. Member States shall also control access to waters and resources and control activities outside ►**M5** Union ◀ waters carried out by ►**M5** Union ◀ fishing vessels flying their flag and, without prejudice to the primary responsibility of the flag Member State, by their nationals.
3. Member States shall adopt appropriate measures, allocate adequate financial, human and technical resources and set up all administrative and technical structures necessary for ensuring control, inspection and enforcement of activities carried out within the scope of the common fisheries policy. They shall make available to their competent authorities and officials all adequate means to enable them to carry out their tasks.
4. Each Member State shall ensure that control, inspection and enforcement are carried out on a non-discriminatory basis as regards sectors, vessels or persons, and on the basis of risk management.

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5. In each Member State, a single authority shall coordinate the control activities of all national control authorities. It shall also be responsible for coordinating the collection, treatment and certification of information on fishing activities and for reporting to, cooperating with and ensuring the transmission of information to the Commission, the Community Fisheries Control Agency established in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 768/2005 ⁽¹⁾, other Member States and, where appropriate, third countries.

6. In accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 103, the payment of contributions from the European Fisheries Fund pursuant to Regulation (EC) No 1198/2006 and of ►**M5** Union ◀ financial contributions to measures referred to in Article 8(a) of Regulation (EC) No 861/2006 shall be conditional upon respect by the Member States of their obligation to ensure compliance with and enforcement of the rules of the common fisheries policy related to, or having an impact on the effectiveness of, the measures being financed, and to operate and maintain an effective control, inspection and enforcement system to this effect.

7. In accordance with their respective responsibilities, the Commission and the Member States shall ensure that the objectives of this Regulation are fulfilled in the management and control of ►**M5** Union ◀ financial assistance.

TITLE III

GENERAL CONDITIONS FOR ACCESS TO WATERS AND RESOURCES

*Article 6***Fishing licence**

1. A ►**M5** Union ◀ fishing vessel may be used for commercial exploitation of living aquatic resources only if it has a valid fishing licence.

2. The flag Member State shall ensure that the information contained in the fishing licence is accurate and consistent with that contained in the Community fishing fleet register referred to in Article 15 of Regulation (EC) No 2371/2002.

3. The flag Member State shall suspend temporarily the fishing licence of a vessel which is subject to temporary immobilisation decided by that Member State or which has had its fishing authorisation suspended in accordance with Article 45(4) of Regulation (EC) No 1005/2008.

4. The flag Member State shall withdraw permanently the fishing licence of a vessel which is the subject of a capacity adjustment measure referred to in Article 11(3) of Regulation (EC) No 2371/2002, or which has had its fishing authorisation withdrawn in accordance with Article 45(4) of Regulation (EC) No 1005/2008.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 128, 21.5.2005, p. 1.

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5. The flag Member State shall issue, manage and withdraw the fishing licence in accordance with the detailed rules adopted in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 119.

*Article 7***Fishing authorisation**

1. A ►**M5** Union ◀ fishing vessel operating in ►**M5** Union ◀ waters shall be authorised to carry out specific fishing activities only insofar as they are indicated in a valid fishing authorisation when the fisheries or fishing zones where the activities are authorised are subject to:

- (a) a fishing effort regime;
- (b) a multiannual plan;
- (c) a fishing restricted area;
- (d) fishing for scientific purposes;
- (e) other cases laid down in ►**M5** Union ◀ legislation.

2. Where a Member State has a specific national fishing authorisation scheme, it shall send to the Commission at its request a summary of the information contained in the authorisation issued and the related aggregated figures on fishing effort.

3. Where the flag Member State has adopted national provisions in the form of a national fishing authorisation scheme for the allocation to individual vessels of the fishing opportunities available to it, it shall send to the Commission at its request information on the fishing vessels authorised to engage in a fishing activity in a given fishery, in particular concerning the external identification number, the name of the fishing vessels concerned, and the individual fishing opportunities allocated to them.

4. A fishing authorisation shall not be issued if the fishing vessel concerned does not have a fishing licence obtained in accordance with Article 6 or if its fishing licence has been suspended or withdrawn. A fishing authorisation shall be automatically withdrawn where the fishing licence corresponding to the vessel has been withdrawn permanently. It shall be suspended where the fishing licence has been suspended temporarily.

5. Detailed rules for the application of this Article shall be adopted in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 119.

*Article 8***Marking of the fishing gear**

1. The master of a fishing vessel shall respect conditions and restrictions relating to the marking and identification of fishing vessels and their gear.

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2. Detailed rules for the marking and identification of fishing vessels and their gear shall be adopted in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 119.

*Article 9***Vessel monitoring system**

1. Member States shall operate a satellite-based vessel monitoring system for effective monitoring of fishing activities of the fishing vessels flying their flag wherever those vessels may be and of fishing activities in the Member States' waters.

2. Without prejudice to specific provisions contained in multiannual plans, a fishing vessel of 12 metres' length overall or more shall have installed on board a fully functioning device which allows that vessel to be automatically located and identified through the vessel monitoring system by transmitting position data at regular intervals. It shall also allow the fisheries monitoring centre of the flag Member State to poll the fishing vessel. For fishing vessels of 12 metres' length overall or more and less than 15 metres' length overall this Article shall apply as from 1 January 2012.

3. When a fishing vessel is in the waters of another Member State, the flag Member State shall make available the vessel monitoring system data of that vessel by automatic transmission to the fisheries monitoring centre of the coastal Member States. The vessel monitoring system data shall also be made available upon request to the Member State in whose ports a fishing vessel is likely to land its catches or in the waters of which the fishing vessel is likely to continue its fishing activities.

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The vessel monitoring system shall allow the fisheries monitoring centre of the flag Member State referred to in Article 9a to poll the position of the fishing vessel through a satellite connection or, where possible, any other network. In the event that the device referred to in this paragraph is not within reach of a network, the vessel position data shall be recorded during that period of time and shall be transmitted automatically as soon as the vessel is in reach of such network. Connection with the network shall be re-established at the latest before entering a port or landing site.

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4. If a ►**M5** Union ◀ fishing vessel operates in the waters of a third country or in areas of the high sea where the fishing resources are managed by an international organisation and, if the agreement with that third country or the applicable rules of that international organisation so provide, those data shall also be made available to that country or organisation.

5. A Member State may exempt ►**M5** Union ◀ fishing vessels of less than 15 metres' length overall flying its flag from the requirement to be fitted with a vessel monitoring system if they:

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(a) operate exclusively within the territorial seas of the flag Member State; or

(b) never spend more than 24 hours at sea from the time of departure to the return to port.

6. Third country fishing vessels of 12 metres' length overall or more and third country auxiliary fishing vessels engaged in activities ancillary to fishing activities operating in ►**M5** Union ◀ waters shall have installed on board a fully functioning device which allows such a vessel to be automatically located and identified by the vessel monitoring system by transmitting position data at regular intervals in the same way as ►**M5** Union ◀ fishing vessels.

7. Member States shall establish and operate fisheries monitoring centres, which shall monitor fishing activities and fishing effort. The fisheries monitoring centre of a particular Member State shall monitor the fishing vessels flying its flag, whatever the waters in which they are operating or the port they are in, as well as ►**M5** Union ◀ fishing vessels flying the flag of other Member States and fishing vessels of third countries to which a vessel monitoring system applies operating in the waters under the sovereignty or the jurisdiction of that particular Member State.

8. Each flag Member State shall appoint the competent authorities responsible for the fisheries monitoring centre and shall take the appropriate measures to ensure that its fisheries monitoring centre has the proper staffing resources and is equipped with computer hardware and software enabling automatic data processing and electronic data transmission. Member States shall provide for back-up and recovery procedures in case of system failure. Member States may operate a joint fisheries monitoring centre.

9. A Member State may oblige or authorise any fishing vessels flying its flag to be fitted with a vessel monitoring system.

10. Detailed rules for the application of this Article shall be adopted in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 119.

▼M8*Article 9a***Fisheries monitoring centres**

1. Member States shall establish and operate fisheries monitoring centres which shall monitor fishing activities and fishing effort. The fisheries monitoring centre of each Member State shall monitor the fishing vessels flying its flag, whatever the waters in which they operate or the port they are in, as well as fishing vessels flying the flag of other Member States and fishing vessels of third countries authorised to conduct fishing activities in the waters under the sovereignty or jurisdiction of that particular Member State.

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2. Each Member State shall appoint the competent authorities responsible for the functioning of its fisheries monitoring centre and shall take the appropriate measures to ensure that its fisheries monitoring centre has the proper staffing resources and is equipped with computer hardware and software enabling automatic data processing, analysis, control, electronic data transmission and data monitoring seven days a week and 24 hours a day. Member States shall provide for back-up and recovery procedures in case of system failure. Member States may operate a joint fisheries monitoring centre.

3. Member States shall ensure that fisheries monitoring centres have access to all relevant data and, in particular, data listed in Articles 109 and 110.

4. Fisheries monitoring centres shall support real-time monitoring of vessels so as to enable enforcement action.

5. The Commission is empowered to adopt delegated acts in accordance with Article 119a supplementing this Regulation by adopting detailed rules on monitoring of fishing activities and fishing effort by the fisheries monitoring centres, in particular relating to:

- (a) the monitoring of entry into and exit from specific areas;
- (b) the monitoring and recording of fishing activities;
- (c) the rules applicable in the event of a technical or communication failure or non-functioning of the vessel monitoring device;
- (d) measures to be taken in the event of non-receipt of data concerning the position and movement of fishing vessels.

Article 10

Automatic identification systems

1. In accordance with Article 6a of Directive 2002/59/EC, Union fishing vessels exceeding 15 metres in length overall shall be fitted with and maintain in continuous operation an automatic identification system (AIS) which meets the performance standards referred to in that Directive.

2. By way of derogation from paragraph 1, the master of a Union fishing vessel may switch off the AIS in exceptional circumstances when the master considers that the safety or security of the crew is imminently at risk of being compromised. Where the AIS is switched off in accordance with this paragraph, the master shall report that action and the reason for doing so to the competent authorities of its flag

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Member State and, when relevant, also to the competent authorities of the coastal State. When the situation referred to in this paragraph has elapsed, the master shall restart the AIS as soon as the source of danger has disappeared.

3. Member States shall ensure that data from the AIS are made available to their competent authorities responsible for fisheries control for control purposes, including cross-checks of AIS data with other available data, in accordance with Article 109.

▼B*Article 11***Vessel detection system**

Where Member States have clear evidence of a cost benefit in relation to the traditional control means in the detection of fishing vessels, they shall use a vessel detection system allowing them to match the positions derived by remotely sensed images sent to earth by satellites or other equivalent systems with the data received by vessel monitoring system or automatic identification system, in order to assess the presence of fishing vessels in the area. Member States shall ensure that their fisheries monitoring centres possess the technical capacity to use a vessel detection system.

▼M8*Article 12***Transmission of data for surveillance operations**

For the purposes of maritime safety and security, border control, protection of the marine environment and general law enforcement, data from the vessel monitoring system(s) and the vessel detection system collected in the framework of this Regulation shall be made available to the Commission, Union agencies and competent authorities of the Member States engaged in surveillance operations.

▼B*Article 13***New technologies**

1. The Council may decide on the basis of Article 37 of the Treaty on the obligation to use electronic monitoring devices and traceability tools such as genetic analysis. In order to assess the technology to be used, Member States, on their own initiative or in cooperation with the Commission or the body designated by it, shall carry out pilot projects on traceability tools such as genetic analysis before 1 June 2013.

2. The Council may decide on the basis of Article 37 of the Treaty on the introduction of other new fisheries control technologies when these technologies lead to improved compliance with the rules of the common fisheries policy in a cost-effective way.

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TITLE IV
CONTROL OF FISHERIES

CHAPTER I

Control of the use of fishing opportunities

Section 1

General provisions

Article 14

Completion and submission of the fishing logbook

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1. Without prejudice to specific provisions contained in multiannual plans, the master of each Union fishing vessel of 10 metres' length overall or more shall keep a fishing logbook of operations, indicating specifically, for each fishing trip, all quantities of each species caught and kept on board above 50 kg of live-weight equivalent. The 50 kg threshold shall apply as soon as catches of a species exceed 50 kg.

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2. The fishing logbook referred to in paragraph 1 shall contain in particular the following information:

- (a) the external identification number and the name of the fishing vessel;
- (b) the FAO alpha-3 code of each species and the relevant geographical area in which the catches were taken;
- (c) the date of catches;
- (d) the date of departure from and of arrival to port, and the duration of the fishing trip;
- (e) the type of gear, mesh size and dimension;

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- (f) the estimated quantities of each species in kilograms live weight, or, where appropriate, the number of individuals, including the quantities or individuals below the applicable minimum conservation reference size, as a separate entry;

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- (g) the number of fishing operations.

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3. When compared with the quantities landed or with the result of an inspection, the permitted margin of tolerance in estimates recorded in the fishing logbook of the quantities in kilograms of fish retained on board shall be 10 % per each species.

For species retained on board the quantity of which does not exceed 100 kg of live-weight equivalent, the permitted margin of tolerance shall be 20 % per each species.

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4. By way of derogation from paragraph 3, in the case of fisheries referred to in Article 15(1), point (a), first and third indents, of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013 for species which are landed unsorted, and in the case of tropical tuna purse seine fisheries for species which are landed unsorted, the following margins of tolerance shall apply:

- (a) in the case of landings in listed ports and subject to additional conditions concerning the landing and the weighing of catches in order to ensure accurate catch reporting:
 - (i) for species representing 2 % or more in kilograms live weight of all species landed, the permitted margin of tolerance in estimates recorded in the fishing logbook of the quantities in kilograms of fish retained on board shall be 10 % of the total quantity of all species recorded in the fishing logbook, per each species;
 - (ii) for species that represent less than 2 % in kilograms live weight of all species landed, the permitted margin of tolerance in estimates recorded in the fishing logbook of the quantities in kilograms of fish retained on board shall be 200 kg or 0,5 % of the total quantity of all species recorded in the fishing logbook, per each species, whichever is greater.

In addition to the provisions set out in points (i) and (ii), in any event, for the total quantity of all species, the permitted margin of tolerance in estimates recorded in the fishing logbook of the total quantity in kilograms of fish retained on board shall be 10 % of the total quantity of all species recorded in the fishing logbook.

The conditions concerning landing and weighing shall include safeguards allowing for the accurate reporting of the catches, such as the involvement of accredited independent third parties or specific requirements for the sampling and weighing operations. Those conditions shall provide for the necessary control by, and cooperation with, the relevant competent authorities of the country concerned;

- (b) in the case of landings other than those referred to in point (a):
 - (i) for species representing 2 % or more in kilograms live weight of all species landed, the permitted margin of tolerance in estimates recorded in the fishing logbook of the quantities in kilograms of fish retained on board shall be 10 % per each species;
 - (ii) for species that represent less than 2 % in kilograms live weight of all species landed, the permitted margin of tolerance in estimates recorded in the fishing logbook of the quantities in kilograms of fish retained on board shall be 200 kg or 20 % per each species recorded in the fishing logbook, whichever is greater.

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5. In fisheries subject to a ►**M5** Union ◀ regime of fishing effort, masters of ►**M5** Union ◀ fishing vessels shall record and account in their fishing logbooks for the time spent in an area as follows:

(a) with regard to towed gear:

- (i) entry into, and exit from the port located in that area;
- (ii) each entry into, and exit from maritime areas where specific rules on access to waters and resources apply;
- (iii) the catch retained on board by species in kilograms live weight at the time of exit from that area or before entry into a port located in that area;

(b) with regard to static gear:

- (i) entry into, and exit from the port located in that area;
- (ii) each entry into, and exit from maritime areas where specific rules on access to waters and resources apply;
- (iii) the date and time of setting or re-setting of the static gear in these areas;
- (iv) the date and time of the completion of fishing operations using the static gear;
- (v) the catch retained on board by species in kilograms live weight at the time of exit from that area or before entry into a port located in that area.

6. Masters of ►**M5** Union ◀ fishing vessels shall submit the fishing logbook information as soon as possible and not later than 48 hours after landing:

(a) to their flag Member State; and

(b) if the landing has taken place in a port of another Member State, to the competent authorities of the port Member State concerned.

7. To convert stored or processed fish weight into live fish weight, masters of ►**M5** Union ◀ fishing vessels shall apply the conversion factor established in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 119.

8. Masters of third country fishing vessels operating in ►**M5** Union ◀ waters shall record the information referred to in this Article in the same way as masters of ►**M5** Union ◀ fishing vessels.

