



LDRAC RECOMMENDATION ACCOMPANYING A NOTE ON HOW THE QUOTA OF THE CAPELIN IN EAST GREENLAND, JAN MAYEN AND ICELAND IS DECIDED

Status: adopted by the Executive Committee

Reference: R-05-12/WG2

This paper has been presented in the framework of the LDRAC and explains the advisory process that in the end leads to the setting of catch opportunities on the capelin stock around Iceland – including in Greenland waters.

It seems clear that this process is far from ideal in terms of transparency and sharing of influence between the Coastal States.

With the EU – through its fisheries agreement with Greenland – having a vested interest in the management of this stock, the LDRAC recommends that the Commission influences the process to become an open and transparent one.

This influence could be executed through the annual bilateral consultations with Greenland and Norway.

It is also necessary to underline the following: The situation of the capelin in Autumn is used to allocate the quota for the Summer, however this year 2011, there was a strike in the month of October, and in November due to the ice, there is no data available, this is the reason why the prevision for 2012 is much lower than it should be, with the consequence that a summer fishing ban to protect juveniles. Given that the other countries can also fish in their areas, the only great loser is the EU, so the LDRAC asks to the EC to take into the account this issue and look for the ways to solve this discriminatory situation in the next years.

Brussels 29th November 2012