



14.2.2019

PROVISIONAL AGREEMENT RESULTING FROM INTERINSTITUTIONAL NEGOTIATIONS

Subject: Proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing a multi-annual plan for the fisheries exploiting demersal stocks in the western Mediterranean Sea
(COM(2018)0115 – C8-0104/2018 – 2018/0050(COD))

The interinstitutional negotiations on the aforementioned proposal for a regulation have led to a compromise. In accordance with Rule 69f(4) of the Rules of Procedure, the provisional agreement, reproduced below, is submitted as a whole to the Committee on Fisheries for decision by way of a single vote.

REGULATION (EU) 2019/...

OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL

establishing a multi-annual plan for the fisheries exploiting demersal stocks in the western Mediterranean Sea and amending Regulation (EU) No 508/2014

THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Article 43(2) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

After transmission of the draft legislative act to the national parliaments,

Having regard to the opinion of the European Economic and Social Committee¹,

Acting in accordance with the ordinary legislative procedure,

Whereas:

(1) The United Nations Convention of 10 December 1982 on the Law of the Sea, to which the Union is a contracting party, provides for conservation obligations, including the maintaining or restoring populations of harvested species at levels which can produce the maximum sustainable yield ('MSY').

(2) At the World Summit on Sustainable Development at New York in 2015, the Union and its Member States committed themselves, by 2020, to effectively regulate harvesting and end overfishing, illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and destructive fishing practices and implement science-based management plans, in order to restore fish stocks in the shortest time feasible, at least to levels that can produce MSY as determined by their biological characteristics.

¹ OJ C [...], [...], p. [...].

(3) The Malta MedFish4Ever Ministerial Declaration of 30 March 2017² lays down a new framework for fisheries governance in the Mediterranean and provides a work programme with five concrete actions for the next 10 years. One of the commitments made is to establish multi-annual plans.

(4) Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council³ establishes the rules of the common fisheries policy ('CFP') in line with the international obligations of the Union. The CFP is to contribute to the protection of the marine environment, to the sustainable management of all commercially exploited species, and in particular to the achievement of good environmental status by 2020.

(5) The objectives of the CFP are, amongst others, to ensure that fishing and aquaculture activities are environmentally, **socially and economically** sustainable in the long term, to apply the precautionary approach to fisheries management and to implement the ecosystem-based approach to fisheries management. **The CFP also contributes to a fair standard of living for the fisheries sector, including the small-scale, artisanal or coastal fisheries sector. The achievement of those objectives also contributes to the availability of food supplies and provides employment benefits.**

(6) For the achievement of the CFP objectives, a number of conservation measures such as multi-annual plans, technical measures and the setting and allocation of **maximum allowable fishing effort**~~fishing opportunities~~, should be adopted.

(7) Pursuant to Articles 9 and 10 of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013, multi-annual plans are to be based on scientific, technical and economic advice. In accordance with those provisions, the multi-annual plan provided for in this Regulation should contain objectives, quantifiable targets with clear timeframes, conservation reference points, safeguards and technical measures designed to avoid and reduce unwanted catches.

² Malta MedFish4Ever Ministerial Declaration. Ministerial conference on the sustainability of Mediterranean fisheries ([Malta, 30 March 2017](#)).

³ Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2013 on the Common Fisheries Policy, amending Council Regulations (EC) No 1954/2003 and (EC) No 1224/2009 and repealing Council Regulations (EC) No 2371/2002 and (EC) No 639/2004 and Council Decision 2004/585/EC ([OJ L 354, 28.12.2013, p. 22](#)).

- (8) ‘Best available scientific advice’ **should be understood to** refers to publicly available scientific advice that is supported by the most up-to-date scientific data and methods and has either been issued or reviewed by an independent scientific body that is recognised at Union or international level.
- (9) The Commission should obtain the best available scientific advice for the stocks within the scope of the multi-annual plan. In order to do so it should consult in particular the Scientific, Technical and Economic Committee for Fisheries (‘STECF’). The Commission should in particular obtain publicly available scientific advice, including mixed fisheries advice, which takes into account the plan provided for by this Regulation and indicates ranges of F_{MSY} and conservation reference points (B_{PA} and B_{LIM}).
- (10) Council Regulation (EC) No 1967/2006⁴ establishes a management framework for the sustainable exploitation of fishery resources in the Mediterranean and requires the adoption of management plans for fisheries using trawl nets, boat seines, shore seines, surrounding nets and dredges in territorial waters of the Member States.
- (11) France, Italy and Spain have adopted management plans under Regulation (EC) No 1967/2006. However, there is a lack of consistency between the plans and they do not take account of all the gears exploiting demersal stocks and the straddling distribution of certain stocks and fishing fleets. Besides, those plans have proven ineffective in meeting the objectives set in the CFP. Member States and stakeholders have expressed support for the development and implementation of a multi-annual plan at Union level for the stocks concerned.

⁴ Council Regulation (EC) No 1967/2006 of 21 December 2006 concerning management measures for the sustainable exploitation of fishery resources in the Mediterranean Sea, amending Regulation (EEC) No 2847/93 and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1626/94 ([OJ L 36, 8.2.2007, p. 6](#)).

