

Conservation and enforcement measures applicable in the Regulatory Area of the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organisation (NAFO)

2022/0035(COD) - 16/02/2022 - Legislative proposal

PURPOSE: to transpose into EU law the amendments to the conservation and enforcement measures adopted by the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organisation (NAFO) at its annual meeting in September 2021.

PROPOSED ACT: Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council.

ROLE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT: the European Parliament decides in accordance with the ordinary legislative procedure and on an equal footing with the Council.

BACKGROUND: the NAFO Convention provides that conservation measures adopted by the NAFO Commission are binding and that Contracting Parties are obliged to implement them. The EU has been a Contracting Party to NAFO since 1979.

[Regulation \(EU\) 2019/833](#) implemented into Union law the NAFO conservation and enforcement measures.

The NAFO subsequently adopted at its 43rd Annual Meeting in September 2021, a number of legally binding decisions for the conservation of fishery resources under its purview as regards catch retention of ‘Others’ quota, port inspection of landings of Cod in Division 3M and of Greenland halibut, monitoring and reinforced provisions concerning infringements and their enforcement.

This proposal relates to the amendments adopted by NAFO at its annual meeting in September 2021. These amendments entered into force on 2 December 2021 and apply from that date.

CONTENT: this proposal aims to amend Regulation (EU) 2019/833 in order to **apply the new NAFO conservation and enforcement measures to Union fishing vessels**.

The proposal implements the amendments adopted at the NAFO annual meeting of September 2021 concerning the calculation of “Others” quota, introducing flanking measures for Cod in Division 3M in relation to inspection of landings, as well as Greenland halibut.

The amendments also include revised provisions concerning additional procedures, serious infringements in relation to use of mesh sizes, grid or grate, and reinforced measures relating follow-up for infringements, as well as transmission of documents to NAFO and European Fisheries Control Agency.

The proposal also delegates to the Commission powers to amend the Regulation (EU) 2019/833 concerning landing, inspection for Greenland halibut and control measures for Cod in Division 3M, if NAFO amends its measures in the future.