

Scheveningen Group Presidency  
Danish Ministry for Food and Agriculture  
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Zoetermeer, 13 March 2022

### **NSAC Advice Ref. 03-2223**

## **NSAC Advice on the Scheveningen Group JR amending the Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/2024 on the implementation of the landing obligation for certain fisheries in the North Sea for the period 2021-2023**

*This paper was approved with consensus by the NSAC Executive Committee on 13 March 2023 via fast-track written procedure.*

On 9 March 2023, the Scheveningen Group of the North Sea Member States approached the North Sea Advisory Council (NSAC) with a request to provide comments to the Joint Recommendation (JR) on amendments to the Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/2024 on the implementation of the landing obligation for certain fisheries in the North Sea for the period 2021-2023. In simple terms, the JR contains provisions for simplification of the plaice exemption to allow for scientific research. The item had been previously discussed at the Scheveningen Technical Group and enjoys support of the NSAC fisheries.

The deadline for provision of comments was significantly limited as the NSAC was asked to provide comments by 10 March by 12.00 CET. As this did not correspond to the NSAC internal procedures even when the minimum consultation period is applied, the NSAC agreed to inform the Scheveningen group that it shall provide comments applying the minimum consultation period of 48 hrs, therefore by 13 March 2023 at 16.30 CET.

This advice serves the purpose of confirming that no additional comments were received during the consultation period and that the NSAC fully supports the proposed amendment.

The NSAC appreciates the significant time pressure exerted on the work of the Scheveningen Group, and we thank the Group for advancing important fisheries and conservation files with full participation of the relevant stakeholders. However it remains of utmost importance that the NSAC internal procedures are respected in order to exercise appropriate stakeholder engagement in any legislative files in the future. We therefore kindly request the Scheveningen Group to apply appropriate planning of its activities so that unreasonably short deadlines are avoided. We would also like to highlight that we remain at your disposal regarding the upcoming files and look forward to continuous fruitful cooperation.