- (12) The STECF has shown that exploitation of **most many** demersal stocks in the western Mediterranean exceeds by far the levels required to achieve MSY.
- (13) It is therefore appropriate to establish a multi-annual plan ('the plan') for the conservation and sustainable exploitation of demersal stocks in the western Mediterranean.
- (14) That plan should take account of the mixed nature of the fisheries and the dynamics between the stocks driving them, i.e. hake (*Merluccius merluccius*), red mullet (*Mullus barbatus*), deep-water rose shrimp (*Parapenaeus longirostris*), Norway lobster (*Nephrops norvegicus*), blue and red shrimp (*Aristeus antennatus*) and giant red shrimp (*Aristaeomorpha foliacea*). It should also take account of by-catch species **caught in demersal fisheries** and demersal stocks for which sufficient data are not available. It should apply to the demersal fisheries (in particular, trawl nets, bottom-set nets, traps and longlines), carried out in Union waters or by Union fishing vessels outside the Union waters of the western Mediterranean.
- (15) ~~Given their importance, the plan provided for in this Regulation should cover~~**Where mortality caused by recreational fisheries catching western Mediterranean demersal stocks. Where such fisheries have**has a significant impact on **a stocks referred to in Article 1(2), the Council should be able to set non-discriminatory limits for recreational fishermen. The Council should refer to transparent and objective criteria when setting such limits. Where appropriate, Member States should take the necessary and proportionate measures for the monitoring and collection of data for a reliable estimation of actual recreational catch levels. Furthermore, it should be possible to adopt technical conservation measures in respect of recreational fisheries, the multi-annual plan provided for by this Regulation should provide for the possibility of specific management measures.**

(16) The geographical scope of the multi-annual plan should be based on the geographical distribution of stocks as indicated in the best available scientific advice. Future changes to the geographical distribution of stocks as set out in the multi-annual plan may be needed due to improved scientific information. Therefore, the Commission should be empowered to adopt delegated acts adjusting the geographical distribution of stocks set out in the multi-annual plan if the scientific advice shows a change in the geographical distribution of the relevant stocks.

(17) The objective of the plan provided for in this Regulation should be to contribute to the achievement of the CFP, and in particular, reaching and maintaining MSY for the target stocks, implementing the landing obligation for demersal stocks **and pelagic by-catches caught in demersal fisheries** subject to minimum conservation reference size, and promoting a fair standard of living for those who depend on fishing activities, bearing in mind coastal fisheries and socio-economic aspects. It should also implement the ecosystem-based approach to fisheries management in order to minimise negative impacts of fishing activities on the marine ecosystem. It should be coherent with the Union's environmental legislation, in particular the objective of achieving good environmental status by 2020 (in accordance with Directive 2008/56/EC⁵) and the objectives of Directive 2009/147/EC⁶ and Council Directive 92/43/EEC⁷.

⁵ Directive 2008/56/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 June 2008 establishing a framework for community action in the field of marine environmental policy (Marine Strategy Framework Directive) ([OJ L 164, 25.6.2008, p. 19](#))

⁶ Directive 2009/147/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 November 2009 on the conservation of wild birds ([OJ L 20, 26.1.2010, p. 7](#)).

⁷ Council Directive 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora ([OJ L 206, 22.7.1992, p. 7](#)).

(18) It is appropriate to establish the target fishing mortality (F) that corresponds to the objective of reaching and maintaining MSY as ranges of values which are consistent with achieving MSY (i.e. F_{MSY}). Those ranges, based on best available scientific advice, are necessary to provide flexibility to take account of developments in the scientific advice, contribute to the implementation of the landing obligation and accommodate mixed fisheries. Based on this plan, they are derived to deliver no more than 5 % reduction in the long-term yield as compared with MSY. In addition, the upper limit of the F_{MSY} range is capped with the aim that the probability of the stock falling below the biomass limit reference point (B_{LIM}) is no more than 5 %.

(19) For the purposes of fixing **maximum allowable fishing effort**~~fishing opportunities~~, there should be F_{MSY} ranges for ‘normal use’ and, subject to the good status of the stocks concerned, more flexible F_{MSY} ranges. It should be possible to set **maximum allowable fishing effort**~~fishing opportunities~~ within the latter only if, on the basis of the scientific advice, this is necessary to achieve the objectives laid down in this Regulation in mixed fisheries, to avoid harm to a stock caused by intra- or inter-species stock dynamics, or to limit year-on-year variations in **maximum allowable fishing effort**~~fishing opportunities~~. **A target fishing mortality in line with these ranges of F_{MSY} should be achieved on a progressive, incremental basis by 2020 where possible and at the latest by 1 January 2025.**

(20) For stocks for which targets relating to MSY are available, and for the purpose of the application of safeguard measures, it is necessary to establish conservation reference points, expressed as precautionary reference points (B_{PA}) and limit reference points (B_{LIM}).

(21) Appropriate safeguards should be put in place to ensure that the targets are met and to trigger remedial measures where needed, amongst others where stocks fall below the conservation reference points. Remedial measures should include emergency measures in accordance with Articles 12 and 13 of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013, **maximum allowable fishing effort**~~fishing opportunities~~ and other specific conservation measures.

~~(22) — In accordance with Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013, ‘fishing opportunities’ are to comply with the targets, timeframes and margins established in the multi-annual plans. For the purpose of the plan provided for in this Regulation, fishing opportunity means a quantified legal entitlement to fish, expressed in terms of fishing effort and/or catches.~~

(23) In order to ensure transparent access to fisheries and the achievement of target fishing mortalities, a Union fishing effort regime should be adopted for trawls which are the main gear used to exploit demersal stocks in the western Mediterranean. To that end, it is appropriate to determine effort groups in order for the Council to establish maximum allowable fishing effort, expressed as numbers of fishing days, on an annual basis. Where necessary, the effort regime should incorporate other fishing gears.

(24) Given the worrying situation of ~~nearly all~~many demersal stocks in the western Mediterranean and in order to reduce the current high levels of fishing mortality, the fishing effort regime should entail a significant reduction of effort in the first five years of implementation of the plan provided for in this Regulation.

~~(25) — Where scientific advice shows that recreational fisheries have a significant impact on the fishing mortality of the stocks concerned, the Council should take them into account. To that effect, the Council may set fishing opportunities through the effort regime for commercial catches which takes into account the volume of recreational catches and/or to adopt other measures restricting recreational fisheries.~~

~~(26) — Where scientific advice shows that the fishing effort regime is not sufficient to meet the objectives or targets of the plan provided for in this Regulation, management measures based on total allowable catches should be introduced in order to complement the effort regime.~~

(27) Member States should take specific measures to ensure that the fishing effort regime is effective and workable, by including a method for allocating effort quotas in accordance with Article 17 of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013, by producing a list of vessels, by issuing fishing authorisations and recording and transmitting relevant effort data.

