

**41st ANNUAL MEETING OF NAFO - SEPTEMBER 2019****Amendment of MZZ in NAFO CEM Article 28.6.g****Background**

At the 2018 CAN/EU NAFO inspector's workshop, Canadian inspectors presented examples that illustrated how the MZZ species code was being misused, observations of inspectors indicate that catch amounts have been far exceeding the maxima of 100kg per species. After some discussion, inspectors came to the consensus that all reporting should be to the species level and recommended that the MZZ code be removed as an option for multi-species catch reporting.

As a result, Canada and the EU have drafted a joint proposal to realign the use of the MZZ code so that it is only used in accordance with Article 28.6.c where there is Nil catch retained and Nil discards.

Proposed Amendments**Article 28 – Monitoring of Catch****Catch Reporting**

6. Every fishing vessel shall transmit electronically to its FMC the following reports in accordance with the format and the content prescribed for each type of report in Annex II.D and Annex II.F:
 - (g) catch ~~of species listed in Annex I.C for which the total live weight on board is less than 100 kg, may be reported using the 3-alpha code MZZ (marine species not specified), except in the case of sharks. All sharks~~ shall be reported at the species level under their corresponding 3-alpha code presented in Annex I.C or if not contained in Annex I.C the FAO ASFIS List of Species for Fishery Statistics. ~~When species specific reporting is not possible, shark species shall be recorded as either large sharks (SHX) or dogfishes (DGX), as appropriate and in accordance with the 3-alpha codes presented in Annex I.C.~~ The estimated weight of sharks caught per haul or set shall also be recorded.