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9. The accuracy of the data recorded in the fishing logbook shall be the responsibility of the master.

10. Detailed rules for the application of this Article shall be adopted in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 119.

*Article 15***Electronic completion and transmission of fishing logbook data**

1. Masters of ►**M5** Union ◄ fishing vessels of 12 metres' length overall or more shall record by electronic means the information referred to in Article 14, and shall send it by electronic means to the competent authority of the flag Member State at least once a day.

2. Masters of ►**M5** Union ◄ fishing vessels of 12 metres' length overall or more shall send the information referred to in Article 14 at the request of the competent authority of the flag Member State, and shall in any event transmit the relevant fishing logbook data after the last fishing operation has been completed and before entering port.

3. Paragraph 1 shall apply:

- (a) as from 1 January 2012 to ►**M5** Union ◄ fishing vessels of 12 metres' length overall or more and less than 15 metres' length overall;
- (b) as from 1 July 2011 to ►**M5** Union ◄ fishing vessels of 15 metres' length overall or more and less than 24 metres' length overall; and
- (c) as from 1 January 2010 to ►**M5** Union ◄ fishing vessels of 24 metres' length overall or more.

4. A Member State may exempt masters of ►**M5** Union ◄ fishing vessels of less than 15 metres' length overall flying its flag from paragraph 1 if they:

- (a) operate exclusively within the territorial seas of the flag Member State; or
- (b) never spend more than 24 hours at sea from the time of departure to the return to port.

5. Masters of ►**M5** Union ◄ fishing vessels that electronically record and report data on their fishing activities shall be exempt from the obligation to complete a paper fishing logbook, a landing declaration and a transshipment declaration.

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6. Member States may conclude bilateral agreements on the use of electronic reporting systems on vessels flying their flags within the waters under their sovereignty or jurisdiction. The vessels falling within the scope of such agreements shall be exempt from completing a paper fishing logbook within those waters.

7. A Member State may oblige or authorise masters of fishing vessels flying its flag as of 1 January 2010 to electronically record and transmit the data referred to in Article 14.

8. The competent authorities of a coastal Member State shall accept electronic reports received from the flag Member State containing the data from fishing vessels referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2.

9. Detailed rules for the application of this Article shall be adopted in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 119.

▼M8*Article 15a***Electronic fishing logbook and other systems for vessels of less than 12 metres in length overall**

For the purposes of Articles 14 and 15, for catching vessels of less than 12 metres in length overall Member States may use a system for fishing logbooks developed at national or Union level. If one or more Member States so request by 10 May 2024, the Commission shall develop such a system for catching vessels of less than 12 metres in length overall. If one or more Member States so request, the system developed by the Commission shall be such as to allow the operators concerned to also fulfil their obligations under Articles 9, 19a, 20, 21, 22, 23 and 24. A requesting Member State shall implement the system as developed by the Commission.

▼B*Article 16***Fishing vessels not subject to fishing logbook requirements**

1. Each Member State shall monitor, on the basis of sampling, the activities of fishing vessels which are not subject to the requirements specified in Articles 14 and 15 in order to ensure compliance by these vessels with the rules of the common fisheries policy.

2. For the purposes of the monitoring referred to in paragraph 1, each Member State shall establish a sampling plan based on the methodology adopted by the Commission in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 119 and transmit it every year by 31 January to the Commission indicating the methods used for the establishment of this plan. The sampling plans shall be, as far as possible, stable over time and standardised within relevant geographical areas.

3. Member States requiring fishing vessels of less than 10 metres' length overall flying their flag to submit fishing logbooks referred to in Article 14, in accordance with their national law, shall be exempted from the obligation laid down in paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Article.

4. By way of derogation from paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Article, sales notes submitted in accordance with Articles 62 and 63 shall be accepted as an alternative measure to sampling plans.

▼B*Article 17***Prior notification**

1. Masters of ►**M5** Union ◀ fishing vessels of 12 metres' length overall or more engaged in fisheries on stocks subject to a multiannual plan, which are under the obligation to record fishing logbook data electronically in accordance with Article 15, shall notify the competent authorities of their flag Member State at least four hours before the estimated time of arrival at port of the following information:

- (a) the external identification number and the name of the fishing vessel;
- (b) the name of the port of destination and the purposes of the call, such as landing, transshipment or access to services;
- (c) the dates of the fishing trip and the relevant geographical areas in which the catches were taken;
- (d) the estimated date and time of arrival at port;

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- (e) the quantities of each species recorded in the fishing logbook, including those below the applicable minimum conservation reference size, as a separate entry;
- (f) the quantities of each species to be landed or trans-shipped, including those below the applicable minimum conservation reference size, as a separate entry.

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2. When a ►**M5** Union ◀ fishing vessel intends to enter a port in a Member State other than the flag Member State, the competent authorities of the flag Member State shall immediately upon receipt forward the electronic prior notification to the competent authorities of the coastal Member State.

3. The competent authorities of the coastal Member State may give permission to an earlier entry at port.

4. The electronic fishing logbook data referred to in Article 15 and the electronic prior notification may be sent in a single electronic transmission.

5. The accuracy of the data recorded in the electronic prior notification shall be the responsibility of the master.

6. The Commission, in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 119, may exempt certain categories of fishing vessels from the obligation set out in paragraph 1 for a limited period, which may be renewed, or make provision for another notification period taking into account, inter alia, the type of fisheries products, the distance between the fishing grounds, landing places and ports where the vessels in question are registered.

*Article 18***Prior notification of landing in another Member State**

1. Masters of ►**M5** Union ◀ fishing vessels which are not under the obligation to record fishing logbook data electronically pending the entry into force of the provisions referred to in Article 15(3) and

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who intend to use port or landing facilities in a coastal Member State other than their flag Member State shall notify the competent authorities of the coastal Member State at least four hours before the estimated time of arrival at the port of the information referred to in Article 17(1).

2. The competent authorities of the coastal Member State may give permission to an earlier entry.

*Article 19***Authorisation to access to port**

The competent authorities of the coastal Member State may deny access to port to fishing vessels if the information referred to in Articles 17 and 18 is not complete, except in cases of force majeure.

*Article 20***Transshipment operations**

1. Transshipments at sea shall be prohibited in ►**M5** Union ◀ waters. They shall be allowed only subject to an authorisation and to the conditions laid down in this Regulation in ports or places close to the shore of Member States designated for this purpose, and in accordance with the conditions laid down in Article 43(5).

2. If the transshipment operation is interrupted, permission may be required before the transshipment operation is resumed.

3. For the purposes of this Article, relocation, pair trawling activities and fishing operations involving joint action by two or more ►**M5** Union ◀ fishing vessels shall not be considered as transshipment.

*Article 21***Completion and submission of the transshipment declaration**

1. Without prejudice to specific provisions contained in multiannual plans, masters of ►**M5** Union ◀ fishing vessels of 10 metres' length overall or more involved in a transshipment operation shall complete a transshipment declaration, indicating specifically all quantities of each species transhipped or received above 50 kg of live-weight equivalent.

2. The transshipment declaration referred to in paragraph 1 shall contain at least the following information:

- (a) the external identification number and the name of both the transhipping and the receiving fishing vessels;

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- (b) the FAO alpha-3 code of each species and the relevant geographical area in which the catches were taken;

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- (c) the estimated quantities of each species in kilograms in product weight, broken down by type of product presentation, or, where appropriate, the number of individuals, including the quantities or individuals below the applicable minimum conservation reference size, as a separate entry;

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- (d) the port of destination of the receiving fishing vessel;
- (e) the designated port of transhipment.

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3. When compared with the quantities landed or with the result of an inspection, the permitted margin of tolerance in estimates recorded in the transhipment declaration of the quantities in kilograms of fish retained on board shall be as set out in Article 14(3) and (4).

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4. The masters of both the transshipping and the receiving fishing vessel shall each submit a transhipment declaration, as soon as possible and not later than 48 hours after transhipment:

- (a) to their flag Member State (s); and
- (b) if the transhipment has taken place in a port of another Member State, to the competent authorities of the port Member State concerned.

5. The masters of both the transshipping and the receiving fishing vessel shall each be responsible for the accuracy of the data recorded in their transhipment declaration.

6. The Commission, in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 119, may exempt certain categories of fishing vessels from the obligation laid down in paragraph 1 for a limited and renewable period, or make provision for another notification period taking into account, inter alia, the type of fishery products and the distance between the fishing grounds, transshipping places and ports where the vessels in question are registered.

7. Transhipment declaration procedures and forms shall be determined in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 119.

Article 22

Electronic completion and transmission of transhipment declaration data

1. Masters of ►**M5** Union ◀ fishing vessels of 12 metres' length overall or more shall record by electronic means the information referred to in Article 21 and shall send it by electronic means to the competent authority of the flag Member State within 24 hours after completion of the transhipment operation.

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2. Paragraph 1 shall apply:

- (a) as from 1 January 2012 to ►**M5** Union ◀ fishing vessels of 12 metres' length overall or more and less than 15 metres' length overall;
- (b) as from 1 July 2011 to ►**M5** Union ◀ fishing vessels of 15 metres' length overall or more and less than 24 metres' length overall; and
- (c) as from 1 January 2010 to ►**M5** Union ◀ fishing vessels of 24 metres' length overall or more.

3. A Member State may exempt masters of ►**M5** Union ◀ fishing vessels of less than 15 metres' length overall flying its flag from paragraph 1 if they:

- (a) operate exclusively within the territorial seas of the flag Member State; or
- (b) never spend more than 24 hours at sea from the time of departure to the return to port.

4. The competent authorities of a coastal Member State shall accept electronic reports received from the flag Member State containing the data from fishing vessels referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2.

5. When a ►**M5** Union ◀ fishing vessel tranships its catches in a Member State other than the flag Member State, the competent authorities of the flag Member State shall immediately upon receipt forward the transshipment declaration data by electronic means to the competent authorities of the Member State where the catch was transhipped and where the catch is destined.

6. A Member State may oblige or authorise masters of fishing vessels flying its flag as of 1 January 2010 to electronically record and transmit the data referred to in Article 21.

7. Detailed rules for the application of this Article shall be adopted in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 119.

Article 23

Completion and submission of the landing declaration

1. Without prejudice to specific provisions contained in multiannual plans, the master of a ►**M5** Union ◀ fishing vessel of 10 metres' length overall or more, or his representative, shall complete a landing declaration, indicating specifically all quantities of each species landed.

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2. The landing declaration referred to in paragraph 1 shall contain at least the following information:

- (a) the external identification number and the name of the fishing vessel;
- (b) the FAO alpha-3 code of each species and the relevant geographical area in which the catches were taken;

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- (c) the quantities of each species in kilograms in product weight broken down by type of product presentation, or, where appropriate, the number of individuals, including the quantities or individuals below the applicable minimum conservation reference size, as a separate entry;

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- (d) the port of landing.

3. The master of a ►**M5** Union ◀ fishing vessel or his representative shall submit the landing declaration, as soon as possible and not later than 48 hours after the completion of the landing:

- (a) to their flag Member State; and
- (b) if the landing has taken place in a port of another Member State, to the competent authorities of the port Member State concerned.

4. The accuracy of the data recorded in the landing declaration shall be the responsibility of the master.

5. Detailed rules for the application of this Article shall be adopted in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 119.

*Article 24***Electronic completion and transmission of landing declaration data**

1. The master of a ►**M5** Union ◀ fishing vessel of 12 metres' length overall or more, or his representative, shall record by electronic means the information referred to in Article 23, and shall send it by electronic means to the competent authority of the flag Member State within 24 hours after completion of the landing operation.

2. Paragraph 1 shall apply:

- (a) as from 1 January 2012 to ►**M5** Union ◀ fishing vessels of 12 metres' length overall or more and less than 15 metres' length overall;
- (b) as from 1 July 2011 to ►**M5** Union ◀ fishing vessels of 15 metres' length overall or more and less than 24 metres' length overall; and
- (c) as from 1 January 2010 to ►**M5** Union ◀ fishing vessels of 24 metres' length overall or more.

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3. A Member State may exempt masters of ►**M5** Union ◀ fishing vessels of less than 15 metres' length overall flying its flag from paragraph 1 if they:

- (a) operate exclusively within the territorial seas of the flag Member State; or
- (b) never spend more than 24 hours at sea from the time of departure to the return to port.

4. When a ►**M5** Union ◀ fishing vessel lands its catches in a Member State other than the flag Member State, the competent authorities of the flag Member State shall immediately upon receipt forward the landing declaration data by electronic means to the competent authorities of the Member State where the catch was landed.

5. The master of a ►**M5** Union ◀ fishing vessel, or his representative, who records by electronic means the information referred to in Article 23 and who lands his catch in a Member State other than the flag Member State shall be exempt from the requirement to submit a paper landing declaration to the coastal Member State.

6. A Member State may oblige or authorise masters of fishing vessels flying its flag as of 1 January 2010 to electronically record and transmit the data referred to in Article 23.

7. The competent authorities of a coastal Member State shall accept electronic reports received from the flag Member State containing the data from fishing vessels referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2.

8. Landing declaration procedures and forms shall be determined in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 119.

Article 25

Vessels not subject to landing declaration requirements

1. Each Member State shall monitor, on the basis of sampling, the activities of fishing vessels which are not subject to the landing declaration requirements specified in Articles 23 and 24 in order to ensure compliance by these vessels with the rules of the common fisheries policy.

2. For the purposes of the monitoring referred to in paragraph 1, each Member State shall establish a sampling plan based on the methodology adopted by the Commission in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 119, and transmit it every year by 31 January to the Commission indicating the methods used for the establishment of this plan. The sampling plans shall be, as far as possible, stable over time and standardised within relevant geographical areas.

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3. Member States requiring fishing vessels of less than 10 metres' length overall flying their flag to submit landing declarations referred to in Article 23, in accordance with their national law, shall be exempted from the obligation laid down in paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Article.

4. By way of derogation from paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Article, sales notes submitted in accordance with Articles 62 and 63 shall be accepted as an alternative measure to sampling plans.

Section 2**Control of fishing effort***Article 26***Monitoring of fishing effort**

1. Member States shall control the compliance with fishing effort regimes in geographical areas where maximum allowable fishing effort applies. They shall ensure that fishing vessels flying their flag are present in a geographical area subject to a fishing effort regime when carrying on board or, where appropriate, deploying a fishing gear or gears subject to that fishing effort regime or, where appropriate, operating in a fishery subject to that fishing effort regime only if the maximum allowable fishing effort available to them has not been reached and if the effort available to the individual fishing vessel has not been exhausted.

2. Without prejudice to special rules, where a fishing vessel carrying on board or, where appropriate, deploying a fishing gear or gears subject to a fishing effort regime or operating in a fishery subject to a fishing effort regime crosses during the same day two or more geographical areas subject to that fishing effort regime, the fishing effort deployed shall be counted against the maximum allowable fishing effort related to such fishing gear or such fishery and to the geographical area in which the largest proportion of time was spent during that day.

3. Where a Member State has authorised a fishing vessel in accordance with Article 27(2) to use more than one fishing gear or gears belonging to more than one grouping of fishing gears subject to a fishing effort regime during a certain fishing trip in a geographical area subject to that fishing effort regime, the fishing effort deployed during that trip shall be counted simultaneously against the maximum allowable fishing effort available to this Member State and related to each of such gears or groupings of fishing gears and to such geographical area.

4. Where fishing gears belong to the same grouping of fishing gears subject to the fishing effort regime, the fishing effort deployed in a geographical area by fishing vessels when carrying those gears on board shall be counted only once against the maximum allowable fishing effort related to such grouping of fishing gears and to such geographical area.

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5. Member States shall regulate the fishing effort of their fleet in geographical areas subject to a fishing effort regime when carrying on board or, where appropriate, deploying a fishing gear or gears subject to that fishing effort regime or operating in a fishery subject to that fishing effort regime by taking appropriate action if the available maximum allowable fishing effort is about to be reached to ensure that the deployed fishing effort does not exceed the set limits.

6. A day present within an area shall be any continuous period of 24 hours or part thereof during which a fishing vessel is present within the geographical area and absent from port or where appropriate deploying its fishing gear. The time from which the continuous period of a day present in the area is measured is at the discretion of the Member State whose flag is flown by the fishing vessel concerned. A day absent from port shall be any continuous period of 24 hours or part thereof during which the fishing vessel is absent from port.