(27a) In order to contribute to the effective achievement of the objectives of the plan, and in accordance with the principles of good governance laid down in Article 3 of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013, Member States should be allowed to promote participative management systems at local level.

(28) In order to protect nursery areas and sensitive habitats, and safeguard small-scale fisheries, the coastal zone should be regularly reserved for more selective fisheries. Therefore, the plan provided for in this Regulation should establish a closure for trawls operating within ~~the 100 m isobath for three months each year.~~ **6 nautical miles from the coast except in areas deeper than the 100 m isobath during 3 months each year. It should be possible for other closure areas to be established, where this can ensure at least a 20% reduction of catches of juvenile hake.**

(29) Further conservation measures should be taken as regards demersal stocks. In particular, in accordance with the scientific advice, it is appropriate to have additional closures in areas with high aggregations of spawning individuals in order to protect a severely harmed adult stage of hake.

(30) The precautionary approach should apply for by-catch stocks and for demersal stocks for which sufficient data are not available. Specific conservation measures should be adopted in accordance with Article 18 of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013 where the scientific advice shows that remedial measures are needed.

(31) The plan provided for in this Regulation should provide for additional technical conservation measures to be adopted by means of delegated acts. This is necessary to achieve the objectives of the plan, in particular as regards conserving demersal stocks and improving selectivity.

(32) In order to comply with the landing obligation established by Article 15(1) of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013, the plan ~~provided for in this Regulation~~ should provide for additional management measures **to be further specified** in accordance with Article 18 of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013.

(33) To enable the plan ~~provided for in this Regulation~~ to be adapted in a timely manner to technical and scientific progress, the Commission should be empowered to adopt acts in accordance with Article 290 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union in order to supplement this Regulation with remedial and technical conservation measures, implement the landing obligation and amend certain elements of the plan. It is particularly important that the Commission carry out appropriate consultations during its preparatory work, including at expert level, and that those consultations be conducted in accordance with the principles laid down in the Inter-institutional Agreement of 13 April 2016 on Better Law-Making⁸. In particular, to ensure equal participation in the preparation of delegated acts, the European Parliament and the Council are to receive all documents at the same time as Member States' experts, and their experts are systematically to have access to meetings of Commission expert groups dealing with the preparation of delegated acts.

(34) A deadline should be set for the submission of joint recommendations by Member States with a direct management interest, as required by Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013.

(35) In order to evaluate progress towards MSY, the plan ~~provided for in this Regulation~~ should allow regular scientific monitoring of the stocks concerned and, where possible, of by-catch stocks.

⁸ Interinstitutional Agreement between the European Parliament, the Council of the European Union and the European Commission on Better Law-Making ([OJ L 123, 12.5.2016, p. 1](#)).

(36) In accordance with Article 10(3) of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013, the Commission should periodically assess the adequacy and effectiveness of this Regulation. That assessment should follow and be based on periodic evaluation of the plan provided for in this Regulation, on the basis of scientific advice, by the STECF, after an initial five years and every **fivethree** years thereafter. This allows for the full implementation of the landing obligation and for regionalised measures to be adopted and implemented and to have an impact on the stocks and fisheries. **Five years is also the minimum period required by scientific bodies.**

(37) In order to provide legal certainty, it is appropriate to clarify that temporary cessation measures that have been adopted in order to attain the objectives of the plan provided for in this Regulation can be deemed eligible for support under Regulation (EU) No 508/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council⁹.

(37a) In order to achieve a balance between the fishing capacity of the fleet and the available maximum allowable fishing effort, support from the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund for the permanent cessation of fishing activities should be available in the imbalanced fleet segments covered by this Regulation. Regulation (EU) No 508/2014 should therefore be amended accordingly.

(38) In accordance with Article 9(4) of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013, the likely economic and social impact of the plan provided for in this Regulation was duly assessed before it was drafted¹⁰.

⁹ Regulation (EU) No 508/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 May 2014 on the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and repealing Council Regulations (EC) No 2328/2003, (EC) No 861/2006, (EC) No 1198/2006 and (EC) No 791/2007 and Regulation (EU) No 1255/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council ([OJ L 149, 20.5.2014, p. 1](#)).

¹⁰ Impact assessment [include reference when published].

(39) Taking into account that the maximum allowable fishing effort is set for each calendar year, the provisions on the effort regime should apply from 1 January 2020. Taking into account environmental, social and economic sustainability, the provisions on the ranges of F_{MSY} and on safeguards for stocks below B_{PA} should apply from 1 January 2025.

HAVE ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

CHAPTER I GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1 *Subject-matter and scope*

1. This Regulation establishes a multi-annual plan ('the plan') for the conservation and sustainable exploitation of demersal stocks in the western Mediterranean Sea.
2. This Regulation applies to the following stocks:
 - (a) blue and red shrimp (*Aristeus antennatus*) in GFCM subareas 1, 5, 6 and 7;
 - (b) ~~blue and red shrimp (*Aristeus antennatus*) in GFCM sub-area 5;~~
 - (c) ~~blue and red shrimp (*Aristeus antennatus*) in GFCM sub-area 6;~~
 - (d) deep-water rose shrimp (*Parapenaeus longirostris*) in GFCM subareas 1, 5, 6 and 9-10-11;
 - (e) ~~deep-water rose shrimp (*Parapenaeus longirostris*) in GFCM sub-area 5;~~
 - (f) ~~deep-water rose shrimp (*Parapenaeus longirostris*) in GFCM sub-area 6;~~
 - (g) ~~deep-water rose shrimp (*Parapenaeus longirostris*) in GFCM sub-areas 9-10-11;~~

