

Agreed Record of conclusions of coastal States' consultations on capelin

in the East Greenland – Iceland – Jan Mayen area

Virtual meeting 18 June 2020

1. A Norwegian delegation headed by Ann-Kristin Westberg, a Greenlandic delegation headed by Emanuel Rosing and an Icelandic delegation headed by Jóhann Guðmundsson met virtually 18 June 2020 to consult on the management of the capelin stock in the East Greenland – Iceland – Jan Mayen area.
2. The agenda and list of participants are enclosed as Annex 1.
3. The Delegations recalled the Framework Arrangement between Greenland/Denmark, Iceland and Norway on the Conservation and Management of Capelin, signed in London 21 June 2018.
4. The Heads of Delegations agreed to recommend to their respective authorities the arrangements set out in this agreed record.

Capelin surveys in autumn and winter 2019/2020

5. The autumn and winter surveys were presented by Iceland leading to the corresponding advice despite enormous survey effort.

ICES advice

6. ICES advice for capelin (dated 29 November 2019) was presented by Iceland. The Delegations noted that ICES advises that the initial TAC for the fishing season July 2020 to March 2021 should be no more than 169 520 tonnes.

Establishment of initial Total Allowable Catch (TAC)

7. In accordance with article 4-6 in the Framework Arrangement of 2018, the Delegations agreed to establish an initial quota of 169 520 tonnes for the fishing season that starts 20 June 2020 and ends 15 April 2021.
8. The delegations noted that the TAC shall be determined in three stages, and that this initial TAC will be replaced by an intermediate TAC, which again will be replaced by a final TAC in the winter 2021, if appropriate.
9. In accordance with the sharing arrangement set out in paragraph 7 in the Framework Agreement, the delegations agreed to the following arrangement on the quota shares for the initial TAC;

Iceland: 135 616 tonnes (80 pct).

Greenland: 25 428 tonnes (15 pct).

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Norway: 8 476 tonnes (5 pct).

10. Greenland informed the other Delegations that they will notify the Parties if a summer or autumn fishery will take place in Greenlandic waters this year. This notification will also include an overview of terms and conditions for this fishery.
11. Iceland stated that, given the prevalence of poor year classes over the past years as well as the very high uncertainty in the most recent juvenile abundance estimate, it is important to exercise caution in harvesting the resource in the current fishing season.
12. Iceland considers that conducting a summer fishery for capelin would undermine the productivity of the stock. Iceland reaffirmed their previously stated position that a summer fishery should not be conducted. Iceland will reserve the right to take measures for protection of juveniles inside its EEZ, including extensive area closures as advised by the MFRI. Iceland urges all parties concerned to implement corresponding measures for the protection of juvenile capelin.


Time and place for the next meeting

13. Due to the situation with Covid-19 the agenda for this meeting was reduced to only cover ICES advice and fixing of the initial TAC and corresponding quotas. The Delegations agreed to return to the remaining agenda items during the fall.
14. The Parties agreed to have further consultations regarding a physical meeting before the end of September. Norway will host this meeting.

For the Norwegian Party


Ann Kristin Westberg

For the Icelandic Party


Jóhann Guðmundsson

For the Greenlandic Party


Emanuel Rosing

ANNEX I

AGENDA

1. Opening of the meeting
2. Adoption of the agenda
3. ICES advice
 - o Capelin survey winter 2020
4. Management measures
 - o Request from Greenland regarding initial quota for the summer fishery
5. Any other business
6. Agreed record

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List of Participants

Greenland:

Emanuel Rosing, Ministry of Fisheries, Hunting and Agriculture (HoD)
Katrine Kærgaard, Ministry of Fisheries, Hunting and Agriculture
Anders Bjørn Larsen, Ministry of Fisheries, Hunting and Agriculture

Iceland:

Jóhann Guðmundsson, Ministry of Industries and Innovation (HoD)
Þorsteinn Sigurðsson, Ministry of Industries and Innovation
Kristján Freyr Helgason, Ministry of Industries and Innovation
Birkir Bárðarson, Marine and Freshwater Research Institute
Kristján Þórarinnsson, Fisheries Iceland
Ingimundur Ingimundarson, Fisheries Iceland.

Norway:

Ann Kristin Westberg, Ministry of Trade, Industry and Fisheries (HoD)
Lena Brungot, Ministry of Trade, Industry and Fisheries
Inger-Anne Arvesen, Directorate of Fisheries
Georg Skaret, Institute of Marine Research
Bjarte Bogstad, Institute of Marine Research
Audun Maråk, Fishermen Association
Ola Christian Olsen, Pelagic Association

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