*Article 27***Notification of fishing gear**

1. Without prejudice to specific rules, in relevant geographical areas subject to a fishing effort regime where gear restrictions apply or where maximum allowable fishing effort were set for different fishing gears or groupings of fishing gears, the master of a fishing vessel or his representative shall notify to the competent authorities of the flag Member State before a period to which maximum allowable fishing effort applies which fishing gear or, where applicable, fishing gears he intends to use during the forthcoming period. Until such notification is provided the fishing vessel shall not be entitled to fish within the geographical areas to which the fishing effort regime applies.

2. Where a fishing effort regime allows the use of gears belonging to more than one grouping of fishing gears in a geographical area, the use of more than one fishing gear during a fishing trip shall be subject to a prior authorisation by the flag Member State.

*Article 28***Fishing effort report**

1. When the Council so decides for ►**M5** Union ◀ fishing vessels which are not equipped with a functioning vessel monitoring system as referred to in Article 9 or which do not transmit fishing logbook data electronically as referred to in Article 15 and which are subject to a fishing effort regime, the masters of these fishing vessels shall communicate by telex, fax, telephone message or e-mail duly recorded by the recipient or by radio via a radio station approved under ►**M5** Union ◀ rules the following information in the form of

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a fishing effort report to the competent authorities of his flag Member State and, where appropriate, to the coastal Member State immediately before each entry into and exit from a geographical area subject to that fishing effort regime:

- (a) the name, external identification mark, radio call sign and name of the master of the fishing vessel;
- (b) the geographical location of the fishing vessel to which the communication refers;
- (c) the date and time of each entry into and exit from the area and, where applicable, parts thereof;
- (d) the catch retained on board by species in kilograms live weight.

2. Member States may implement, in accordance with Member States concerned by the fishing activities of the former's vessels, alternative control measures to ensure compliance with effort reporting obligations. These measures shall be as effective and transparent as the reporting obligations in paragraph 1 and shall be notified to the Commission before being implemented.

Article 29

Exemptions

1. A fishing vessel carrying on board fishing gears subject to a fishing effort regime may transit across a geographical area subject to that fishing effort regime if it has no fishing authorisation to operate in that geographical area or it has first notified its competent authorities of its intention to transit. While the fishing vessel is within that geographical area, any fishing gear subject to that fishing effort regime and carried on board shall be lashed and stowed in accordance with conditions laid down in Article 47.

2. A Member State may choose not to count against any available maximum allowable fishing effort the activity of a fishing vessel undertaking non-fishing related activities in a geographical area subject to a fishing effort regime provided that the fishing vessel first notifies its flag Member State of its intention to do so, of the nature of its activity and that it surrenders its fishing authorisation for that time. Such fishing vessels shall not carry any fishing gear or fish during that time.

3. A Member State may choose not to count against any maximum allowable fishing effort the activity of a fishing vessel in a geographical area subject to a fishing effort regime which has been present in that geographical area but was unable to fish because it was assisting

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another fishing vessel in need of emergency aid or because it was transporting an injured person for emergency medical aid. Within one month after taking that decision, the flag Member State shall inform the Commission and provide evidence of the emergency aid supplied.

*Article 30***Exhaustion of fishing effort**

1. Without prejudice to Articles 29 and 31, in a geographical area where fishing gears are subject to a fishing effort regime a fishing vessel carrying on board such fishing gear or gears shall remain in port or out of that geographical area for the remainder of a period in which such fishing effort regime applies if:

- (a) it has exhausted the share of the maximum allowable fishing effort related to such geographical area and to such fishing gear or gears that has been assigned to it; or
- (b) the maximum allowable fishing effort related to such geographical area and to such fishing gear or gears available to its flag Member State has been exhausted.

2. Without prejudice to Article 29, in a geographical area where a fishery is subject to a fishing effort regime, a fishing vessel shall not operate in that fishery in that area if:

- (a) it has exhausted the share of the maximum allowable fishing effort related to that geographical area and to that fishery that has been assigned to it; or
- (b) the maximum allowable fishing effort related to that geographical area and to that fishery available to its flag Member State has been exhausted.

*Article 31***Fishing vessels excluded from the application of a fishing effort regime**

This Section shall not apply to fishing vessels to the extent that they are exempted from the application of a fishing effort regime.

*Article 32***Detailed rules**

Detailed rules for the application of this Section may be adopted in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 119.

▼B**Section 3****Recording and exchange of data by Member States***Article 33***Recording of catches and fishing effort**

1. Each flag Member State shall record all relevant data, in particular data referred to in Articles 14, 21, 23, 28 and 62, on fishing opportunities as referred to in this Chapter, expressed both in terms of landings and, where appropriate, fishing effort, and shall keep the originals of those data for a period of three years or longer in accordance with national rules.

2. Without prejudice to specific rules laid down in ►**M5** Union ◀ legislation, before the 15th of each month, each flag Member State shall notify the Commission or the body designated by it, by computer transmission of the aggregated data:

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- (a) for the quantities of each stock or group of stocks subject to TACs or quotas landed during the preceding month, including those below the applicable minimum conservation reference size, as a separate entry; and

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- (b) for the fishing effort deployed during the preceding month for each fishing area subject to a fishing effort regime or, where appropriate, for each fishery subject to a fishing effort regime.

3. By way of derogation from paragraph 2(a), for quantities landed from 1 January 2010 until 31 December 2010, Member States shall record quantities landed by fishing vessels of other Member States in their ports and notify them to the Commission in accordance with the procedures set out in this Article.

4. Each flag Member State shall notify the Commission by electronic means, before the end of the first month of each calendar quarter, of the quantities of stocks in aggregated form other than those mentioned in paragraph 2 landed during the preceding quarter.

5. All catches of a stock or a group of stocks subject to quota made by ►**M5** Union ◀ fishing vessels shall be charged against the quotas applicable to the flag Member State for the stock or group of stocks in question, irrespective of the place of landing.

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6. Catches taken in the framework of scientific research which are marketed and sold, including, where appropriate, those below the applicable minimum conservation reference size, shall be counted against the quota applicable to the flag Member State insofar as they exceed 2 % of the quotas concerned. Article 12(2) of Council

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Regulation (EC) No 199/2008 ⁽¹⁾ shall not apply to scientific research voyages during which such catches are taken.

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7. Without prejudice to Title XII, Member States may until 30 June 2011 carry out pilot projects with the Commission and body designated by it on the real-time remote access to Member States data recorded and validated according to this Regulation. The data access format and procedures shall be considered and tested. Member States shall inform the Commission before 1 January 2011 if they plan to carry out pilot projects. As from 1 January 2012 the Council may decide on a different way and frequency of data transmission by Member States to the Commission.

8. Except for effort deployed by fishing vessels that are excluded from the application of a fishing effort regime, all fishing effort deployed by ►**M5** Union ◀ fishing vessels when carrying on board or, where appropriate, using a fishing gear or gears subject to a fishing effort regime or operating in a fishery subject to a fishing effort regime in a geographical area subject to that fishing effort regime shall be counted against the maximum allowable fishing effort related to such geographical area and to such fishing gear or such fishery available to the flag Member State.

9. Fishing effort deployed in the framework of scientific research by a vessel carrying a fishing gear or gears subject to a fishing effort regime or operating in a fishery subject to a fishing effort regime in a geographical area subject to that fishing effort regime shall be counted against the maximum allowable fishing effort related to such fishing gear or gears or such fishery and to such geographical area of its flag Member State if the catches taken during the deployment of this effort are marketed and sold insofar as they exceed 2 % of the fishing effort allocated. Article 12(2) of Regulation (EC) No 199/2008 shall not apply to scientific research voyages during which such catches are taken.

10. The Commission may adopt formats for the transmission of the data referred to in this Article in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 119.

*Article 34***Data on the exhaustion of fishing opportunities**

A Member State shall inform the Commission, without delay, when it establishes that:

- (a) the catches of a stock or group of stocks subject to a quota made by the fishing vessels flying its flag are deemed to have exhausted 80 % of that quota; or

⁽¹⁾ Council Regulation (EC) No 199/2008 of 25 February 2008 establishing a Community framework for the collection, management and use of data in the fisheries sector and support for scientific advice regarding the Common Fisheries Policy (OJ L 60, 5.3.2008, p. 1).

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- (b) 80 % of the maximum fishing effort level related to a fishing gear or a fishery and to a geographical area and applicable to all or a group of the fishing vessels flying its flag is deemed to have been reached.

In such an eventuality, it shall provide the Commission, at the Commission's request, with more detailed and more frequent information than provided for in Article 33.

Section 4

Closure of fisheries

Article 35

Closure of fisheries by Member States

1. Each Member States shall establish the date from which:
 - (a) the catches of a stock or group of stocks subject to a quota made by the fishing vessels flying its flag shall be deemed to have exhausted that quota;
 - (b) the maximum allowable fishing effort related to a fishing gear or a fishery and to a geographical area and applicable to all or a group of the fishing vessels flying its flag shall be deemed to have been reached.
2. As from the date referred to in paragraph 1, the Member State concerned shall prohibit fishing either for the stock or group of stocks whose quota has been exhausted, in the relevant fishery or when carrying on board the relevant fishing gear in the geographical area where the maximum allowable fishing effort has been reached, by all or part of the fishing vessels flying its flag and in particular the retention on board, the transshipments, the relocations and the landings of fish taken after that date and shall decide on a date up to which transshipments, transfers and landings or final declarations of catches are permitted.
3. The decision referred to in paragraph 2 shall be made public by the Member State concerned and immediately communicated to the Commission. It shall be published in the *Official Journal of the European Union* (C series) and on the public website of the Commission. As from the date that the decision has been made public by the Member State concerned, Member States shall ensure that no retention on board, transshipments, relocations or landings either of the relevant fish or when carrying on board relevant fishing gears in relevant geographical areas by fishing vessels or a group of the vessels flying the flag of the Member State concerned take place in their waters and on their territory.
4. The Commission shall make available to Member States by electronic means the notifications received pursuant to this Article.

*Article 36***Closure of fisheries by the Commission**

1. Where the Commission finds that a Member State has not complied with the obligation to notify the monthly data on fishing opportunities as provided for in Article 33(2), it may set the date on which 80 % of the fishing opportunities of that Member State are deemed to have been exhausted and it may set the estimated date on which the fishing opportunities shall be deemed to have been exhausted.

2. On the basis of the information under Article 35 or on its own initiative, where the Commission finds that fishing opportunities available to the ►**M5** Union ◄, a Member State or group of Member States are deemed to have been exhausted, the Commission shall inform the Member States concerned thereof and shall prohibit fishing activities for the respective area, gear, stock, group of stocks or fleet involved in those specific fishing activities.

*Article 37***Corrective measures**

1. When the Commission has prohibited fishing because of the alleged exhaustion of the fishing opportunities available to a Member State or group of Member States or to the ►**M5** Union ◄ and it transpires that a Member State has not in fact exhausted its fishing opportunities, this Article shall apply.

2. If the prejudice suffered by the Member State for which fishing has been prohibited before its fishing opportunities were exhausted has not been removed, measures shall be adopted with the aim of remedying in an appropriate manner the prejudice caused, in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 119. These measures may involve making deductions from the fishing opportunities of any Member State which has overfished and allocating the quantities so deducted appropriately to the Member States whose fishing activities were prohibited before their fishing opportunities were exhausted.

3. The deductions referred to in paragraph 2 and the consequent allocations shall be made taking into account as a matter of priority the species and relevant geographical areas for which the fishing opportunities were fixed. They may be made during the year in which the prejudice occurred or in the succeeding year or years.

4. Detailed rules for the application of this Article, and in particular for determining the quantities concerned, shall be adopted in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 119.



CHAPTER II

Control of fleet management

Section 1

Fishing capacity

Article 38

Fishing capacity

1. Member States shall be responsible for carrying out the necessary checks in order to ensure that the total capacity corresponding to the fishing licences issued by a Member State, in GT and in kW, shall at any moment not be higher than the maximum capacity levels for that Member State established in accordance with:

- (a) Article 13 of Regulation (EC) No 2371/2002;
- (b) Regulation (EC) No 639/2004;
- (c) Regulation (EC) No 1438/2003; and
- (d) Regulation (EC) No 2104/2004.

2. Detailed rules for the application of this Article, and in particular regarding:

- (a) registration of fishing vessels;
- (b) verification of the engine power of fishing vessels;
- (c) verification of the tonnage of fishing vessels;
- (d) verification of the type, number and characteristics of the fishing gear;

may be adopted in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 119.

3. Member States shall inform the Commission as part of the report referred to in Article 118 of the check methods used, together with the names and addresses of the bodies responsible for carrying out the verifications referred to in paragraph 2 of this Article.

Section 2

Engine power

Article 39

Monitoring of engine power

1. It shall be prohibited to fish with a fishing vessel that is equipped with an engine the power of which exceeds the one established in the fishing licence.

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2. Member States shall ensure that the certified engine power is not exceeded. Member States shall inform the Commission as part of the report referred to in Article 118 on the control measures they have undertaken to ensure that the certified engine power is not exceeded.

3. Member States may charge parts or all costs arising from the certification of engine power to the operators of the fishing vessels.

*Article 40***Certification of engine power**

1. Member States shall be responsible for certifying engine power and issuing engine certificates for ►**M5** Union ◀ fishing vessels whose propulsion engine power exceeds 120 kilowatts (kW), except vessels using exclusively static gear or dredge gear, auxiliary vessels and vessels used exclusively in aquaculture.

2. A new propulsion engine, a replacement propulsion engine and a propulsion engine that has been technically modified of fishing vessels referred to in paragraph 1 shall be officially certified by the Member States' competent authorities as not being capable of developing more maximum continuous engine power than stated in the engine certificate. Such a certificate shall only be issued if the engine is not capable of developing more than the stated maximum continuous engine power.

3. Member States' competent authorities may assign the certification of engine power to classification societies or to other operators having the necessary expertise for the technical examination of engine power. Those classification societies or other operators shall only certify a propulsion engine as not being capable of exceeding the officially stated power if there is no possibility to increase the performance of the propulsion engine above the certified power.

4. It shall be prohibited to use a new propulsion engine, a replacement propulsion engine or a propulsion engine that has been technically modified if such engine has not been officially certified by the Member State concerned.

5. This Article shall apply for fishing vessels subject to a fishing effort regime as from 1 January 2012. For other fishing vessels it shall apply as from 1 January 2013.

6. Detailed rules for the application of this Section shall be adopted in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 119.

▼B*Article 41***Verification of engine power**

1. Member States shall undertake, following a risk analysis, data verification, established on a sampling plan based on the methodology adopted by the Commission in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 119, of the consistency of engine power using all the information available to the administration concerning the technical characteristics of the vessel concerned. In particular they shall verify the information contained in:

- (a) vessel monitoring system records;
- (b) the fishing logbook;
- (c) the Engine International Air Pollution Prevention (EIAPP) Certificate issued for the engine in accordance with Annex VI to the Marpol 73/78 Convention;
- (d) class certificates issued by a recognised ship inspection and survey organisation within the meaning of Directive 94/57/EC;
- (e) the sea trial certificate;
- (f) the Community Fishing Fleet Register; and
- (g) any other documents providing relevant information on vessel power or any related technical characteristics.

2. Following the analysis of the information referred to in paragraph 1, where there are indications that the engine power of a fishing vessel is greater than the power stated on its fishing licence, Member States shall proceed to a physical verification of the engine power.

*CHAPTER III****Control of multiannual plans****Article 42***Transshipment in port**

1. Fishing vessels engaged in fisheries subject to a multiannual plan shall not tranship their catches on board of any other vessel in a designated port or in places close to the shore unless they have been weighed in accordance with Article 60.

2. By way of derogation from paragraph 1, fishing vessels may tranship pelagic catches subject to a multiannual plan in designated ports or places close to the shore which have not been weighed provided that a control observer or an official is present on board the receiving vessel or an inspection is carried out before the departure

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of the receiving vessel after the transshipment is completed. The master of the receiving vessel is responsible for informing the competent authorities of the coastal Member State 24 hours before the estimated departure of the receiving vessel. The control observer or official shall be designated by the competent authorities of the flag Member State of the receiving vessel. If the receiving vessel engages in fishing activities before or after having received such catches, it shall carry on board the control observer or official until the landing of the received catches. The receiving vessel shall land the received catches in a port of a Member State designated for this purpose in accordance with the conditions laid down in Article 43(4) where the catch shall be weighed in accordance with Articles 60 and 61.