- (h) giant red shrimp (*Aristaeomorpha foliacea*) in GFCM subareas 9-10-11;
- (i) ~~giant red shrimp (*Aristaeomorpha foliacea*) in GFCM sub-area 10;~~
- (j) ~~giant red shrimp (*Aristaeomorpha foliacea*) in GFCM sub-area 11;~~
- (k) European hake (*Merluccius merluccius*) in GFCM subareas 1-5-6-7 and 9-10-11;
- (l) ~~European hake (*Merluccius merluccius*) in GFCM sub-areas 9-10-11;~~
- (m) Norway lobster (*Nephrops norvegicus*) in GFCM subareas 5, 6, 9 and 11;
- (n) ~~Norway lobster (*Nephrops norvegicus*) in GFCM sub-area 6;~~
- (o) ~~Norway lobster (*Nephrops norvegicus*) in GFCM sub-area 9;~~
- (p) ~~Norway lobster (*Nephrops norvegicus*) in GFCM sub-area 11;~~
- (q) red mullet (*Mullus barbatus*) in GFCM subareas 1, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10 and 11;
- (r) ~~red mullet (*Mullus barbatus*) in GFCM sub-area 5;~~
- (s) ~~red mullet (*Mullus barbatus*) in GFCM sub-area 6;~~
- (t) ~~red mullet (*Mullus barbatus*) in GFCM sub-area 7;~~
- (u) ~~red mullet (*Mullus barbatus*) in GFCM sub-area 9; and~~
- (v) ~~red mullet (*Mullus barbatus*) in GFCM sub-area 10.~~

3. This Regulation shall apply to by-catch stocks caught in the western Mediterranean Sea when fishing for the stocks referred to in paragraph ~~1~~2. It shall also apply to any other demersal stocks caught in the western Mediterranean Sea and for which sufficient data are not available.
4. This Regulation applies to commercial ~~and recreational~~ fisheries catching the demersal stocks referred to in paragraphs 2 and 3, where they are carried out in Union waters or by Union fishing vessels outside Union waters of the western Mediterranean.

5. This Regulation also specifies details for the implementation of the landing obligation in Union waters of the western Mediterranean Sea for all stocks of species to which the landing obligation applies under Article 15(1) of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013 **which are caught in demersal fisheries.**

5a. This Regulation provides for technical measures, as set out in Article 13, applicable in the western Mediterranean Sea in respect of any stock.

Article 2 **Definitions**

For the purposes of this Regulation, in addition to those laid down in Article 4 of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013, Article 4 of Council Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009¹¹ and Article 2 of Council Regulation (EC) No 1967/2006, the following definitions shall apply:

(1) ‘the stocks concerned’ means the stocks provided for in Article 1(2);

(1a) ‘most vulnerable stock’ means the stock for which, at the time of the setting of the maximum allowable fishing effort, the fishing mortality of the previous year is the farthest from the F_{MSY} point value determined in the best available scientific advice.

(1) ‘range of F_{MSY} ’ means a range of values provided in the best available scientific advice, in particular by the Scientific advice from the Scientific, Technical and Economic Committee for Fisheries (‘STECF’), **or a similar independent scientific body recognised at Union or international level,** where all levels of fishing mortality within that range result in maximum sustainable yield (‘MSY’) in the long term given a fishing pattern and under existing average environmental conditions without significantly affecting the reproduction process for the stocks in question. It is derived to deliver no more than a 5 % reduction in long-term yield compared to the MSY. It is capped so that the probability of the stock falling below the limit reference point (B_{LIM}) is no more than 5 %;

(2) ‘ F_{MSY} point value’ means the value of the estimated fishing mortality that with a given fishing pattern and current environmental conditions gives the long-term maximum yield;

(3)

¹¹ Council Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009 of 20 November 2009 establishing a Community 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](#)).

'MSY F_{LOWER} ' means the lowest value within the range of F_{MSY} ;

- (4) 'MSY F_{UPPER} ' means the highest value within the range of F_{MSY} ;
- (5) 'lower range of F_{MSY} ' means a range that contains values from MSY F_{LOWER} up to the F_{MSY} point value;
- (6) 'upper range of F_{MSY} ' means a range that contains values from the F_{MSY} point value up to MSY F_{UPPER} ;
- (7) ' B_{LIM} ' means the limit reference point, expressed as spawning stock biomass and provided in the best available scientific advice, in particular by STECF, **or a similar independent scientific body recognised at Union or international level,** below which there may be reduced reproductive capacity;
- (8) ' B_{PA} ' means the precautionary reference point, expressed as spawning stock biomass and provided in the best available scientific advice, in particular by STECF, **or a similar independent scientific body recognised at Union or international level,** which ensures that the spawning stock biomass has less than 5 % probability of being below B_{LIM} ;
- (9) 'effort group' means a fleet management unit of a Member State for which a maximum allowable fishing effort is set;
- (10a) 'stock group' means a group of stocks caught together as identified in Annex 1;**
- (10) 'fishing day' means ~~a calendar day counting from 0:00 to 24:00 during which fishing activities are carried out~~ **any continuous period of 24 hours (or part thereof) during which a vessel is present within the western Mediterranean Sea and absent from port;**

- (11) ‘western Mediterranean Sea’ means the waters in GFCM geographical sub-areas 1 (Northern Alboran Sea), 2 (Alboran Island), 5 (Balearic Islands), 6 (Northern Spain), 7 (Gulf of Lions), 8 (Corsica Island), 9 (Ligurian and North Tyrrhenian Sea), 10 (South Tyrrhenian Sea) and 11 (Sardinia Island), as defined in Annex I to Regulation (EU) No 1343/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council¹².

Article 3
Objectives

1. The plan shall **be based on a fishing effort regime aiming to** contribute to the achievement of the objectives of the common fisheries policy, as listed in Article 2 of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013, in particular by applying the precautionary approach to fisheries management, and shall aim to ensure that exploitation of living marine biological resources restores and maintains populations of harvested species above levels which can produce MSY.
2. The plan shall contribute to the elimination of discards by avoiding and reducing unwanted catches as far as possible, and to the implementation of the landing obligation established in Article 15 of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013 for the species which are subject to minimum conservation reference sizes **under Union law** and to which this Regulation applies.
3. The plan shall implement the ecosystem-based approach to fisheries management in order to ensure that negative impacts of fishing activities on the marine ecosystem are minimised. It shall be coherent with Union environmental legislation, in particular with the objective of achieving good environmental status by 2020 as set out in Article 1(1) of Directive 2008/56/EC ~~and the objectives set out in Articles 4 and 5 of Directive 2009/147/EC and Articles 6 and 12 of Council Directive 92/43/EEC.~~

¹² Regulation (EU) No 1343/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 December 2011 on certain provisions for fishing in the GFCM (General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean) Agreement area and amending Council Regulation (EC) No 1967/2006 concerning management measures for the sustainable exploitation of fishery resources in the Mediterranean Sea ([OJ L 347, 30.12.2011, p. 44](#)).

