



Co-funded by the  
European Union

# The North Sea under International Management: PROSPECTS & CHALLENGES



Joost Paardekooper





Co-funded by the European Union

# 2021 Brexit and the North Sea



## Now what?





## From 1 to 2 parties\* -

sovereign rights - independent coastal State - autonomy  
("Each Party shall decide on ... measures")

## **TCA framework for shared management:**

- Agreed quota shares and access provisions
- Procedures on management decisions (e.g. on TAC setting process)
- Agreed objectives, principles, commitments
- Facilitate discussions, cooperation, agreed approaches, agreed decisions and recommendations (SCF)





Co-funded by the  
European Union

**Autonomy...**

**...AND cooperation**

(key for sustainable resource management and use – also stability, LPF)

but a **negotiation** with a third country



ARTICLE 508

Specialised Committee on Fisheries

- 1. The Specialised Committee on Fisheries may in particular:
  - (a) provide a forum for discussion and cooperation in relation to sustainable fisheries management;
  - (b) consider the development of multi-year strategies for conservation and management as the basis for the setting of TACs and other management measures;
  - (c) develop multi-year strategies for the conservation and management of non-quota stocks as referred to in point (b) of Article 500(2);
  - (d) consider measures for fisheries management and conservation, including emergency measures and measures to ensure selectivity of fishing;
  - (e) consider approaches to the collection of data for science and fisheries management purposes, the sharing of such data (including information relevant to monitoring, controlling and enforcing compliance), and the consultation of scientific bodies regarding the best available scientific advice;

# SCF and TCA – December 2020



Co-funded by the European Union

## 15. Specialised Committee on Fisheries (SCF)

The Delegations identified the following issues to be discussed in the SCF:

- i. Skates and rays, paragraph 5(e)
- ii. Terms of reference for Celtic sea mixed fishery advice, paragraph 5(f)(v)
- iii. Deep sea stocks, paragraphs 5(g), 5(g)(i) and 5(g)(ii)
- iv. Stocks with no ICES advice, paragraph 5(h)
- v. Geographic flexibility, paragraph 6(b)

10

1<sup>st</sup> Written Record, June 2021

- vi. Picked Dogfish (spurdog), paragraph 6(c)
- vii. Footnotes, paragraph 6(d)
- viii. Prohibited species, paragraph 10(c)
- ix. Management of discards, landing obligation and TAC deductions, paragraph 11(b)
- x. Technical measures, paragraphs 12(b) to (d)
- xi. Multi-year strategies for non-quota stocks - paragraph 13(c) and (d)
- xii. Later exchanges of data on non-quota stocks, paragraph 13(e)
- xiii. Seabass monitoring, management and assessment, paragraphs 13(g) and (h)





# Prospect - Headlines

- North Sea under international management;
- Continued interest in convergence, level playing field (2021, no guarantees for the future);
- Many of topics for discussion, cooperation, decisions, recommendations;
- COM negotiates ('formal' Council mandate) – consistent with EU management regime;
- Negotiated outcomes – compromises;
- Outcomes (“timely”) implemented in EU – (e.g. TAC Council);
- Regionalization (MS groups) in different perspectives;
- Autonomous measures: notification/commenting procedure





# Challenges for NSAC - stakeholders

- Adapt to the EU-UK agenda
- Prioritize in light of resources
- Outcomes are negotiated - compromises
- Reconsider the 'addressees' of advice
- Adjust to rhythm of negotiations – reconsider advice modalities
- Join efforts with other ACs
- Keep UK in view
- UK stakeholders

