

<p style="text-align: center;">Recovery plans for fish stocks threatened with collapse Information Sheet No 4: Control Version of 9 October 2001</p>

Measures affecting fishing vessels and operations

From 2003 and until the end of the recovery programme, each Member State shall establish and keep updated a nominative list of their vessels engaged in fisheries which have a significant impact on cod and/or hake. The list will include vessels permitted to use specified types of fishing gears of specified mesh sizes in specified geographical areas and whose fishing effort will be subject to restriction. (See Information Sheet No 2 on Fishing Effort for indication of the manner in which reduction of fishing effort may be effected). This list is necessary for control of a system intended to reduce fishing effort.

Vessels which are not included in such a list shall be subject to restriction on quantities of cod and /or hake which they are allowed to land. They may also be subject to restriction on fishing effort but to a lesser extent than those vessels included in the list.

In order to allow the monitoring of movements of vessels covered by the recovery plans, the Commission will propose the extension of VMS requirements by 1 January 2003 to all vessels required to keep a logbook (>10 m overall) and engaging in fisheries by which cod and /or hake are caught.

The Commission will also propose the following:

1. in the case of access to the hake “boxes”, obligation of hailing for all vessels not covered by VMS;
2. obligation of prior notification of landing for vessels landing more than 250 Kg of cod or hake, including the quantities of the species on board;
3. obligation to land in a designated port at designated landing times for vessels landing more than 500 Kg of cod or hake;
4. prohibition to retain on board hake or cod mixed or in association with any other species of marine organisms (at the same time master shall provide the necessary assistance to inspectors for verification purposes);
5. compulsory weighing of hake or cod landed, before transport;
6. quantities of hake or cod which are transported to be accompanied by a copy of the landing declaration;
7. fishing gear to be marked at all times with a label attached to each piece of gear specifying at least the letter or letters and number or numbers of the fishing vessel to which it belongs.

Collection of information

1. In certain fisheries taking cod or hake in association with other species, scientific observers may be required to be taken on board for the duration of a number of trips for fleets enjoying any type of derogation. These observers shall be responsible for estimating the quantity of fish which is discarded and recording the mesh size used.
2. Member States will be required to sample a certain number of landings from trips in which no observers have been placed for fleets enjoying any type of derogation.

Administrative co-operation in enforcement

1. The Commission will propose a derogation to the maximum duration of Specific Monitoring Programmes for cod and hake fisheries, currently fixed at two years. The duration of the specific monitoring programme should cover the whole period of duration of recovery plans.
2. Member States will be required to facilitate close administrative co-operation for the purpose of monitoring and control of the recovery plans (or example, short-term exchanges of inspectors between national inspectorates and the conduct of joint inspections, including inspectors from one or more Member States).