4. In particular, the plan shall aim to:
- (a) ensure that the conditions described in descriptor 3 contained in Annex I to Directive 2008/56/EC are fulfilled; **and**
 - (b) contribute to the fulfilment of other relevant descriptors contained in Annex I to Directive 2008/56/EC in proportion to the role played by fisheries in their fulfilment; **and**
 - (c) **contribute to the achievement of the objectives set out in Articles 4 and 5 of Directive 2009/147/EC and Articles 6 and 12 of Council Directive 92/43/EEC, in particular to minimise the negative impact of fishing activities on vulnerable habitats and protected species.**
5. Measures in the plan shall be taken on the basis of the best available scientific advice.
~~Where there is insufficient data, a comparable degree of conservation of the relevant stocks shall be pursued.~~

CHAPTER II TARGETS, CONSERVATION REFERENCE POINTS AND SAFEGUARDS

Article 4 Targets

1. The target fishing mortality in line with the ranges of F_{MSY} defined in Article 2 shall be achieved ~~as soon as possible, and~~ on a progressive, incremental basis by 2020 **where possible, and at the latest by 1 January 2025,** for the stocks concerned, and shall be maintained thereafter within the ranges of F_{MSY} .
2. The ranges of F_{MSY} shall be requested, in particular from STECF, **or a similar independent scientific body recognised at Union or international level,** based on this plan.

3. In accordance with Article 16(4) of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013, when the Council fixes **fishing opportunities maximum allowable fishing effort**, it shall establish those **opportunities efforts** for **each effort group the assemblage of stocks concerned**, within the range of F_{MSY} available at that time for the most vulnerable stock.
4. **By way of derogation from Notwithstanding** paragraphs 1 and 3, **fishing opportunities maximum allowable fishing effort** may be set at levels that are lower than the ranges of F_{MSY} .
5. **By way of derogation from Notwithstanding** paragraphs **1 and 3 and 4**, **fishing opportunities maximum allowable fishing effort** may be set above the range of F_{MSY} available at that time for the most vulnerable stock, provided that all stocks concerned are above the B_{PA} :
- (a) if, on the basis of the **best available** scientific advice or evidence, it is necessary for the achievement of the objectives laid down in Article 3 in mixed fisheries;
 - (b) if, on the basis of the **best available** scientific advice or evidence, it is necessary to avoid serious harm to a stock due to intra- or inter-species stock dynamics; or
 - (c) in order to limit variations in **fishing opportunities maximum allowable fishing effort** between consecutive years to a maximum of 20 %.

(5a) Where ranges of F_{MSY} cannot be determined for a stock listed in Article 1 (2) because of a lack of adequate scientific information, that stock shall be managed in accordance with Article 12 until ranges of F_{MSY} are available pursuant to paragraph 2 of this Article.

Article 5
Conservation reference points

For the purposes of Article 6, the following conservation reference points shall be requested, in particular from STECF, **or a similar independent scientific body recognised at Union or international level**, based on this plan:

- (a) precautionary reference points, expressed as spawning stock biomass (B_{PA}); and
- (b) limit reference points, expressed as spawning stock biomass (B_{LIM}).

Article 6
Safeguards

1. Where the scientific advice shows that the spawning biomass of any of the stocks concerned is below the precautionary reference point (B_{PA}), remedial measures shall be adopted to ensure the rapid return of the stocks concerned to levels above those capable of producing MSY. In particular, ~~by way of derogation from notwithstanding Article 4(3), and (5), fishing opportunities maximum allowable fishing effort~~ shall be set at levels consistent with a fishing mortality that is reduced within the range of F_{MSY} for the most vulnerable stock, taking into account the decrease in biomass.
2. Where the scientific advice shows that the spawning biomass of any of the stocks concerned is below the limit reference point (B_{LIM}), further remedial measures shall be taken to ensure the rapid return of the stock to levels above those capable of producing MSY. In particular, ~~by way of derogation from notwithstanding Article 4(3) and (5),~~ those measures may include suspending the targeted fishery for the stock concerned and the adequate reduction of the ~~fishing opportunities~~ maximum allowable fishing effort.
3. Remedial measures referred to in this Article may include:
 - (a) measures pursuant to Articles 7, 8, 11, 12, 13 and 14 of this Regulation; and
 - (b) emergency measures in accordance with Articles 12 and 13 of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013.

4. The choice of measures referred to in this Article shall be appropriate with the nature, gravity, duration and repetition of the situation where the spawning stock biomass is below the levels referred to in Article 5.

CHAPTER III FISHING OPPORTUNITIES EFFORT

Article 7 ***Fishing effort regime***

1. A fishing effort regime shall apply to all vessels fishing with trawls in the areas, **stock groups** and length categories defined in Annex I.
2. Each year, in accordance with the scientific advice, **and pursuant to Article 4**, the Council shall set a maximum allowable fishing effort for each effort group by Member State.
3. **By way of derogation from Article 3(1) and notwithstanding paragraph 2 of this Article, F**for the first **five** years of implementation of the plan; ~~the maximum allowable fishing effort shall be substantially reduced from the baseline provided for in paragraph 4, in accordance with the scientific advice.~~
 - (a) **for the first year of implementation of the plan, except for GSAs in which the fishing effort has already been reduced by more than 20% during the baseline period, the maximum allowable fishing effort shall be reduced by 10% compared to the baseline;**

(b) for the second to the fifth year of the implementation of the plan, the maximum allowable fishing effort shall be reduced by a maximum of 30% during this period. The fishing effort decrease may be supplemented with any relevant technical or other conservation measures adopted in accordance with Union law, in order to achieve the F_{MSY} by 1 January 2025.