*Article 43***Designated ports**

1. The Council may decide, when adopting a multiannual plan, on a threshold applicable to the live weight of species subject to a multiannual plan, above which a fishing vessel shall be required to land its catches in a designated port or a place close to the shore.

2. Where more than the threshold of fish as referred to in paragraph 1 is to be landed, the master of a ►**M5** Union ◀ fishing vessel shall ensure that such landing is only made in a designated port or a place close to the shore in the ►**M5** Union ◀.

3. When the multiannual plan is applied in the framework of a regional fisheries management organisation, the landings or transshipments may take place in the ports of a Contracting Party or a non-contracting Cooperating Party of that organisation, in accordance with the rules laid down by that regional fisheries management organisation.

4. Each Member State shall designate ports or places close to the shore in which landings referred to in paragraph 2 shall take place.

5. For a port or place close to the shore to be determined as a designated port, the following conditions shall be met:

- (a) established landing or transshipment times;
- (b) established landing or transshipment places;
- (c) established inspection and surveillance procedures.

6. Where a port or place close to the shore has been determined as a designated port for the landing of a given species subject to a multiannual plan, it may be used for the landing of any other species.

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7. Member States shall be exempted from paragraph 5(c) if the national control action programme adopted in accordance with Article 46 contains a plan on how to perform control in designated ports, ensuring the same level of control by competent authorities. The plan shall be deemed satisfactory if agreed by the Commission in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 119.

*Article 44***Separate stowage of demersal catches subject to multiannual plans**

1. All catches of demersal stocks subject to a multiannual plan retained on board a ►**M5** Union ◀ fishing vessel of 12 metres' length overall or more shall be placed in boxes, compartments or containers separately for each of such stocks in such a way that they are identifiable from other boxes, compartments or containers.

2. Masters of ►**M5** Union ◀ fishing vessels shall keep the catches of demersal stocks subject to a multiannual plan according to a stowage plan that describes the location of the different species in the holds.

3. It shall be prohibited to retain on board a ►**M5** Union ◀ fishing vessel in any box, compartment or container any quantity of catches of demersal stocks subject to a multiannual plan mixed with any other fisheries product.

*Article 45***Real time use of quotas**

1. When accumulated catches of stocks subject to a multiannual plan have reached a certain threshold of the national quota, data on catches shall be sent more frequently to the Commission.

2. The Council shall decide on the relevant threshold to apply and the frequency of the communication of the data referred to in paragraph 1.

*Article 46***National control action programmes**

1. Member States shall define a national control action programme applicable to each multiannual plan. All national control action programmes shall be notified to the Commission or made available on the secure part of the Member State's website in accordance with Article 115(a).

2. Member States shall set out specific inspection benchmarks in accordance with Annex I. Such benchmarks shall be defined in accordance with risk management and shall be revised periodically after an analysis of the results achieved has been made. Inspection benchmarks shall evolve progressively until the target benchmarks defined in Annex I are reached.

▼B*CHAPTER IV**Control of technical measures**Section 1***Use of fishing gear***Article 47***Fishing gear**

In fisheries in which it is not allowed to use more than one type of gear, any other gear shall be lashed and stowed so that it may not readily be used, in accordance with the following conditions:

- (a) nets, weights and similar gear shall be disconnected from their trawl boards and towing and hauling wires and ropes;
- (b) nets which are on or above deck shall be securely lashed and stowed;
- (c) longlines shall be stowed in lower decks.

*Article 48***Retrieval of lost gear**

1. A ►**M5** Union ◄ fishing vessel shall have the equipment on board to retrieve lost gear.

2. The master of a ►**M5** Union ◄ fishing vessel that has lost gear or part of it shall attempt to retrieve it as soon as possible.

3. If the lost gear cannot be retrieved, the master of the vessel shall inform the competent authority of its flag Member State, which shall then inform the competent authority of the coastal Member State, within 24 hours of the following:

- (a) the external identification number and the name of the fishing vessel;
- (b) the type of lost gear;
- (c) the time when the gear was lost;
- (d) the position where the gear was lost;
- (e) the measures undertaken to retrieve the gear.

4. If the gear that is retrieved by the competent authorities of the Member States has not been reported as lost, these authorities may recover the cost from the master of the fishing vessel that lost the gear.

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5. A Member State may exempt ►**M5** Union ◀ fishing vessels of less than 12 metres' length overall flying its flag from the requirement set out in paragraph 1 if they:

- (a) operate exclusively within the territorial seas of the flag Member State; or
- (b) never spend more than 24 hours at sea from the time of departure to the return to port.

*Article 49***Catch composition**

1. If catches which have been retained on board any ►**M5** Union ◀ fishing vessel have been taken with nets with different minimum mesh sizes during the same voyage, the species composition shall be calculated for each part of the catch which has been taken under different conditions. To that end, all changes from the mesh size previously used as well as the catch composition on board at the moment of any such change shall be entered into the fishing logbook.

2. Without prejudice to Article 44, detailed rules on the keeping on board of a stowage plan, by species, of processed products, indicating where they are located in the hold, may be adopted in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 119.

▼M5*Article 49a***Separate stowage of catches below the minimum conservation reference sizes**

1. All catches below the applicable minimum conservation reference size retained on board a Union fishing vessel shall be placed in boxes, compartments or containers in such a way that they are identifiable from other boxes, compartments or containers. Those catches shall not be mixed with any other fishery products.

2. Paragraph 1 shall not apply:

- (a) where the catches contain more than 80 % of one or more small pelagic or industrial species as listed in point (a) of Article 15(1) of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013;
- (b) to fishing vessels of less than 12 metres' length overall where catches below the minimum conservation reference size have been sorted, estimated and recorded in accordance with Article 14 of this Regulation.

3. In the cases referred to in paragraph 2, Member States shall monitor the catch composition by way of sampling.

▼ **M5***Article 49b***De minimis rule**

Member States shall ensure that catches falling under the *de minimis* exemption referred to in point (c) of Article 15(5) of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013 do not exceed the percentage of the exemption established in the relevant Union measure.

*Article 49c***Landing of catches below the minimum conservation reference sizes**

Where catches below the applicable minimum conservation reference size are landed, those catches shall be stored separately and be treated in such a way that they are distinguished from fishery products destined for direct human consumption. Member States shall control compliance with that obligation in accordance with Article 5.

▼ **B****Section 2****Control of fishing restricted areas**▼ **M8***Article 50***Control of fishing restricted areas**

1. Fishing activities in fishing restricted areas located in Union waters shall be controlled by the coastal Member State. The coastal Member State shall have a system to detect and record the fishing vessels' entry into, transit through and exit from fishing restricted areas under its sovereignty or jurisdiction.

2. Fishing activities of Union fishing vessels in fishing restricted areas located in third-country waters or on the high seas shall be controlled by the flag Member States.

3. Union and third-country catching vessels that are not authorised to conduct fishing activities in fishing restricted areas may only transit through such areas subject to the following conditions:

- (a) all fishing gear carried on board is lashed and stowed during the transit;
- (b) the transit is continuous and expeditious and the speed during transit is not less than six knots, except in cases of force majeure. In such cases, the master of a Union catching vessel shall immediately inform the fisheries monitoring centre of its flag Member State, which shall inform the competent authorities of the coastal Member State, and the master of a third-country catching vessel shall immediately inform the competent authorities of the coastal Member State; and
- (c) the tracking device referred to in Article 9 is functioning.

4. Paragraph 3 shall apply only insofar as the relevant restriction or prohibition of all or certain fishing activities in fishing restricted areas are in force.

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Section 4**On-board processing and pelagic fisheries***Article 54a***On-board processing**

1. The carrying out on board a fishing vessel of any physical or chemical processing of fish to produce fish-meal, fish-oil, or similar products or to tranship catches of fish for such purposes shall be prohibited.
2. Paragraph 1 shall not apply to:
 - (a) the processing or transhipment of offal; or
 - (b) the production on board a fishing vessel of surimi.

*Article 54b***Catch handling and discharge restrictions on pelagic vessels**

1. The maximum space between bars in the water separator on board pelagic fishing vessels targeting mackerel, herring and horse mackerel operating in the NEAFC Convention Area as defined in Article 3(2) of Regulation (EU) No 1236/2010 shall be 10 mm.

The bars shall be welded in place. If holes are used in the water separator instead of bars, the maximum diameter of the holes shall not exceed 10 mm. Holes in the chutes before the water separator shall not exceed 15 mm in diameter.

2. Pelagic vessels operating in the NEAFC Convention Area shall be prohibited from discharging fish under their water line from buffer tanks or refrigerated seawater (RSW) tanks.
3. Drawings related to the catch handling and discharge capabilities of pelagic vessels targeting mackerel, herring and horse mackerel in the NEAFC Convention Area which are certified by the competent authorities of the flag Member States, as well as any modifications thereto, shall be sent by the master of the vessel to the competent fisheries authorities of the flag Member State. The competent authorities of the flag Member State of the vessels shall carry out periodic verifications of the accuracy of the drawings submitted. Copies shall be carried on board the vessel at all times.

*Article 54c***Restrictions on the use of automatic grading equipment**

1. The carrying or use on board a fishing vessel of equipment which is capable of automatically grading, by size or by sex, herring or mackerel or horse mackerel shall be prohibited.

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2. However, the carrying and use of such equipment shall be permitted provided that:

- (a) the vessel does not simultaneously carry or use on board either towed gear of mesh size less than 70 mm or one or more purse seines or similar fishing gear; or
- (b) the whole of the catch which may be lawfully retained on board:
 - (i) is stored in a frozen state;
 - (ii) the graded fish are frozen immediately after grading and no graded fish are returned to the sea; and
 - (iii) the equipment is installed and located on the vessel in such a way as to ensure immediate freezing and not to allow the return of marine species to the sea.

3. By way of derogation from paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Article, any vessel authorised to fish in the Baltic Sea, the Belts or the Sound may carry automatic grading equipment in the Kattegat provided that a fishing authorisation has been issued in accordance with Article 7. The fishing authorisation shall define the species, areas, time periods and any other required conditions applicable to the use and carriage on board of the grading equipment.

4. This Article shall not apply in the Baltic Sea.

▼B*CHAPTER V****Control of recreational fisheries****Article 55***Recreational fisheries**

1. Member States shall ensure that recreational fisheries on their territory and in ►**M5** Union ◀ waters are conducted in a manner compatible with the objectives and rules of the common fisheries policy.

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Coastal Member States may use an electronic system referred to in the second subparagraph developed at national or Union level. If one or more coastal Member States so request by 10 May 2024, the Commission shall develop such a system. A requesting Member State shall implement the system as developed by the Commission.

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2. The marketing of catches from recreational fisheries shall be prohibited.

3. Without prejudice to Regulation (EC) No 199/2008, Member States shall monitor, on the basis of a sampling plan, the catches of stocks subject to recovery plans by recreational fisheries practised from vessels flying their flag and from third country vessels in waters under their sovereignty or jurisdiction. Fishing from shore shall not be included.

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4. The Scientific, Technical and Economic Committee for Fisheries (STECF) shall evaluate the biological impact of recreational fisheries as referred to in paragraph 3. Where a recreational fishery is found to have a significant impact, the Council may decide, in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 37 of the Treaty, to submit recreational fisheries as referred to in paragraph 3 to specific management measures such as fishing authorisations and catch declarations.

5. Detailed rules for the application of this Article shall be adopted in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 119.

TITLE V

CONTROL OF MARKETING

CHAPTER I

*General provisions**Article 56***Principles for the control of marketing****▼M5**

1. Each Member State shall be responsible for controlling on its territory the application of the rules of the common fisheries policy at all stages of the marketing of fisheries and aquaculture products, from the first sale to the retail sale, including transport. Member States shall in particular ensure that the use of fishery products below the applicable minimum conservation reference size that are subject to the landing obligation set out in Article 15 of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013 is restricted to purposes other than direct human consumption.

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2. Where a minimum size has been fixed for a given species in ►M5 Union ◀ legislation, operators responsible for purchasing, selling, stocking or transporting shall be able to prove the relevant geographical area of origin of the products.

3. Member States shall ensure that all fisheries and aquaculture products from catching or harvesting are put into lots prior to the first sale.

4. Quantities of less than 30 kg per single species coming from the same management area from several fishing vessels may be put into lots by the producer organisation of which the operator of the fishing vessel is a member or by a registered buyer prior to the first sale. The producer organisation and the registered buyer shall keep records for at least three years on the origin of the contents of the lots in which catches of several fishing vessels are put.

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5. Quantities of fishery products of several species, consisting of individuals below the applicable minimum conservation reference size coming from the same relevant geographical area and the same fishing vessel, or group of fishing vessels, may be put into lots prior to the first sale.

▼B*Article 57***Common marketing standards**

1. Member States shall ensure that the products to which common marketing standards apply are displayed for first sale, offered for first sale, sold or otherwise marketed only if they comply with these standards. ►**M1** Member States shall undertake checks to ensure compliance. The checks may take place at all marketing stages and during transport. ◀
2. Products withdrawn from the market in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 104/2000 shall respect common marketing standards, in particular freshness categories.
3. Operators responsible for purchasing, selling, stocking or transporting lots of fisheries and aquaculture products shall be able to prove that the products comply with the minimum marketing standards at all stages.

*Article 58***Traceability**

1. Without prejudice to Regulation (EC) No 178/2002, all lots of fisheries and aquaculture products shall be traceable at all stages of production, processing and distribution, from catching or harvesting to retail stage.
2. Fisheries and aquaculture products placed on the market or likely to be placed on the market in the ►**M5** Union ◀ shall be adequately labelled to ensure the traceability of each lot.
3. Lots of fisheries and aquaculture products may be merged or split after first sale only if it is possible to trace them back to catching or harvesting stage.
4. Member States shall ensure that operators have in place systems and procedures to identify any operator from whom they have been supplied with lots of fisheries and aquaculture products and to whom these products have been supplied. This information shall be made available to the competent authorities on demand.
5. The minimum labelling and information requirements for all lots of fisheries and aquaculture products shall include:
 - (a) the identification number of each lot;
 - (b) the external identification number and name of the fishing vessel or the name of the aquaculture production unit;
 - (c) the FAO alpha-3 code of each species;
 - (d) the date of catches or the date of production;
 - (e) the quantities of each species in kilograms expressed in net weight or, where appropriate, the number of individuals;

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- (ea) in cases where fish below the applicable minimum conservation reference size are present in the quantities referred to in point (e), separate information on the quantities of each species in kilograms expressed in net weight, or the number of individuals;

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(f) the name and address of the suppliers;

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(g) the information to consumers provided for in Article 35 of Regulation (EU) No 1379/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council ⁽¹⁾;

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►C1 6. Member States shall ensure that the information listed in point (g) of paragraph 5 is ◀ available to the consumer at retail sale stage.

7. The information listed in points (a) to (f) of paragraph 5 shall not apply to fisheries and aquaculture products imported into the ►M5 Union ◀ with catch certificates submitted in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 1005/2008.

8. Member States may exempt from the requirements set out in this Article small quantities of products sold directly from fishing vessels to consumers, provided that these do not exceed the value of EUR 50 per day. Any amendment to this threshold shall be adopted in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 119.

9. Detailed rules for the application of this Article shall be adopted in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 119.

*CHAPTER II**Post-landing activities**Article 59***First sale of fisheries products**

1. Member States shall ensure that all fisheries products are first marketed or registered at an auction centre or to registered buyers or to producer organisations.

2. The buyer of fisheries products from a fishing vessel at first sale shall be registered with the competent authorities of the Member State where the first sale takes place. For the purpose of registration, each buyer shall be identified according to its VAT number, tax identification number or other unique identifier in national databases.

3. A buyer acquiring fisheries products up to an amount of 30 kg which are not thereafter placed on the market but used only for private consumption shall be exempted from this Article. Any amendment to this threshold shall be adopted in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 119.

*Article 60***Weighing of fishery products**

1. A Member State shall ensure that all fishery products are weighed on systems approved by the competent authorities unless it has adopted a sampling plan approved by the Commission and based on the risk-based methodology adopted by the Commission in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 119.

⁽¹⁾ Regulation (EU) No 1379/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 december 2013 on the common organisation of the markets in fishery and aquaculture products, amending Council Regulations (EC) No 1184/2006 and (EC) No 1224/2009 and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 104/2000 (OJ L 354, 28.12.2013, p. 1).

