



Tuesday 26th June 2012

NORTH EAST ATLANTIC MACKEREL FISHERIES – ACCEPTANCE OF MACKEREL INDUSTRY NORTHERN SUSTAINABILITY ALLIANCE (MINSa) CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN

To whom it may concern

The existing situation surrounding the North East Atlantic Mackerel Fisheries has been documented in recent surveillance audit reports. In summary, the inability of all states targeting North East Atlantic Mackerel to agree on quota allocations within the TAC compromises the management system such that the MSC standard is not fully met.

The relevant CABs (Det Norske Veritas (DNV), Intertek Moody Marine (IMM) and Food Certification International (FCI)) have together reviewed the Final Corrective Action Plan put forward by the Mackerel Industry Northern Sustainability Alliance (MINSa) (10.05.12) in response to the harmonised condition of certification. The CABs consider that the proposed Corrective Action Plan represents a significant commitment by MINSa to achieve the required outcome through the main mechanisms available to them.

However, it must be remembered that while the MINSa Action Plan is acceptable, the withdrawal of the current suspension is ultimately dependent upon achievement of the outcome specified by the harmonised condition. This outcome will be evidenced by the sum of the catch allocations to all relevant fishing nations being equal to or less than the agreed TAC, and the TAC being in line with the harvest control rule and scientific advice.

We note that MINSa propose a binding timeframe to affect their Client Action Plan, to be completed by 20th January 2014.

In the context of all of the above, we accept the Corrective Action Plan proposed by MINSa. All member fisheries covered by this suspension (listed below) are now instructed to implement this Corrective Action Plan.

DNV, IMM and FCI request in addition that any relevant progress made against the conditions as a result of the MINSa corrective action plan should be communicated to the relevant CAB representatives as soon as they are confirmed. This will allow the respective CABs to keep up to date with progress against the corrective actions proposed in order to maximise the effectiveness of the ultimate verification of conditions met and corrective actions implemented.

Suspension of affected fishery certificates will not be lifted until each respective CAB has verified by expedited audit that all stated goals of the corrective action





plan have been fully met and the harmonised condition of certification addressed in full.

Affected fisheries:

- Scottish Pelagic Sustainability Group Ltd western component of north east Atlantic mackerel
- Irish Pelagic Sustainability Group (IPSG) western mackerel pelagic trawl
- Irish Pelagic Sustainability Association (IPSA) Western mackerel
- North East Atlantic mackerel pelagic trawl, purse-seine and handline
- Pelagic Freezer-Trawler Association North East Atlantic mackerel pelagic trawl
- Danish Pelagic Producers Organisation North East Atlantic mackerel
- SPPO North East Atlantic mackerel

Please find below signatures from representatives of all relevant CABs.

Chaudhury, Sandhya
For Det Norske Veritas

Combes, Jason
For Intertek Moody Marine

Gill, Martin
For Food Certification International Ltd