4. The baseline referred to in paragraph 3 shall be ~~established as follows~~:

- (a) ~~for the first year of application of this Regulation, the baseline shall be calculated by each Member State for each effort group or GSA as the average effort expressed as number of fishing days between 1 January 2015 and 31 December 2017 and take account only of vessels active during that period;~~
- (b) ~~for the subsequent years of application of this Regulation, the baseline shall be equal, for each year, to the maximum allowable fishing effort for the previous year.~~

5. Where the **best available** scientific advice shows significant catches of a particular stock with fishing gears other than trawls, **maximum allowable** fishing effort **levels shall may** be set for such particular gear or gears on the basis of such scientific advice.

6. ~~Where the scientific advice shows that recreational fisheries have a significant impact on the fishing mortality of a particular stock, the Council may limit recreational fisheries when setting fishing opportunities in order to avoid exceeding the total target of fishing mortality.~~

Article 7a

Recreational fisheries

1. When scientific advice indicates that recreational fishing is having a significant impact on the fishing mortality of a stock referred to in Article 1(2), the Council may set non-discriminatory limits for recreational fishermen.
2. When setting the limits referred to in paragraph 1, the Council shall refer to transparent and objective criteria, including those of an environmental, social and economic nature. The criteria used may include, in particular, the impact of recreational fishing on the environment, the societal importance of that activity and its contribution to the economy in coastal areas.
3. Where appropriate, Member States shall take the necessary and proportionate measures for the monitoring and collection of data for a reliable estimation of the actual recreational catch levels.

Article 8

Total allowable catches

~~Where the best available scientific advice shows that the fishing effort regime is not sufficient to meet the objectives or targets set out in Articles 3 and 4, the Council shall adopt complementary management measures based on total allowable catches.~~

Article 9

Obligations of the Member States

1. Member States shall manage the maximum allowable fishing effort in accordance with the conditions laid down in Articles 26 to 34 of Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009.
2. Each Member State shall decide on a method for allocating the maximum allowable fishing effort to individual vessels or groups of vessels flying its flag, in accordance with the criteria in Article 17 of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013. **In particular, Member States shall:**

- (a) ~~use transparent and objective criteria, including those of an environmental, social and economic nature;~~
- (b) ~~distribute national quotas fairly among fleet segments, giving consideration to traditional and artisanal fisheries; and~~
- (c) ~~provide Union vessels with incentives to deploy selective fishing gear or use fishing techniques with reduced environmental impact.~~

2a. A Member State may amend its effort allocations by transferring fishing days across effort groups of the same geographical area, provided that it applies a conversion factor which is supported by the best available scientific advice. The exchanged fishing days and conversion factor shall be made available immediately, and no later than ten working days, to the Commission and other Member States.

3. Where a Member State allows vessels flying its flag to fish with trawls, it shall ensure that such fishing is limited to a maximum of ~~12~~ **15** hours per fishing day, five fishing days per week or equivalent.

Member States may grant a derogation of up to 18 hours per fishing day to take into account the transit time between port and the fishing ground. Such derogation shall be communicated to the Commission and other Member States concerned without delay.

3a. Notwithstanding paragraph 3, where a vessel fishes for two different stock groups during one fishing day, half a fishing day shall be deducted from the maximum allowable fishing effort allocated to that vessel for each stock group.

4. For the vessels flying its flag **and fishing for the stocks defined in Article 1(2)**, each Member State shall issue fishing authorisations for the areas referred to in Annex I and in accordance with Article 7 of Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009.

5. Member States shall ensure that the total capacity, expressed in GT and kW, corresponding to the fishing authorisations issued in accordance with paragraph 4 is not increased during the period of application of the plan.
6. Each Member State shall establish and maintain a list of vessels issued with fishing authorisations pursuant to paragraph 4 and make it available to the Commission and other Member States. Member States shall transmit their list for the first time within three months after the entry into force of this Regulation and subsequently no later than 30 November each year.
7. Member States shall monitor their fishing effort regime and ensure that the maximum allowable fishing effort referred to in Article 7 does not exceed the set limits.

7a. In accordance with the principles of good governance established in Article 3 of Regulation(EU) 1380/2013, Member States may promote participative management systems at local level in order to achieve the objectives of the plan.

Article 10
Communication of relevant data

1. Member States shall record and transmit effort data to the Commission in accordance with Article 33 of Council Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009 and Articles 146c to 146e of Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 404/2011¹³.
2. The effort data shall be aggregated per month and contain the information set out in Annex II. The format of the aggregated data shall be the XML Schema Definition based on UN/CEFACT P1000-12.

¹³ Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 404/2011 of 8 April 2011 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of Council Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009 establishing a Community control system for ensuring compliance with the rules of the Common Fisheries Policy ([OJ L 112, 30.4.2011, p. 1](#)).

3. Member States shall transmit the effort data referred to in paragraph 1 to the Commission before the 15th of each month.

CHAPTER IV TECHNICAL CONSERVATION MEASURES

Article 11 *Closure areas*

1. In addition to what is provided for by Article 13 of Council Regulation (EC) No 1967/2006, the use of trawls in the western Mediterranean Sea shall be prohibited within **6 nautical miles from the coast except in areas deeper than the 100 m isobath during 3 months each year and where appropriate consecutively, based on the best available scientific advice. from 1 May to 31 July each year. Those three months of annual closure shall be determined by each Member State and shall apply during the most relevant period determined on the basis of the best available scientific advice. That period shall be communicated to the Commission and the other Member States concerned without delay.**

1a. By way of derogation from paragraph 1 and provided that it is justified by particular geographical constraints, such as the limited size of the continental shelf or the long distances to fishing grounds, Member States may establish, on the basis of the best available scientific advice, other closure areas provided that a reduction of at least 20% of catches of juvenile hake in each geographical subarea is achieved. Such derogation shall be communicated to the Commission and other Member States concerned without delay.

