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Proposal on "By-catch Requirements"
NAFO CEM – Article 12

Article 12(1)(d) introduces a new way to manage the COD 3M and RED 3 LN fisheries, by inviting CP which have been granted a quota to decide on a date, in advance of the exhaustion of the quota, from which the species can no longer be fished under a directed fishery. After this date the species may only be retained on board as a by-catch, within the limits laid down, up to the completion of the quota.

By merging by-catch and directed fishery provisions for CP fishing for their entitled quota, Article 12(1)(d) creates confusion by introducing a system which is hardly workable in practice, with no added value from the normal quota take up procedure. It also favours discards of both species.

Proposed Amendment

Article 3 – Article

2. Each Contracting Party to which a quota has been allocated shall close its fishery in the Regulatory Area for the stocks listed in Annex I.A on the date on which the accumulated reported catch, the estimated unreported catch, the estimated quantity to be taken before the closure of the fishery and the likely by-catches during the period to which the quota applies, equal 100 percent of the quota allocated to that Contracting Party.. Such Contracting Party shall promptly notify the Executive Secretary of the date on which that Party will close its fishery for the stocks concerned. The Executive Secretary shall promptly inform all other Contracting Parties of such notification. **Each Contracting Party shall ensure that, after the closure, no more fish of that species is retained on board its vessels, unless otherwise authorized by the measures.**

Article 12 - By-Catch Requirements

Delete sub-article 1 (d)