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2. Without prejudice to specific provisions, the weighing shall be carried out on landing prior to the fisheries products being held in storage, transported or sold.
3. By way of derogation from paragraph 2, Member States may permit fisheries products to be weighed on board the fishing vessel subject to a sampling plan as referred to in paragraph 1.
4. Registered buyers, registered auctions or other bodies or persons which are responsible for the first marketing of fisheries products in a Member State shall be responsible for the accuracy of the weighing operation unless, in accordance with paragraph 3, the weighing takes place on board a fishing vessel, in which case it shall be the master's responsibility.
5. The figure resulting from the weighing shall be used for the completion of landing declarations, transport document, sales notes and take-over declarations.
6. The competent authorities of a Member State may require that any quantity of fisheries products first landed in that Member State is weighed in the presence of officials before being transported elsewhere from the place of landing.
7. Detailed rules on the risk-based methodology and procedure of weighing shall be established in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 119.

*Article 61***Weighing of fisheries products after transport from the place of landing**

1. By way of derogation from Article 60(2), Member States may permit fisheries products to be weighed after transport from the place of landing provided that they are transported to a destination on the territory of the Member State concerned and that this Member State has adopted a control plan approved by the Commission and based on the risk-based methodology adopted by the Commission in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 119.
2. By way of derogation from paragraph 1, the competent authorities of the Member State in which the fisheries products are landed may permit the transport before weighing of these products to registered buyers, registered auctions or other bodies or persons which are responsible for the first marketing of fisheries products in another Member State. This permission shall be subject to a common control programme between the Member States concerned as referred to in Article 94 which has been approved by the Commission and based on the risk-based methodology adopted by the Commission in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 119.

*Article 62***Completion and submission of sales notes**

1. Registered buyers, registered auctions or other bodies or persons authorised by Member States with an annual financial turnover in first

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sales of fisheries products of less than EUR 200 000 which are responsible for the first marketing of fisheries products landed in a Member State, shall submit, if possible electronically, within 48 hours after the first sale, a sales note to the competent authorities of the Member State in whose territory the first sale takes place. The accuracy of the sales note shall be the responsibility of these buyers, auctions, bodies or persons.

2. A Member State may oblige or authorise registered buyers, registered auctions or other bodies or persons authorised by Member States with an annual financial turnover in first sales of fisheries products of less than EUR 200 000 to electronically record and transmit the data mentioned in Article 64(1).

3. If the Member State in whose territory the first sale takes place is not the flag Member State of the fishing vessel that landed the fish, it shall ensure that a copy of the sales note is submitted, if possible electronically, to the competent authorities of the flag Member State upon receipt of the relevant information.

4. Where the first marketing of fisheries products does not take place in the Member State where the products have been landed, the Member State responsible for controlling the first marketing shall ensure that a copy of the sales note is submitted, if possible electronically, to the competent authorities responsible for controlling the landing of the products concerned and to the competent authorities of the flag Member State of the fishing vessel upon receipt of the sales note.

5. When the landing takes place outside the ►**M5** Union ◀ and the first sale takes place in a third country, the master of the fishing vessel or his representative shall forward, if possible electronically, a copy of the sales note or any equivalent document containing the same level of information to the competent authority of the flag member State within 48 hours after the first sale.

6. Where a sales note does not correspond to the invoice or to a document replacing it, as referred to in Articles 218 and 219 of Council Directive 2006/112/EC of 28 November 2006 on the common system of value added tax ⁽¹⁾, the Member State concerned shall adopt the necessary provisions to ensure that the information on the price excluding tax for deliveries of goods to the purchaser is identical to that indicated on the invoice. Member States shall adopt the necessary provisions to ensure that the information on the price excluding tax for deliveries of goods to the purchaser is identical to that indicated on the invoice.

Article 63

Electronic completion and transmission of sales notes data

1. Registered buyers, registered auctions or other bodies or persons authorised by Member States with an annual financial turnover in first

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 347, 11.12.2006, p. 1.

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sales of fisheries products of EUR 200 000 or more shall record by electronic means the information referred to in Article 64(1), and shall send it by electronic means within 24 hours after completion of the first sale to the competent authorities of the Member State in whose territory the first sale takes place.

2. Member States shall transmit in the same way, by electronic means, information on sales notes referred to in Article 62(3) and (4).

*Article 64***Content of the sales notes**

1. The sales notes referred to in Articles 62 and 63 shall contain the following data:

- (a) the external identification number and the name of the fishing vessel that has landed the product concerned;
- (b) the port and date of landing;
- (c) the name of the fishing vessel's operator or master and, if different, the name of the seller;
- (d) the name of the buyer and its VAT number, its tax identification number, or other unique identifier;
- (e) the FAO alpha-3 code of each species and the relevant geographical area in which the catches were taken;
- (f) the quantities of each species in kilograms in product weight, broken down by type of product presentation or, where appropriate, the number of individuals;
- (g) for all products subject to marketing standards, as appropriate, the individual size or weight, grade, presentation and freshness;

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- (h) where appropriate, the destination of products withdrawn from the market for storage of fishery products in accordance with Article 30 of Regulation (EU) No 1379/2013;
- (ha) where appropriate, the quantities in kilograms expressed in net weight, or the number of individuals, below the applicable minimum conservation reference size, and the destination thereof;

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- (i) the place and the date of the sale;
- (j) where possible, the reference number and date of invoice and, where appropriate, the sales contract;
- (k) where applicable, reference to the take-over declaration referred to in Article 66 or the transport document referred to in Article 68;
- (l) the price.

2. Detailed rules for the application of this Article shall be adopted in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 119.



Article 65

Exemptions from sales notes requirements

1. The Commission, in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 119, may grant an exemption from the obligation to submit the sales note to the competent authorities or other authorised bodies of the Member State for fisheries products landed from certain categories of ►**M5** Union ◄ fishing vessels of less than 10 metres' length overall or for quantities landed of fisheries products not exceeding 50 kg of live weight equivalent by species. Such exemptions may be granted only in cases where the Member State in question has installed an acceptable sampling system, in accordance with Articles 16 and 25.

2. A buyer acquiring products up to an amount of 30 kg which are not thereafter placed on the market but used only for private consumption shall be exempted from the provisions laid down in Articles 62, 63 and 64. Any amendment to this threshold shall be adopted in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 119.

Article 66

Take-over declaration

1. Without prejudice to specific provisions contained in multiannual plans, when the fisheries products are intended for sale at a later stage, registered buyers, registered auctions or other bodies or persons with an annual financial turnover in first sales of fisheries products of less than EUR 200 000 which are responsible for the first marketing of fisheries products landed in a Member State shall submit within 48 hours after completion of landing a take-over declaration to the competent authorities of the Member State where the take-over takes place. The submission of the take-over declaration and its accuracy shall be the responsibility of these buyers, auctions or other bodies or persons.

2. If the Member State where the take-over takes place is not the flag Member State of the fishing vessel that landed the fish, it shall ensure that a copy of the take over declaration is submitted, if possible electronically, to the competent authorities of the flag Member State upon receipt of the relevant information.

3. The take-over declaration referred to in paragraph 1 shall contain at least the following information:

- (a) the external identification number and name of the fishing vessel that has landed the products;
- (b) the port and date of landing;
- (c) the name of the vessel's operator or master;
- (d) the FAO alpha-3 code of each species and its relevant geographical area in which the catches were taken;
- (e) the quantities of each species stored in kilograms in product weight, broken down by type of product presentation or, where appropriate, the number of individuals;
- (f) the name and address of the facilities where the products are stored;

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- (g) where applicable, reference to the transport document specified to in Article 68;

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- (h) where appropriate, the quantities in kilograms expressed in net weight, or the number of individuals, below the applicable minimum conservation reference size.

▼B*Article 67***Electronic completion and transmission of take over declaration data**

1. Without prejudice to specific provisions contained in multiannual plans, when the fisheries products are intended for sale at a later stage, registered buyers, registered auctions or other bodies or persons with an annual financial turnover in first sales of fisheries products of EUR 200 000 or more which are responsible for the first marketing of fisheries products landed in a Member State shall record by electronic means the information referred to in Article 66 and shall send it within 24 hours by electronic means to the competent authorities of the Member State where the take-over takes place.

2. Member States shall transmit, by electronic means, information on take over declarations referred to in Article 66(2).

*Article 68***Completion and submission of the transport document**

1. Fisheries products landed into the ►**M5** Union ◀, either unprocessed or after having been processed on board, for which neither a sales note nor a take-over declaration has been submitted in accordance with Articles 62, 63, 66 and 67 and which are transported to a place other than that of landing, shall be accompanied by a document drawn up by the transporter until the first sale has taken place. The transporter shall submit, within 48 hours after the loading, a transport document to the competent authorities of the Member State in whose territory the landing has taken place or other bodies authorised by it.

2. The transporter shall be exempted from the requirement of having the transport document accompanying the fisheries products if a transport document has been transmitted electronically, before the transport begins, to the competent authorities of the flag Member State which shall, in the event that the products are transported to a Member State other than the Member State of landing, immediately upon receipt forward the transport document to the competent authorities of the Member State in whose territory the first marketing is declared to take place.

3. In the event that the products are transported to a Member State other than the Member State of landing, the transporter shall also transmit, within 48 hours following the loading of the fisheries products, a copy of the transport document to the competent authorities of the Member State in whose territory the first marketing is declared to take place. The Member State of first marketing may require further information in this regard from the Member State of landing.

4. The transporter shall be responsible for the accuracy of the transport document.

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5. The transport document shall indicate:
- (a) the place of destination of the consignment(s) and the identification of the transport vehicle;
 - (b) the external identification number and name of the fishing vessel that has landed the products;
 - (c) the FAO alpha-3 code of each species and the relevant geographical area in which the catches were taken;
 - (d) the quantities of each species transported in kilograms in product weight, broken down by type of product presentation or, where appropriate, the number of individuals;
 - (e) the name(s) and address(es) of the consignee(s);
 - (f) the place and date of loading;

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- (g) where appropriate, the quantities in kilograms expressed in net weight, or the number of individuals, below the applicable minimum conservation reference size.

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6. The competent authorities of Member States may grant exemptions from the obligation set out in paragraph 1 if the fisheries products are transported within a port area or not more than 20 km from the place of landing.
7. Where fisheries products that have been declared as sold in a sales note are transported to a location other than the place of landing, the transporter shall be able to prove with a document that a sales transaction has taken place.
8. The transporter shall be exempt from the obligation laid down in this Article if the transport document is replaced by a copy of the landing declaration provided for in Article 23 pertaining to the quantities transported, or any equivalent document containing the same level of information.

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TITLE VI
SURVEILLANCE

Article 71

Sightings at sea and detection by Member States

1. Member States shall carry out surveillance in ►**M5** Union ◀ waters under their sovereignty or jurisdiction based on:
- (a) sightings of fishing vessels by inspection vessels or surveillance aircrafts;
 - (b) a vessel monitoring system as referred to in Article 9; or
 - (c) any other detection and identification methods.

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2. If the sighting or detection does not correspond to other information available to the Member State, it shall undertake any investigations that may be necessary to determine the appropriate follow-up.

3. If the sighting or detection refers to a fishing vessel of another Member State or a third country and the information does not correspond to any other information that is available to the coastal Member State and if that coastal Member State is not in a position to undertake further action, it shall record its findings in a surveillance report and shall transmit that report without delay, if possible by electronic means, to the flag Member State or to the third country concerned. In case of a third country vessel, the surveillance report shall also be sent to the Commission or the body designated by it.

4. In the event that an official of a Member State sights or detects a fishing vessel engaged in activities that may be considered to be an infringement of the rules of the common fisheries policy, he shall without delay issue a surveillance report and send it to his competent authorities.

5. The content of the surveillance report shall be determined in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 119.

*Article 72***Action to be taken upon information on sightings and detection**

1. Flag Member States shall, upon receipt of a surveillance report from another Member State, take prompt action on it and undertake such further investigation as is necessary to allow them to determine appropriate follow-up.

2. Member States other than the flag Member State concerned shall, where appropriate, verify whether the sighted vessel reported has carried out activities in the waters under their jurisdiction or sovereignty or if fisheries products stemming from that vessel have been landed or imported into their territory and shall investigate its record of compliance with relevant conservation and management measures.

3. The Commission or the body designated by it or, where appropriate, the flag Member State and other Member States shall also examine suitably documented information regarding sighted vessels submitted by individual citizens, civil society organisations, including environmental organisations, as well as representatives of fisheries or fish trade stakeholder interests.

*Article 73***Control observers**

1. Where a ►**M5** Union ◀ control observer scheme has been established by the Council, control observers on board fishing vessels shall verify the fishing vessel's compliance with the rules of the common fisheries policy. They shall implement all the tasks of the observer scheme and in particular verify and record the vessel's fishing activities and relevant documents.
2. Control observers shall be qualified for their tasks. They shall be independent of the owner, the master of the fishing vessel and any crew member. They shall not have any economic link with the operator.
3. As far as possible, control observers shall ensure that their presence on board fishing vessels does not hinder or interfere with the fishing activities and the normal operations of the vessel.
4. In the event a control observer notices a serious infringement, he shall inform without delay the competent authorities of the flag Member State.
5. Control observers shall draw up an observer report, if possible electronically, and forward it without delay, using if deemed necessary electronic means of transmission on board the fishing vessel, to their competent authorities and to the competent authorities of the flag Member State. Member States shall insert the report in the database referred to in Article 78.
6. In the event that the observer report indicates that the vessel observed has engaged in fishing activities contrary to the rules of the common fisheries policy, the competent authorities referred to in paragraph 4 shall take all appropriate action to investigate the matter.
7. Masters of ►**M5** Union ◀ fishing vessels shall provide adequate accommodation for assigned control observers, facilitate their work and avoid interference with the discharge of their duties. Masters of ►**M5** Union ◀ fishing vessels shall also provide control observers access to relevant parts of the vessel, including the catch, and to the vessel's documents including electronic files.
8. All costs arising from the operation of control observers under this Article shall be borne by the flag Member States. Member States may charge those costs, in part or in full, to the operators of the fishing vessels flying their flags involved in the relevant fishery.

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9. Detailed rules for the application of this Article may be adopted in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 119.

▼M5*Article 73a***Control observers for the monitoring of the landing obligation**

Without prejudice to Article 73(1) of this Regulation, Member States may deploy control observers on board fishing vessels flying their flag for the monitoring of fisheries subject to the landing obligation set out in Article 15 of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013. Article 73(2) to (9) of this Regulation shall apply to those control observers.

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TITLE VII

INSPECTION AND PROCEEDINGS

CHAPTER I

*General provisions**Article 74***Conduct of inspections**

1. Member States shall set up and keep up to date a list of officials responsible for carrying out inspections.

2. Officials shall carry out their duties in accordance with ►M5 Union ◄ law. They shall conduct inspections in a non-discriminatory manner at sea, in ports, during transport, on processing premises and during the marketing of the fisheries products.

3. Officials shall check in particular:

- (a) the legality of the catch kept on board, stored, transported, processed or marketed and the accuracy of the documentations or electronic transmissions relating to it;
- (b) the legality of the fishing gear used for the targeted species and for the catches kept on board;
- (c) if appropriate, the stowage plan and the separate stowage of species;
- (d) the marking of gears; and
- (e) the information on the engine referred to in Article 40.

4. Officials may examine all relevant areas, decks and rooms. They may also examine catches, processed or not, nets or other gear, equipment, containers and packages containing fish or fisheries products and any relevant documents or electronic transmissions which they deem necessary to verify compliance with the rules of the common fisheries policy. They may also question persons deemed to have information on the matter that is the subject of the inspection.

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5. Officials shall conduct inspections in such manner as to cause the least disturbance or inconvenience to the vessel or transport vehicle and its activities, and to the storing, processing and marketing of the catch. They shall, as far as possible, prevent any degradation of the catch during the inspection.

6. Detailed rules for the application of this Article, in particular on the methodology and the conduct of an inspection, shall be adopted in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 119.

*Article 75***Duties of the operator**

1. The operator shall facilitate the safe access to the vessel, transport vehicle or room where the fisheries products are stored, processed or marketed. It shall ensure the safety of the officials and shall not obstruct, intimidate or interfere with the officials in the performance of their duties.

2. Detailed rules for the application of this Article may be adopted in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 119.

*Article 76***Inspection report**

1. Officials shall draw up an inspection report after each inspection and shall forward it to their competent authorities. Where possible, this report shall be recorded and transmitted by electronic means. In the case of the inspection of a fishing vessel flying the flag of another Member State, a copy of the inspection report shall be sent without delay to the flag Member State concerned if an infringement has been found in the course of the inspection. In the case of the inspection of a fishing vessel flying the flag of a third country, a copy of the inspection report shall be sent without delay to the competent authorities of the third country concerned if an infringement has been found in the course of the inspection. In case of an inspection carried out in the waters under the jurisdiction of another Member State, a copy of the inspection report shall be sent without delay to that Member State.