2. Within two years of the adoption of this Regulation and on the basis of the **best available** scientific advice, the Member States concerned shall establish other closure areas where there is evidence of a high concentration of juvenile fish, **below minimum conservation reference size** and of spawning grounds of demersal stocks, in particular for the stocks concerned.

2a. The other closure areas established pursuant to paragraph 2 shall be assessed in particular by STECF or a similar independent scientific body recognised at Union or international level. If that assessment indicates that those closure areas are not in line with their objectives, Member States shall review those closure areas in light of those recommendations.

3. Where the closure areas referred to in paragraph 2 affect fishing vessels of several Member States, the Commission shall be empowered to adopt delegated acts in accordance with Article 8 of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013 and Article 18 of this Regulation and on the basis of the **best available** scientific advice, establishing the closure areas concerned.

Article 12
***Management of by-catch stocks and demersal stocks
for which sufficient data are not available***

1. The stocks referred to in Article 1(3) of this Regulation shall be managed on the basis of the precautionary approach to fisheries management as defined in Article 4(1)(8) of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013.
2. Management measures for the stocks referred to in Article 1(3) of this Regulation, in particular technical conservation measures such as those listed in Article 13 of this Regulation, shall be established taking into account the best available scientific advice.

Article 13
Other technical Specific conservation measures

1. The Commission is empowered to adopt delegated acts in accordance with Article 18 **of this Regulation and Article 18 of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013** supplementing this Regulation by establishing the following technical conservation measures:
- (a) specifications of characteristics of fishing gears and rules governing their use, to ensure or improve selectivity, to reduce unwanted catches or to minimise the negative impact on the ecosystem;**
 - (b) specifications of modifications or additional devices to the fishing gears, to ensure or improve selectivity, to reduce unwanted catches or to minimise the negative impact on the ecosystem;**
 - (c) limitations or prohibitions on the use of certain fishing gears and on fishing activities, in certain areas or periods to protect spawning fish, fish below the minimum conservation reference size or non-target fish species, or to minimise the negative impact on the ecosystem;**
 - (d) the fixing of minimum conservation reference sizes for any of the stocks to which this Regulation applies, to ensure the protection of juveniles of marine organisms;**
and
 - (e) on recreational fisheries.**

- (a) ~~specifying the characteristics of fishing gear, in particular mesh size, hook size, number of hooks, construction of the gear, twine thickness, size of the gear or use of additional devices to improve selectivity;~~
- (b) ~~limiting the use of fishing gear, in particular immersion time and depth of gear deployment, so as to improve selectivity;~~
- (c) ~~prohibiting or limiting fishing in specific areas or time periods to protect spawning and juvenile fish, fish below the minimum conservation reference size or non-target fish species;~~
- (d) ~~prohibiting or limiting fishing in specific areas or time periods to protect vulnerable ecosystems and species;~~
- (e) ~~setting minimum conservation reference sizes for any of the stocks to which this Regulation applies, to ensure the protection of juveniles of marine organisms;~~
- (f) ~~on recreational fisheries; and~~
- (g) ~~on other characteristics linked to selectivity.~~

2. The measures referred to in paragraph 1 shall contribute to the achievement of the objectives set out in Article 3.

~~3. In the absence of a joint recommendation as referred to in Article 15(2) and after expiry of the applicable deadlines set out in that Article, the Commission shall be empowered to adopt delegated acts in accordance with Article 18 supplementing this Regulation by adopting the measures listed in paragraph 1, where the scientific advice shows that specific action is required to ensure that any of the stocks to which this Regulation applies is managed in accordance with Article 3.~~

CHAPTER V LANDING OBLIGATION

Article 14 *Provisions linked to the landing obligation*

For all stocks of species in the western Mediterranean Sea to which the landing obligation applies under Article 15 of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013, **and for incidental catches of pelagic species in fisheries exploiting the stocks referred to in Article 1(2) of this Regulation to which the landing obligation applies, after consulting the Member States,** the Commission is empowered to adopt delegated acts in accordance with Article 15 **of this Regulation and Article 18 of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013** supplementing this Regulation by adopting detailed measures for that obligation as provided for in points (a) to (e) of Article 15(5) ~~or~~**of** Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013.

CHAPTER VI REGIONALISATION

Article 15 *Regional cooperation*

1. Article 18(1) to (6) of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013 shall apply to the measures referred to in Articles 11, 12, 13 and 14 of this Regulation.

2. For the purpose of paragraph 1 of this Article, Member States having direct management interest may submit joint recommendations in accordance with Article 18(1) of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013:
- (a) for the first time not later than twelve months after the entry into force of this Regulation and thereafter twelve months after each submission of the evaluation of the plan in accordance with Article 17(2);
 - (b) by ~~31 May~~ **1 July** of the year preceding that in which the measures are to apply; and/or
 - (c) whenever they deem necessary, in particular in the event of an abrupt change in the situation of any stock to which this Regulation applies.
3. The empowerments granted under Articles 11, 12, 13 and 14 of this Regulation shall be without prejudice to powers conferred on the Commission under other provisions of Union law, including Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013.

CHAPTER VII AMENDMENTS AND FOLLOW UP

Article 16 ***Amendments of the plan***

1. Where the scientific advice shows a change in the geographical distribution of the stocks listed in Article 1(2), the Commission is empowered to adopt delegated acts in accordance with Article 18 to amend this Regulation by adjusting the areas specified in Article 1(2) and Annex I in order to reflect that change.
2. Where **on the basis of** the scientific advice **shows the Commission considers** that the list of stocks set out in Article 1(2) needs to be amended, the Commission may submit a proposal for the amendment of that list.