2. Officials shall communicate their findings from the inspection to the operator, who shall have the possibility to comment on the inspection and its findings. The operator's comments shall be reflected in the inspection report. Officials shall indicate in the fishing logbook that an inspection has been made.

3. A copy of the inspection report shall be sent as soon as possible to the operator, and in any case no later than 15 working days after the completion of the inspection.

4. Detailed rules for the application of this Article shall be adopted in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 119.

▼B*Article 77***Admissibility of inspection and surveillance reports**

Inspection and surveillance reports drawn up by ►**M5** Union ◀ inspectors or officials of another Member State or Commission officials shall constitute admissible evidence in administrative or judicial proceedings of any Member State. For establishing facts they shall be treated as equivalent to inspection and surveillance reports of the Member States.

*Article 78***Electronic database**

1. Member States shall set up and keep up to date an electronic database where they upload all inspection and surveillance reports drawn up by their officials.
2. Detailed rules for the application of this Article shall be adopted in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 119.

*Article 79***►**M5** Union ◀ inspectors**

1. A list of ►**M5** Union ◀ inspectors shall be established by the Commission in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 119.
2. Without prejudice to the primary responsibility of the coastal Member States, ►**M5** Union ◀ inspectors may carry out inspections in accordance with this Regulation in ►**M5** Union ◀ waters, and on ►**M5** Union ◀ fishing vessels outside ►**M5** Union ◀ waters.
3. ►**M5** Union ◀ inspectors may be assigned for:
 - (a) the implementation of the specific control and inspection programmes adopted in accordance with Article 95;
 - (b) international fisheries control programmes, where the ►**M5** Union ◀ is under an obligation to provide for controls.
4. For the accomplishment of their tasks and subject to paragraph 5, ►**M5** Union ◀ inspectors shall have access without delay to:
 - (a) all areas on board ►**M5** Union ◀ fishing vessels and any other vessels carrying out fishing activities, public premises or places and means of transport; and
 - (b) all information and documents which are needed to fulfil their tasks, in particular the fishing logbook, landing declarations, catch certificates, the transshipment declaration, sales notes and other relevant documents;

to the same extent and under the same conditions as officials of the Member State in which the inspection takes place.

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5. ►**M5** Union ◀ inspectors shall have no police and enforcement powers beyond the territory of their Member State of origin, or outside the ►**M5** Union ◀ waters under the sovereignty and jurisdiction of their Member State of origin.
6. When assigned as ►**M5** Union ◀ inspectors, officials of the Commission or of the body designated by it shall have no police and enforcement powers.
7. Detailed rules for the application of this Article shall be adopted in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 119.

*CHAPTER II**Inspections outside the waters of the inspecting Member State**Article 80***Inspections of fishing vessels outside the waters of the inspecting Member State**

1. Without prejudice to the primary responsibility of the coastal Member State, a Member State may inspect fishing vessels flying its flag in all ►**M5** Union ◀ waters outside waters under the sovereignty of another Member State.
2. A Member State may carry out inspections on fishing vessels of another Member State in accordance with this Regulation relating to fishing activities in all ►**M5** Union ◀ waters outside waters under the sovereignty of another Member State:
 - (a) following authorisation by the coastal Member State concerned; or
 - (b) where a specific control and inspection programme has been adopted in accordance with Article 95.
3. A Member State shall be authorised to inspect ►**M5** Union ◀ fishing vessels flying the flag of another Member State in international waters.
4. A Member State may inspect ►**M5** Union ◀ fishing vessels flying its own flag or the flag of another Member State in waters of third countries in accordance with international agreements.
5. Member States shall designate the competent authority which shall act as the contact point for the purpose of this Article. The contact point of the Member States shall be available 24 hours a day.

*Article 81***Requests for authorisation**

1. Requests for authorisation of a Member State to carry out inspections on fishing vessels in ►**M5** Union ◀ waters outside waters under its sovereignty or jurisdiction, as referred to in Article 80(2)(a), shall be decided by the coastal Member State

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concerned within 12 hours of the time of the request or within an appropriate period where the reason for the request is a hot pursuit commenced in the waters of the inspecting Member State.

2. The requesting Member State shall be informed of the decision without delay. Decisions shall also be communicated to the Commission or the body designated by it.

3. Requests for authorisations shall only be refused, in whole or in part only to the extent necessary, for compelling reasons. Refusals and the reasons underlying them shall be sent without delay to the requesting Member State and to the Commission or the body designated by it.

*CHAPTER III**Infringements detected in the course of inspections**Article 82***Procedure in the event of an infringement**

If the information collected during an inspection or any other relevant data leads the official to believe that an infringement of the rules of the common fisheries policy has been committed, the official shall:

- (a) note the suspected infringement in the inspection report;
- (b) take all necessary action to ensure safekeeping of the evidence pertaining to such suspected infringement;
- (c) immediately forward the inspection report to his competent authority;
- (d) inform the natural or legal person suspected of having committed the infringement or which was caught in the act while committing the infringement that the infringement may result in the assignment of the appropriate number of points in accordance with Article 92. This information shall be noted in the inspection report.

*Article 83***Infringements detected outside the waters of the inspecting Member State**

1. If an infringement has been detected as a result of an inspection carried out in accordance with Article 80, the inspecting Member State shall without delay submit a summary inspection report to the coastal Member State or, in case of an inspection outside ►**M5** Union ◀ waters, to the flag Member State of the fishing vessel concerned. A full inspection report shall be submitted to the coastal and to the flag Member State within 15 days from the time of inspection.

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2. The coastal Member State or, in case of an inspection outside ►**M5** Union ◀ waters, the flag Member State of the fishing vessel concerned shall undertake all appropriate measures in respect of the infringement referred to in paragraph 1.

*Article 84***Enhanced follow-up with regard to certain serious infringements**

1. The flag Member State or the coastal Member State in whose waters a fishing vessel is suspected of having:

- (a) misrecorded catches of stocks subject to a multiannual plan of more than 500 kg or 10 %, calculated as a percentage of the fishing logbook figures, whichever is the higher; or
- (b) committed any of the serious infringements referred to in Article 42 of Regulation (EC) No 1005/2008 or in Article 90(1) of this Regulation within one year of committing a first such serious infringement;

may require the fishing vessel to proceed immediately to a port for a full investigation, in addition to the measures referred to in Chapter IX of Regulation (EC) No 1005/2008.

2. The coastal Member State shall immediately and in compliance with its procedures under national law notify the flag Member State of the investigation referred to in paragraph 1.

3. Officials may remain on board a fishing vessel until a full investigation as referred to in paragraph 1 has been undertaken.

4. The master of the fishing vessel referred to in paragraph 1 shall cease all fishing activities and proceed to port if he has been requested to do so.

*CHAPTER IV****Proceedings of infringements detected in the course of inspections****Article 85***Proceedings**

Without prejudice to Article 83(2) and Article 86, where an infringement of the rules of the common fisheries policy is discovered by the competent authorities in the course of or after an inspection, the competent authorities of the inspecting Member State shall take appropriate measures in accordance with Title VIII against the master of the vessel involved or against any other legal or natural person responsible for the infringement.



Article 86

Transfer of proceedings

1. The Member State in the territory or waters of which an infringement has been discovered may transfer proceedings relating to that infringement to the competent authorities of the flag Member State or the Member State of which the offender holds the citizenship, with the agreement of the Member State concerned and on condition that the transfer is more likely to achieve the result referred to in Article 89(2).

2. The flag Member State may transfer proceedings relating to an infringement to the competent authorities of the inspecting Member State, with the agreement of the Member State concerned and on condition that the transfer is more likely to achieve the result referred to in Article 89(2).

Article 87

Infringement detected by ►M5 Union ◄ inspectors

Member States shall undertake all appropriate measures in respect of any infringement that a ►M5 Union ◄ inspector has discovered in the waters under their sovereignty or jurisdiction, or on a fishing vessel flying their flag.

Article 88

Corrective measures in the absence of proceedings by the Member State of landing or transhipment

1. If the Member State of landing or transhipment is not the flag Member State and its competent authorities do not take appropriate measures against the natural or legal persons responsible, or do not transfer proceedings in accordance with Article 86, the quantities illegally landed or transhipped may be set against the quota allocated to the Member State of landing or transhipment.

2. The quantities of fish to be set against the quota of the Member State of landing or transhipment shall be fixed in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 119 after the Commission has consulted the two Member States concerned.

3. If the Member State of landing or transhipment no longer has a corresponding quota at its disposal, Article 37 shall apply. To that end the quantities of fish illegally landed or transhipped shall be deemed equivalent to the amount of the prejudice suffered, as mentioned in that Article, by the flag Member State.



TITLE VIII ENFORCEMENT

Article 89

Measures to ensure compliance

1. Member States shall ensure that appropriate measures are systematically taken, including administrative action or criminal proceedings in conformity with their national law, against the natural or legal persons suspected of a breach of any of the rules of the common fisheries policy.

2. The overall level of sanctions and accompanying sanctions shall be calculated, in accordance with the relevant provisions of national law, in such way as to make sure that they effectively deprive those responsible of the economic benefit derived from their infringement without prejudice to the legitimate right to exercise their profession. Those sanctions shall also be capable of producing results proportionate to the seriousness of such infringements, thereby effectively discouraging further offences of the same kind.

3. Member States may apply a system whereby a fine is proportionate to the turnover of the legal person, or to the financial advantage achieved or envisaged by committing the infringement.

4. The competent authorities of the Member State having jurisdiction in the event of an infringement shall, without delay and in compliance with their procedures under national law, notify the flag Member States, the Member State of which the offender holds the citizenship, or any other Member State with an interest in following up the administrative action, criminal proceedings or other measures taken and of any definitive ruling relating to such infringement, including the number of points assigned in accordance with Article 92.

Article 90

Sanctions for serious infringements

1. In addition to Article 42 of Regulation (EC) No 1005/2008, the following activities shall also be considered as serious infringements for the purpose of this Regulation depending on the gravity of the infringement in question which shall be determined by the competent authority of the Member State, taking into account criteria such as the nature of the damage, its value, the economic situation of the offender and the extent of the infringement or its repetition:

- (a) the non-transmission of a landing declaration or a sales note when the landing of the catch has taken place in the port of a third country;
- (b) the manipulation of an engine with the aim of increasing its power beyond the maximum continuous engine power according to the engine certificate;

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- (c) the failure to bring and retain on board the fishing vessel and to land any catches of species subject to the landing obligation set out in Article 15 of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013, unless the bringing and retention on board and the landing of such catches would be contrary to obligations or subject to exemptions provided for in the rules of the common fisheries policy in fisheries or fishing zones where such rules apply.

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- 2. Member States shall ensure that a natural person having committed or a legal person held liable for a serious infringement is punishable by effective, proportionate and dissuasive administrative sanctions, in accordance with the range of sanctions and measures provided for in Chapter IX of Regulation (EC) No 1005/2008.
- 3. Without prejudice to Article 44(2) of Regulation (EC) No 1005/2008, the Member States shall impose a sanction that is effectively dissuasive and, as appropriate, calculated on the value of the fisheries products obtained by committing a serious infringement.
- 4. In fixing the sanction, the Member States shall also take into account the value of the prejudice to the fishing resources and the marine environment concerned.
- 5. Member States may also, or alternatively, use effective, proportionate and dissuasive criminal sanctions.
- 6. The sanctions provided for in this Chapter may be accompanied by other sanctions or measures, in particular those described in Article 45 of Regulation (EC) No 1005/2008.

*Article 91***Immediate enforcement measures**

Member States shall take immediate measures to prevent masters of fishing vessels or other natural persons and legal persons caught in the act of committing a serious infringement, as defined in Article 42 of Regulation (EC) No 1005/2008, from continuing to do so.

*Article 92***Point system for serious infringements****▼M5**

- 1. Member States shall apply a point system for serious infringements as referred to in point (a) of Article 42(1) of Regulation (EC) No 1005/2008 and for violations of the landing obligation referred to in point (c) of Article 90(1) of this Regulation, on the basis of which the holder of a fishing licence is assigned the appropriate number of points as a result of an infringement of the rules of the common fisheries policy.

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- 2. When a natural person has committed or a legal person is held liable for a serious infringement of the rules of the common fisheries policy, the appropriate number of points shall be assigned to the holder

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of the fishing licence as a result of the infringement. The points assigned shall be transferred to any future holder of the fishing licence for the fishing vessel concerned where the vessel is sold, transferred or otherwise changes ownership after the date of the infringement. The holder of the fishing licence shall be entitled to review proceedings in accordance with national law.

3. When the total number of points equals or exceeds a specified number of points, the fishing licence shall be automatically suspended for a period of at least two months. That period shall be four months if the fishing licence is suspended a second time, eight months if the fishing licence is suspended a third time and one year if the fishing licence is suspended a fourth time as a consequence of a licence holder being assigned the specified number of points. In case of the holder being assigned the specified number of points for a fifth time, the fishing licence shall be permanently withdrawn.

4. If the holder of a fishing licence does not commit, within three years from the date of the last serious infringement, another serious infringement, all points on the fishing licence shall be deleted.

5. Detailed rules for the application of this Article shall be adopted in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 119.

6. Member States shall also establish a point system under which the master of a vessel is assigned the appropriate number of points as a result of a serious infringement of the rules of the common fisheries policy committed by him.

Article 93

National register of infringements

1. Member States shall enter in a national register all infringements of the rules of the common fisheries policy committed by vessels flying their flag or by their nationals, including the sanctions they incurred and the number of points assigned. Infringements of fishing vessels flying their flag or by their nationals prosecuted in other Member States shall also be entered by Member States in their national register on infringements, upon notification of the definitive ruling by the Member State having jurisdiction, pursuant to Article 90.

2. When following up an infringement of rules of the common fisheries policy, a Member State may request other Member States to provide information contained in their national register on the fishing vessels and persons suspected of having committed the infringement in question or caught in the act of committing the infringement in question.

3. Where a Member State requests information from another Member State in relation to the measures taken on an infringement, that other Member State may provide the relevant information on the fishing vessels and persons in question.

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4. The data contained in the national register of infringements shall be stored only for as long as necessary for the purpose of this Regulation, but always for a minimum of three calendar years, starting from the year following that in which the information is recorded.

TITLE IX

CONTROL PROGRAMMES*Article 94***Common control programmes**

Member States may carry out, among themselves and on their initiative, control, inspection and surveillance programmes concerning fisheries activities.

*Article 95***Specific control and inspection programmes**

1. The Commission in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 119 and in concert with the Member State concerned, may determine which fisheries shall be subject to specific control and inspection programmes.

2. The specific control and inspection programmes referred to in paragraph 1 shall state the objectives, priorities and procedures as well as benchmarks for inspection activities. Such benchmarks shall be established based on risk management and revised periodically after an analysis has been made of the results achieved.

3. When a multiannual plan has entered into force and before a specific control and inspection programme has become applicable, each Member State shall establish risk management based target benchmarks for inspection activities.

4. The Member States concerned shall adopt the necessary measures to ensure the implementation of the specific control and inspection programmes, particularly as regards required human and material resources and the periods and zones where these are to be deployed.

TITLE X

EVALUATION AND CONTROL BY THE COMMISSION*Article 96***General principles**

1. The Commission shall control and evaluate the application of the rules of the common fisheries policy by the Member States by means of the examination of information and documents and by conducting verifications, autonomous inspections and audits and shall facilitate coordination and cooperation between them. For this purpose the Commission may, of its own accord and by its own means, initiate and carry out inquiries, verifications, inspections and audits. It may in particular verify:

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- (a) the implementation and application of the rules of the common fisheries policy by Member States and their competent authorities;
- (b) the implementation and application of the rules of the common fisheries policy in the waters of a third country in accordance with an international agreement with that country;
- (c) the conformity of national administrative practices and inspection and surveillance activities with the rules of the common fisheries policy;
- (d) the existence of the required documents and their compatibility with the applicable rules;
- (e) the circumstances in which control activities are carried out by Member States;
- (f) the detection and proceedings of infringements;
- (g) the cooperation between Member States.