Article 17
Monitoring and evaluation of the plan

1. For the purposes of the annual report provided for in Article 50 of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013, quantifiable indicators shall include annual estimates of F/F_{MSY} and SSB for the stocks concerned, **socio-economic indicators** and, where possible, for by-catch stocks. They may be complemented with other indicators on the basis of the scientific advice.
2. Five years after the date of entry into force of this Regulation and every ~~five~~ **three** years thereafter, the Commission shall report to the European Parliament and to the Council on the results and the impact of the plan on the stocks to which this Regulation applies and on the fisheries exploiting those stocks, in particular as regards the achievement of the objectives set out in Article 3.

CHAPTER VIII
PROCEDURAL PROVISIONS

Article 18
Exercise of delegation

1. The power to adopt delegated acts is conferred on the Commission subject to the conditions laid down in this Article.

2. The delegation of power referred to in Articles 11, 12, 13, 14 and 16 shall be conferred on the Commission for a period of five years from the date of the entry into force of this Regulation. The Commission shall draw up a report in respect of the delegation of power not later than nine months before the end of that period. The delegation of power shall be tacitly extended for five-year periods, unless the European Parliament or the Council opposes such extension not later than three months beforehand.
3. The European Parliament or the Council may at any time revoke the delegation of power referred to in Articles 11, 12, 13, 14 and 16. A decision to revoke shall put an end to the delegation of the power specified in that decision. It shall take effect on the day following its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union* or at a later date specified in the decision. It shall not affect the validity of any delegated act already in force.
4. Before adopting a delegated act, the Commission shall consult experts designated by each Member State in accordance with the principles laid down in the Interinstitutional Agreement on Better Law-Making of 13 April 2016.
5. As soon as it adopts a delegated act, the Commission shall simultaneously notify the European Parliament and the Council thereof.
6. A delegated act adopted pursuant to Articles 11, 12, 13, 14 and 16 shall enter into force only if neither the European Parliament nor the Council has expressed an objection within two months of being notified or if, before the expiry of that period, they have both informed the Commission that they will not object. The period shall be extended by two months at the initiative of the European Parliament or of the Council.

CHAPTER IX

EUROPEAN MARITIME AND FISHERIES FUND

Article 19

Support from the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund

Temporary cessation measures adopted in order to achieve the objectives of the plan shall be deemed as temporary cessation of fishing activities for the purposes of points (a) and (c) of Article 33(1) of Regulation (EU) No 508/2014.

Article 19a

Amendments to Regulation (EU) No 508/2014 as regards certain rules relating to the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund

Article 34 of Regulation (EU) No 508/2014 is amended as follows:

(1) paragraph 4 is replaced by the following:

“4. Support under this Article may be granted until 31 December 2017, except if the permanent cessation measures are adopted in order to achieve the objectives of the multi-annual plan for the conservation and sustainable exploitation of demersal stocks in the western Mediterranean Sea, established by Regulation (EU) No [...].

(2) the following paragraph is added:

“4a. Expenditure related to the permanent cessation measures adopted in order to achieve the objectives of Regulation (EU) No [...] shall be eligible for support from the EMFF as from the entry into force of that Regulation.”.

CHAPTER X FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 20 *Entry into force*

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

Taking into account environmental, social and economic sustainability, Article 4 and Article 6(1) shall apply from 1 January 2025.

Article 7 shall apply from 1 January 2020.

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

Done at Brussels,

For the European Parliament
The President

For the Council
The President

ANNEX I

Fishing effort regime

(as referred to in Article 7)

Effort groups are defined as follows:

A) Trawls fishing for red mullet, hake, deep-water rose shrimp and Norway lobster in the continental shelf and upper slope.

Gear type	Geographical area	Stocks concerned	Overall length of vessels	Effort group code
Trawls (TBB, OTB, PTB, TBN, TBS, TB, OTM, PTM, TMS, TM, OTT, OT, PT, TX, OTP, TSP)	GFCM sub-areas 1-2-5-6-7	Red mullet in GSAs 1, 5, 6 and 7; Hake in GSAs 1-5-6-7; Deep-water rose shrimp in GSAs 1, 5 and 6; and Norway lobster in GSAs 5 and 6.	< 12 m	EFF1/MED1_TR1
			≥ 12 m and < 18 m	EFF1/MED1_TR2
			≥ 18 m and < 24 m	EFF1/MED1_TR3
			≥ 24 m	EFF1/MED1_TR4
	GFCM sub-areas 8-9-10-11	Red mullet in GSAs 9, and 10 and 11 ; Hake in GSAs 9-10-11; Deep-water rose shrimp in GSAs 9-10-11; and Norway lobster in GSAs 9 and 10.	< 12 m	EFF1/MED2_TR1
			≥ 12 m and < 18 m	EFF1/MED2_TR2
			≥ 18 m and < 24 m	EFF1/MED2_TR3
			≥ 24 m	EFF1/MED1_TR4

B) Trawls fishing for blue and red shrimp and giant red shrimp in deep-waters.

Gear type	Geographical area	Stocks concerned <u>groups</u>	Overall length of vessels	Effort group code
Trawls (TBB, OTB, PTB, TBN, TBS, TB, OTM, PTM, TMS, TM, OTT, OT, PT, TX, OTP, TSP)	GFCM sub-areas 1-2-5-6-7	Blue and red shrimp in GSAs 1, 5, and 6 <u>and 7</u> .	< 12 m	EFF2/MED1_TR1
			≥ 12 m and < 18 m	EFF2/MED1_TR2
			≥ 18 m and < 24 m	EFF2/MED1_TR3
			≥ 24 m	EFF2/MED1_TR4
	GFCM sub-areas 8-9-10-11	Giant red shrimp in GSAs 9, 10 and 11	< 12 m	EFF2/MED2_TR1
			≥ 12 m and < 18 m	EFF2/MED2_TR2
			≥ 18 m and < 24 m	EFF2/MED2_TR3
			≥ 24 m	EFF2/MED1_TR4

ANNEX II

List of information for effort data

(as referred to in Article 10)

Information	Definition and comments
(1) Member State	Alpha-3 ISO code of the reporting flag Member State
(2) Effort group	Effort group code as defined in Annex I
(3) Effort period	Start date and end date of the reported month
(5) Effort declaration	Total number of fishing days