2. Member States shall cooperate with the Commission in order to facilitate the accomplishment of its tasks. Member States shall ensure that the verification, autonomous inspection and audit missions carried out under this Title are not subject to publicity that is injurious to on-the-spot missions. Wherever the Commission officials encounter difficulties in the execution of their duties, the Member States concerned shall provide the Commission with the means to accomplish its task and give the Commission officials the opportunity to evaluate the specific control and inspection operations.

Member States shall afford the Commission such assistance as it needs to fulfil its tasks.

Article 97

Competences of Commission officials

1. Commission officials may carry out verifications and inspections on fishing vessels as well as on the premises of businesses and other bodies with activities relating to the common fisheries policy and shall have access to all information and documents needed to exercise their responsibilities, to the same extent and under the same conditions as officials of the Member State in which the verification and inspection take place.

2. Commission officials shall be entitled to take copies of the relevant files and to take the necessary samples if they have reasonable grounds to believe that the rules of the common fisheries policy are not complied with. They may request the identification of any person found on the inspected premises.

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3. Commission officials shall have no powers going beyond those of national inspectors and they shall have no police and enforcement powers.
4. Commission officials shall present a written authority stating their identity and capacity.
5. The Commission shall issue written instructions to its officials indicating their authority and the objectives of their mission.

*Article 98***Verifications**

1. Wherever it is deemed necessary by the Commission, its officials may be present during control activities carried out by national control authorities. In the framework of these missions of verification, the Commission shall establish appropriate contacts with Member States with a view, wherever possible, to establishing a mutually acceptable verification programme.
2. The Member State concerned shall ensure that the bodies or persons concerned accept to be submitted to the verifications referred to in paragraph 1.
3. If the control and inspection operations envisaged in the framework of the initial verification programme cannot be carried out for factual reasons, the Commission officials, in liaison and agreement with the competent authorities of the Member State concerned, shall modify the initial verification programme.
4. In case of sea or air controls and inspections, the commander of the vessel or aircraft shall be in sole charge of the control and inspection operations. In exercising his command he shall take due account of the verification programme referred to in paragraph 1.
5. The Commission may arrange for its officials visiting a Member State to be accompanied by one or more officials from another Member State as observers. Upon request from the Commission the sending Member State shall nominate, at short notice if necessary, the national officials selected as observers. Member States may also draw up a list of national officials whom the Commission may invite to be present at such controls and inspections. The Commission can invite national officials included in that list or those notified to the Commission at its discretion. The Commission shall, where appropriate, place the list at the disposal of all the Member States.
6. Commission officials may decide, if they consider it necessary, to carry out missions of verification referred to in this Article without prior notice.

*Article 99***Autonomous inspections**

1. When there is reason to believe that irregularities occur in the application of the rules of the common fisheries policy, the Commission may carry out autonomous inspections. It shall carry out such inspections of its own accord and without the presence of officials of the Member State concerned.
2. All operators may be subject to autonomous inspections where these are considered necessary.
3. In the framework of autonomous inspections on the territory or in waters under the sovereignty or jurisdiction of a Member State, the procedural rules of that Member State shall apply.
4. If a serious infringement of the provisions of this Regulation is discovered by Commission officials on the territory or in waters under the sovereignty or jurisdiction of a Member State, Commission officials shall inform without delay the competent authorities of the Member State concerned which shall undertake all appropriate measures in respect of such infringement.

*Article 100***Audits**

The Commission may carry out audits of the control systems of Member States. The audits may include in particular the evaluation of:

- (a) the quota and the effort management system;
- (b) data validation systems, including systems of cross-checks of vessel monitoring systems, catch, effort and marketing data and data related to the Community fishing fleet register as well as the verification of licences and fishing authorisations;
- (c) the administrative organisation, including the adequacy of the available staff and the available means, the training of staff, the delimitation of functions of all authorities involved in control as well as the mechanisms in place to coordinate the work and the joint evaluation of the results of those authorities;
- (d) the operational systems, including procedures for control of designated ports;
- (e) national control action programmes including the establishment of inspection levels and their implementation;
- (f) the national system of sanctions, including the adequacy of the sanctions imposed, duration of proceedings, economic benefits forfeited by offenders and the deterrent nature of such system of sanctions.

*Article 101***Verification, autonomous inspection and audit reports**

1. The Commission shall inform the Member States concerned of the preliminary findings of verifications and of autonomous inspections within one day after they have taken place.
2. Commission officials shall draw up a verification, autonomous inspection or audit report after each verification, autonomous inspection or audit. The report shall be made available to the Member State concerned within one month after the conclusion of the verification, autonomous inspection or audit. Member States shall have the possibility to comment on the findings of the report within one month.
3. Member States shall take the necessary action on the basis of the report referred to in paragraph 2.
4. The Commission shall publish the finalised verification, autonomous inspection and audit reports, together with the comments of the Member State concerned, on the secure part of its official website.

*Article 102***Follow-up of verification, autonomous inspection and audit reports**

1. Member States shall provide the Commission with any relevant information as that may request on the implementation of this Regulation. In submitting a request for information, the Commission shall specify a reasonable time limit within which the information is to be supplied.
2. If the Commission considers that irregularities have occurred in the implementation of the rules of the common fisheries policy or that the existing control provisions and methods in particular Member States are not effective it shall inform the Member States concerned, which shall then conduct an administrative inquiry in which Commission officials may participate.
3. The Member States concerned shall inform the Commission of the results of the inquiry and forward a report to the Commission drawn up not more than three months after the Commission's request. This period may be extended by the Commission, on a duly reasoned request from the Member State, for a reasonable delay.
4. If the administrative inquiry referred to in paragraph 2 does not lead to the removal of the irregularities or if the Commission identifies shortcomings in the control system of a Member State during the verifications or autonomous inspections referred to in Articles 98 and 99 or in the audit referred to in Article 100, the Commission shall establish an action plan with that Member State. The Member State shall take all necessary measures to implement that action plan.

▼ B

TITLE XI

**MEASURES TO ENSURE COMPLIANCE BY MEMBER STATES WITH
COMMON FISHERIES POLICY OBJECTIVES**

CHAPTER I

Financial measures▼ M4▼ B

CHAPTER II

*Closure of fisheries**Article 104***Closure of fisheries for failure to comply with the common fisheries
policy objectives**

1. Where a Member State does not respect its obligations for the implementation of a multiannual plan, and where the Commission has evidence that the failure to respect those obligations constitutes a serious threat to the conservation of the stock concerned, the Commission may provisionally close the fisheries affected by those shortcomings for the Member State concerned.

2. The Commission shall inform in writing the Member State concerned of its findings and the relevant documentation and set a deadline of no more than ten working days for the Member State to demonstrate that the fisheries can be safely exploited.

3. The measures referred to in paragraph 1 shall only apply if the Member State fails to respond to the request of the Commission within the deadline given in paragraph 2 or if the response is considered unsatisfactory or is clearly indicative of the fact that the necessary measures have not been implemented.

4. The Commission shall lift the closure after the Member State has demonstrated in writing to the satisfaction of the Commission that the fisheries can be safely exploited.

CHAPTER III

*Deduction and transfers of quotas and fishing effort**Article 105***Deduction of quotas**

1. When the Commission has established that a Member State has exceeded the quotas which have been allocated to it, the Commission shall operate deductions from future quotas of that Member State.

▼B

2. In the case of an overfishing of a quota, allocation or share of a stock or a group of stocks available to a Member State in a given year the Commission shall operate deductions in the following year or years from the annual quota, allocation or share of the Member State which has overfished by applying a multiplying factor according to the following table:

▼M5

Extent of overfishing relative to the permitted landings	Multiplying factor
Up to 10 %	Overfishing *1,0
Over 10 % up to 20 %	Overfishing *1,2
Over 20 % up to 40 %	Overfishing *1,4
Over 40 % up to 50 %	Overfishing *1,8
Any further overfishing greater than 50 %	Overfishing *2,0

▼B

However, a deduction equal to the overfishing * 1,00 shall apply in all cases of overfishing relative to permitted landing equal to, or less than, 100 tonnes.

▼M5

3. In addition to the multiplying factors referred to in paragraph 2 and provided that the extent of overfishing relative to the permitted landings exceeds 10 %, a multiplying factor of 1,5 shall apply if:

- (a) a Member State has repeatedly overfished its quota, allocation or share of the stock or group of stocks over the previous 2 years and such overfishing has been the subject of deductions as referred to in paragraph 2;
- (b) the available scientific, technical and economic advice and, in particular, the reports drawn up by STECF have established that overfishing constitutes a serious threat to the conservation of the stock concerned; or
- (c) the stock is subject to a multiannual plan.

▼ **B**

4. In the case of an overfishing of a quota, allocation or share of a stock or a group of stocks available to a Member State in earlier years, the Commission, after consultation of the Member State concerned, may deduct quotas in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 119 from future quotas of that Member State to take account of the level of overfishing.

5. If a deduction according to paragraphs 1 and 2 cannot be operated on the quota, allocation or share of a stock or group of stocks that was overfished as such because that quota, allocation or share of a stock or group of stocks is not or not sufficiently available to the Member State concerned, the Commission, after consultation of the Member State concerned, may deduct in the following year or years quotas for other stocks or groups of stocks available to that Member State in the same geographical area, or with the same commercial value in accordance with paragraph 1.

6. Detailed rules for the application of this Article, and in particular for determining the quantities concerned, may be adopted in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 119.

Article 106

Deduction of fishing effort

1. When the Commission has established that a Member State has exceeded the fishing effort which has been allocated to it, the Commission shall operate deductions from future fishing effort of that Member State.

2. If the fishing effort in a geographical area or in a fishery available to a Member State is exceeded the Commission shall operate deductions in the following year or years from the fishing effort available to that Member State for the geographical area or the fishery concerned by applying a multiplying factor according to the following table:

▼ **M5**

Extent of excess of available fishing effort	Multiplying factor
Up to 10 %	Excess * 1,0
Over 10 % up to 20 %	Excess * 1,2
Over 20 % up to 40 %	Excess * 1,4

▼M5

Extent of excess of available fishing effort	Multiplying factor
Over 40 % up to 50 %	Excess * 1,8
Any further excess greater than 50 %	Excess * 2,0

▼B

3. If a deduction according to paragraph 2 cannot be operated on the maximum allowable fishing effort that was exceeded as such because such maximum allowable fishing effort is not or not sufficiently available to the Member State concerned, the Commission may deduct in the following year or years fishing effort available to that Member State in the same geographical area in accordance with paragraph 2.

4. Detailed rules for the application of this Article, and in particular for determining the fishing effort concerned, may be adopted in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 119.

*Article 107***Deduction of quotas for failure to comply with the rules of the common fisheries policy**

1. Where there is evidence that rules on stocks subject to multi-annual plans are not being complied with by a Member State and that this may lead to a serious threat to the conservation of these stocks, the Commission may operate deductions in the following year or years from the annual quotas, allocations or shares of a stock or group of stocks available to that Member State, applying the proportionality principle by taking into account the damage caused to the stocks.

2. The Commission shall inform in writing the Member State concerned of its findings and set a deadline of no more than 15 working days for the Member State to demonstrate that the fisheries can be safely exploited.

3. The measures referred to in paragraph 1 shall only apply if the Member State fails to respond to the request of the Commission within the deadline given in paragraph 2 or if the response is considered unsatisfactory or is clearly indicative of the fact that the necessary measures have not been implemented.

4. Detailed rules for the application of this Article, and in particular for determining the quantities concerned, shall be adopted in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 119.



CHAPTER IV

Emergency measures*Article 108***Emergency measures**

1. If there is evidence, including based on the results of the sampling carried out by the Commission, that fishing activities and/or measures adopted by a Member State or Member States undermine the conservation and management measures adopted in the framework of multi-annual plans or threaten the marine eco-system and this requires immediate action, the Commission, at the substantiated request of any Member State or on its own initiative, may decide on emergency measures which shall last not more than six months. The Commission may take a new decision to extend the emergency measures for no more than six months.

2. The emergency measures provided for in paragraph 1 shall be proportionate to the threat and may include, inter alia:

- (a) suspension of fishing activities of vessels flying the flag of the Member States concerned;
- (b) closure of fisheries;
- (c) prohibition against ►**M5** Union ◀ operators accepting landings, placing in cages for fattening or farming, or transshipments of fish and fisheries products caught by the vessels flying the flag of the Member States concerned;
- (d) prohibition against the placing on the market or use for other commercial purposes fish and fisheries products caught by the vessels flying the flag of the Member States concerned;
- (e) prohibition against the provision of live fish for fish farming in the waters under the jurisdiction of the Member States concerned;
- (f) prohibition against the accepting of live fish caught by vessels flying the flag of the Member State concerned for the purposes of fish farming in waters under the jurisdiction of the other Member States;
- (g) prohibition against fishing vessels flying the flag of the Member State concerned to fish in waters under the jurisdiction of other Member States;
- (h) modification of the fishing data submitted by Member States in an appropriate way.

3. A Member State shall communicate the request referred to in paragraph 1 simultaneously to the Commission and to the Member States concerned. The other Member States may submit their written comments to the Commission within five working days of receipt of the request. The Commission shall take a decision within 15 working days of receipt of the request.

▼B

4. The emergency measures shall have immediate effect. They shall be notified to the Member States concerned and published in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.
5. The Member States concerned may refer the Commission decision to the Council within 15 working days of receipt of the notification.
6. The Council, acting by qualified majority, may take a different decision within one month of the date of receipt of the referral.

TITLE XII

DATA AND INFORMATION

CHAPTER I

*Analysis and audit of data**Article 109***General principles for the analysis of data**

1. Member States shall set up a computerised database for the purpose of validation of data recorded in accordance with this Regulation and a validation system no later than 31 December 2013.
2. Member States shall ensure that all data recorded in accordance with this Regulation are accurate, complete and submitted within deadlines laid down in the common fisheries policy. In particular:
 - (a) Member States shall perform cross-checking, analyses and verifications of the following data through automated computerised algorithms and mechanisms:
 - (i) vessel monitoring system data;
 - (ii) fishing activities data, in particular the fishing logbook, the landing declaration, the transshipment declaration and prior notification;
 - (iii) data from take-over declarations, transport documents and sales notes;
 - (iv) data from fishing licences and fishing authorisations;
 - (v) data from inspection reports;
 - (vi) data on engine power;

▼B

(b) the following data shall also be cross-checked, analysed and verified where applicable:

- (i) vessel detection system data;
- (ii) data on sightings;
- (iii) data relating to international fisheries agreements;
- (iv) data on entries into and exits from fishing areas, maritime areas where specific rules on access to waters and resources apply, regulatory areas of regional fisheries management organisations and similar organisations and waters of a third country;
- (v) automatic identification system data.

3. The validation system shall allow the immediate identification of inconsistencies, errors and missing information in the data.

4. Member States shall ensure that the database clearly displays any data inconsistencies detected by the data validation system. The database shall also flag all data that were corrected and indicate the reason for such a correction.

5. If an inconsistency in the data has been identified, the Member State concerned shall undertake the necessary investigations and, if there are reasons to suspect that an infringement has been committed, take the necessary action.

6. Member States shall ensure that the dates for data receipt, data entry, data validation and the dates for the follow-up of detected inconsistencies are clearly visible in the database.

7. If the data referred to in paragraph 2 are not transmitted by electronic means Member States shall ensure that they are entered manually into the database without delay.

8. Member States shall establish a national plan for the implementation of the validation system covering the data listed under points (a) and (b) of paragraph 2 and the follow-up of inconsistencies. The plan shall allow Member States to make priorities for the validation and cross-checks and subsequent follow up on inconsistencies based on risk management. The plan shall be submitted to the Commission for approval by 31 December 2011. The Commission shall approve the plans before 1 July 2012 having allowed for the Member States to make corrections. Amendments to the plan shall be submitted to the Commission on an annual basis for approval.

9. If the Commission has identified inconsistencies in the data entered in the database of the Member State as a result of its own investigations, and after having presented documentation and consulted with the Member State, it may require the Member State to investigate the reason for the inconsistency and to correct the data if necessary.

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10. The databases established and data collected by Member States referred to in this Regulation shall be deemed authentic under the conditions established under national law.

*Article 110***Access to data**

1. Member States shall ensure the remote access for the Commission or the body designated by it to all data referred to in Article 115 at any time without prior notice. In addition, the Commission shall be given the possibility to download manually and automatically these data for any period or for any number of fishing vessels.

2. Member States shall grant access to Commission officials based on electronic certificates generated by the Commission or the body designated by it.

The access shall be made available on the Member States' secure part of their websites referred to in Article 115.

3. Without prejudice to paragraphs 1 and 2, Member States may until 30 June 2012 carry out pilot project(s) with the Commission or the body designated by it to provide real-time remote access to Member States data on fishing opportunities recorded and validated according to this Regulation. When both the Commission and the Member State concerned are satisfied with the outcome of the pilot project, and as long as the remote access is functioning as agreed, the Member State concerned shall no longer be obliged to report on fishing opportunities as described in Article 33(2) and (8). The data access format and procedures shall be considered and tested. Member States shall inform the Commission before 1 January 2012 if they plan to carry out pilot project(s). As from 1 January 2013 the Council may decide on a different way and frequency of data transmission by Member States to the Commission.

*Article 111***Exchange of data**

1. Each flag Member State shall ensure the direct electronic exchange of relevant information with other Member States, and where appropriate, the Commission or the body designated by it, in particular:

- (a) vessel monitoring system data when its vessels are present in another Member State's waters;
- (b) fishing logbook information when its vessels are fishing in another Member State's waters;

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(c) landing declarations and transshipment declarations when such operations take place in another Member States ports;

(d) prior notification when the intended port is in another Member State.

2. Each coastal Member State shall ensure the direct electronic exchange of relevant information with other Member States, and where appropriate, the Commission or the body designated by it, in particular by sending:

(a) sales notes information to the flag Member State when a first sale originates from another Member State's fishing vessel;

(b) take-over declaration information when the fish is placed in storage in Member State other than the flag Member State or the Member State of landing;

(c) sales notes and take-over declaration information to the Member State where the landing took place.

3. Detailed rules for the application of this Chapter, in particular on checking the quality, compliance with deadlines for submission of data, cross-checks, analysis, verification of the data and on establishing a standardised format for the download and exchange of data, shall be adopted in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 119.

CHAPTER II

Confidentiality of data

Article 112

Protection of personal data

1. This Regulation leaves intact and in no way affects the level of protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data under the provisions of ►**M5** Union ◀ and national law, and in particular does not alter either the obligations of Member States relating to their processing of personal data under Directive 95/46/EC or the obligations of the ►**M5** Union ◀ institutions and bodies relating to their processing of personal data under Regulation (EC) No 45/2001 when fulfilling their responsibilities.

2. The rights of persons with regard to their registration data processed in national systems shall be exercised in accordance with the law of the Member State which stored their personal data, and in particular the provisions implementing Directive 95/46/EC, and, with regard to their registration data processed in ►**M5** Union ◀ systems, shall be exercised in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 45/2001.



Article 113

Confidentiality of professional and commercial secrecy

1. Member States and the Commission shall take all necessary steps to ensure that the data collected and received within the framework of this Regulation shall be treated in accordance with applicable rules on professional and commercial secrecy of data.

2. The data exchanged between Member States and the Commission shall not be transmitted to persons other than those in Member States or ►**M5** Union ◀ institutions whose functions require them to have such access unless the Member States transmitting the data give their express consent.

3. The data referred to in paragraph 1 shall not be used for any purpose other than that provided for in this Regulation unless the authorities providing the data give their express consent for the use of the data for other purposes and on condition that the provisions in force in the Member State of the authority receiving the data do not prohibit such use.

4. Data communicated in the framework of this Regulation to persons working for competent authorities, courts, other public authorities and the Commission or the body designated by it, the disclosure of which would undermine:

- (a) the protection of the privacy and the integrity of the individual, in accordance with ►**M5** Union ◀ legislation regarding the protection of personal data;
- (b) the commercial interests of a natural or legal person, including intellectual property;
- (c) court proceedings and legal advice; or
- (d) the scope of inspections or investigations;

shall be subject to applicable rules on confidentiality. Information may always be disclosed if this is necessary to bring about the cessation or prohibition of an infringement of the rules of the common fisheries policy.

5. The data referred to in paragraph 1 shall benefit from the same protection as is accorded to similar data by the national legislation of Member State receiving them and by the corresponding provisions applicable to ►**M5** Union ◀ institutions.

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6. This Article shall not be construed as an obstacle to the use of the data, obtained pursuant to this Regulation, in the framework of legal actions or proceedings subsequently undertaken for failure to respect the rules of the common fisheries policy. The competent authorities of the Member State transmitting the data shall be informed of all the instances where those data are utilised for these purposes.

7. This Article shall not prejudice the obligations pursuant to international conventions concerning mutual assistance in criminal matters.

*CHAPTER III**Official websites**Article 114***Official websites**

1. For the purpose of this Regulation each Member State shall set up before 1 January 2012 at the latest an official website accessible via Internet and containing the information listed in Articles 115 and 116. Member States shall communicate the Internet address of their official website to the Commission. The Commission may decide to develop common standards and procedures to ensure transparent communication between the Member States themselves as well as between the Member States, the Community Fisheries Control Agency and the Commission, including transmission of regular snapshots on records of fishing activities in relation to fishing possibilities.

2. Each Member State's official website shall be composed of a publicly accessible part and a secure part. On that website each Member State shall establish, maintain and keep up to date the data necessary for control purposes in accordance with this Regulation.

*Article 115***The publicly accessible part of the website**

On the publicly accessible part of their websites Member States shall publish without delay or provide a direct link to:

- (a) the names and addresses of the competent authorities responsible for issuing fishing licences, and fishing authorisations referred to in Article 7;
- (b) the list of designated ports for the purpose of transshipment specifying their operating hours, as referred to in Article 20;
- (c) one month after the entry into force of a multiannual plan, and after approval by the Commission, the list of designated ports, specifying their operating hours as referred to in Article 43, and within 30 days thereafter, the associated conditions for recording and reporting the quantities of the species under the multiannual plan for each landing;

▼B

- (d) the decision establishing the real-time closure, and defining clearly the geographical area of the affected fishing grounds, the duration of the closure and the conditions governing fisheries in that area during the closure, as referred to in Article 53(2);
- (e) the contact point details for the transmission or submission of fishing logbooks, prior notifications, transshipment declarations, landing declarations, sales notes, take-over declarations and transport documents as referred to in Articles 14, 17, 20, 23, 62, 66 and 68;
- (f) a map with the coordinates of the area of temporary real-time closures as referred to in Article 54, specifying the duration of the closure and the conditions governing fisheries in that area during the closure;
- (g) the decision to close a fishery under Article 35 and all necessary details.

*Article 116***The secure part of the website**

1. On the secure part of its website each Member State shall establish, maintain and keep up to date access to the following lists and databases:

- (a) the lists of officials in charge of inspections as referred to in Article 74;
- (b) the electronic database for the treatment of inspection and surveillance reports drawn up by the officials as referred to in Article 78;
- (c) the vessel monitoring system computer files recorded by its fisheries monitoring centre as referred to in Article 9;
- (d) the electronic database containing the list of all fishing licences, and fishing authorisations issued and managed in accordance with this Regulation, with a clear indication of the conditions set out and the information on all suspensions and withdrawals;
- (e) the way of measuring the continuous period of 24 hours as referred to in Article 26(6);
- (f) the electronic database containing all relevant data on fishing opportunities as referred to in Article 33;
- (g) national control action programmes as referred to in Article 46;
- (h) the electronic database for the purpose of the verification of the completeness and the quality of the data collected as referred to in Article 109.

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2. Each Member State shall ensure:
 - (a) the remote access for the Commission or the body designated by it to all data referred to in this Article by secure Internet connection on a 24-hour, seven-days-a-week basis;
 - (b) the direct electronic exchange of relevant information with other Member States and the Commission or the body designated by it.
3. The Member State shall grant access to Commission officials based on electronic certificates generated by the Commission or the body designated by it.
4. The data contained in the secure part of the website shall be made available only for specific users authorised to that effect by either the Member State concerned or the Commission or the body designated by it. The data accessible to these persons shall be limited to the data they need in order to carry out their tasks and activities of ensuring compliance with the rules of the common fisheries policy and thus shall be bound by the rules governing the confidentiality of the use of such data.
5. The data contained in the secure part of the website shall only be stored for as long as necessary for the purpose of this Regulation, but always for a minimum of three calendar years, starting from the year following that in which the information is recorded. Personal data which are to be exchanged, in accordance with this Regulation, for historical, statistical or scientific use shall be exchanged either in anonymous form only or, if that is not possible, only with the identity of the data subjects encrypted.
6. Detailed rules for the application of this Chapter shall be adopted in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 119.

TITLE XIII

IMPLEMENTATION

*Article 117***Administrative cooperation**

1. The authorities responsible for the implementation of this Regulation in the Member States shall cooperate with each other, with the competent authorities of third countries, with the Commission and with the body designated by it in order to ensure compliance with this Regulation.
2. For the purposes referred to in paragraph 1, a system of mutual assistance shall be established, which shall include rules on the exchange of information upon prior request or on a spontaneous basis.

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3. The Member State where fishing activities have taken place shall transmit to the Commission, at its request, by electronic means, any relevant information at the same time as it is communicated to the flag Member State of the fishing vessel.
4. Detailed rules for the application of this Article shall be adopted in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 119.

*Article 118***Reporting obligations**

1. Every five years, Member States shall transmit a report to the Commission on the application of this Regulation.
2. On the basis of the reports submitted by the Member States and its own observations, the Commission shall draw up a report every five years to be submitted to the European Parliament and the Council.
3. An evaluation of the impact of this Regulation on the common fisheries policy shall be undertaken by the Commission five years after the entry into force of this Regulation.
4. Member States shall transmit to the Commission a report stating the rules that have been used for producing reports on basic data.
5. Detailed rules on the content and format of the reports by Member States for the application of this Article shall be adopted in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 119.

*Article 119***Committee procedure**

1. The Commission shall be assisted by the Committee set up under Article 30 of Regulation (EC) No 2371/2002.
2. Where reference is made to this Article, Articles 4 and 7 of Decision 1999/468/EC shall apply.

The period laid down in Article 4(3) of Decision 1999/468/EC shall be set at one month.

TITLE XIV

AMENDMENTS AND REPEALS**▼M6****▼B***Article 121***Amendments to other Regulations**

1. In Regulation (EC) No 847/96, Article 5 shall be deleted.
2. Regulation (EC) No 2371/2002 is amended as follows:
 - (a) Article 21 shall be replaced by the following:

*Article 21***Community control and enforcement system**

Access to waters and resources and the pursuit of activities as set out in Article 1 shall be controlled and compliance with the rules of the common fisheries policy enforced. For this purpose a Community system for the control, inspection and enforcement of the rules of the common fisheries policy shall be established.’;

▼B

(b) Articles 22 to 28 shall be deleted.

3. In Council Regulation (EC) No 811/2004 of 21 April 2004 establishing measures for the recovery of the northern hake stock ⁽¹⁾, Articles 7, 8, 10, 11, 12 and 13 shall be deleted.

4. In Council Regulation (EC) No 2115/2005 of 20 December 2005 establishing a recovery plan for Greenland halibut in the framework of the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organisation ⁽²⁾, Article 7 shall be deleted.

5. In Council Regulation (EC) No 2166/2005 of 20 December 2005 establishing measures for the recovery of the Southern hake and Norway lobster stocks in the Cantabrian Sea and Western Iberian peninsula ⁽³⁾, Chapter IV shall be deleted.

6. In Council Regulation (EC) No 388/2006 of 23 February 2006 establishing a multiannual plan for the sustainable exploitation of the stock of sole in the Bay of Biscay ⁽⁴⁾, Chapter IV shall be deleted.

7. In Council Regulation (EC) No 509/2007 of 7 May 2007 establishing a multi-annual plan for the sustainable exploitation of the stock of sole in the Western Channel ⁽⁵⁾, Chapter IV shall be deleted.

8. In Council Regulation (EC) No 676/2007 of 11 June 2007 establishing a multiannual plan for fisheries exploiting stocks of plaice and sole in the North Sea ⁽⁶⁾, Chapter IV shall be deleted.

9. In Council Regulation (EC) No 1098/2007 of 18 September 2007 establishing a multiannual plan for the cod stocks in the Baltic Sea and the fisheries exploiting those stocks ⁽⁷⁾, Article 10(3) and (4), Article 11(2) and (3), Articles 12, 13, 15, Article 18(2) and (3), Articles 19 and 20, Article 22 second paragraph, Articles 23, 24 and 25 shall be deleted.

10. In Council Regulation (EC) No 1300/2008 of 18 December 2008 establishing a multi-annual plan for the stock of herring distributed to the west of Scotland and the fisheries exploiting that stock ⁽⁸⁾, Articles 5 and 6 shall be deleted.

11. In Council Regulation (EC) No 1342/2008 of 18 December 2008 establishing a long-term plan for cod stocks and the fisheries exploiting those stocks ⁽⁹⁾, Articles 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 26, 27, 28 and 29 shall be deleted.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 150, 30.4.2004, p. 1.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 340, 23.12.2005, p. 3.

⁽³⁾ OJ L 345, 28.12.2005, p. 5.

⁽⁴⁾ OJ L 65, 7.3.2006, p. 1.

⁽⁵⁾ OJ L 122, 11.5.2007, p. 7.

⁽⁶⁾ OJ L 157, 19.6.2007, p. 1.

⁽⁷⁾ OJ L 248, 22.9.2007, p. 1.

⁽⁸⁾ OJ L 344, 20.12.2008, p. 6.

⁽⁹⁾ OJ L 348, 24.12.2008, p. 20.



Article 122

Repeals

1. Regulation (EEC) No 2847/93 shall be repealed, except for Articles 6, 8 and 11, which shall be repealed with effect from the date of entry into force of the rules implementing Articles 14, 21 and 23 of this Regulation, and for Article 5, Article 9(5) and Articles 13, 21 and 34, which shall be repealed with effect from 1 January 2011.
2. Regulation (EC) No 1627/94 shall be repealed with effect from the date of entry into force of the rules implementing Article 7 of this Regulation.
3. Regulation (EC) No 1966/2006 shall be repealed with effect from 1 January 2011.

Article 123

References

References to the repealed Regulations and the provisions deleted in accordance with Article 121 shall be construed as references to this Regulation and shall be read in accordance with the correlation table in Annex II.

TITLE XV

FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 124

Entry into force

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

It shall apply from 1 January 2010.

However,

- (a) Article 33(6) and (9), Articles 37, 43, 58, 60, 61, 63, 67, 68, 73, 78 and 84, Article 90(2), (3) and (4), Articles 93 and 117 and Article 121(3) to (11) shall apply from 1 January 2011;
- (b) Articles 6, 7, 14, 21 and 23 shall apply from the date of entry into force of the rules implementing them;
- (c) Article 92 shall apply six months after the entry into force of the rules implementing it.

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



ANNEX I

SPECIFIC INSPECTION BENCHMARKS FOR MULTIANNUAL PLANS

Objective

1. Each Member State shall set specific inspection benchmarks in accordance with this Annex.

Strategy

2. Inspection and surveillance of fishing activities shall concentrate on fishing vessels likely to catch species subject to a multiannual plan. Random inspections of transport and marketing of species subject to a multiannual plan shall be used as a complementary cross-checking mechanism to test the effectiveness of inspection and surveillance.

Priorities

3. Different gear types shall be subject to different levels of prioritisation, depending on the extent to which the fleets are affected by fishing opportunity limits. For that reason, each Member State shall set specific priorities.

Target benchmarks

4. Not later than one month from the date of entry into force of a Regulation establishing a multiannual plan, Member States shall implement their inspection schedules taking account of the targets set out below.

Member States shall specify and describe which sampling strategy will be applied.

The Commission shall have access on request to the sampling plan used by the Member State.

(a) Level of inspection in ports

As a general rule, the accuracy to be achieved should be at least equivalent to what would be obtained by a simple random sampling method, where inspections shall cover 20 % of all landings of species subject to a multiannual plan by weight in a Member State.

(b) Level of inspection of marketing

Inspection of 5 % of the quantities of species subject to a multiannual plan offered for sale at auction.

(c) Level of inspection at sea

Flexible benchmark: to be set after a detailed analysis of the fishing activity in each area. Benchmarks at sea shall refer to the number of patrol days at sea in the management areas, possibly with a separate benchmark for days patrolling specific areas.

(d) Level of aerial surveillance

Flexible benchmark: to be set after a detailed analysis of the fishing activity conducted in each area and taking the available resources at the Member State's disposal into consideration.



ANNEX II

CORRELATION TABLE

Regulation (EEC) No 2847/93	This Regulation
Article 1(1)	Articles 1 and 2
Article 1(2)	Article 5(3)
Article 1(3)	Article 2
Article 2	Article 5
Article 3	Article 9
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