Council Regulation (EU) 2019/1919 of 8 November 2019 on the allocation of the fishing opportunities under the Protocol setting out the fishing opportunities and financial contribution provided for in the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the European Community and the Islamic Republic of Mauritania

COUNCIL REGULATION (EU) 2019/1919

of 8 November 2019

on the allocation of the fishing opportunities under the Protocol setting out the fishing opportunities and financial contribution provided for in the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the European Community and the Islamic Republic of Mauritania

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Article 43(3) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

Whereas:

(1) The Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the European Community and the Islamic Republic of Mauritania[(1)] ('the Agreement'), approved by Council Regulation (EC) No 1801/2006[(2)], entered into force on 8 August 2008.

(2) The Protocol to the Agreement, setting out the fishing opportunities and financial contribution, which entered into force on the same day for a period of two years, has been replaced several times.

(3) The Protocol to the Agreement that is currently in force[(3)] ('the Protocol') will expire on 15 November 2019.

(4) On 8 July 2019, the Council authorised the Commission to open negotiations with the Islamic Republic of Mauritania for the conclusion of a new Sustainable Fisheries Partnership Agreement and Protocol implementing that Agreement.

(5) Pending completion of those negotiations, the Commission negotiated, on behalf of the Union, an Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters on an extension, for a maximum period of one year, to the Protocol ('Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters'). Following those negotiations, the Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters was initialled on 4 September 2019.

(6) In accordance with Council Decision (EU) 2019/[1918][(4)], the Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters was signed on 13 November 2019.

(7) The method for allocating the fishing opportunities among the Member States should be defined for the period of application of the Protocol extension.

(8) Article 47(2) of Regulation (EU) 2017/2403 of the European Parliament and of the Council[(5)] provides that the Commission will inform the Member States concerned if it

Changes to legislation: *There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Council Regulation (EU) 2019/1919. (See end of Document for details)*

transpires that the fishing opportunities allocated to the Union under the Protocol have not been fully used and it will ask them to confirm that they are not making use of this fishing opportunity. If no reply is received within a time limit to be set by the Council, this will be considered as confirmation that the vessels of the Member State concerned are not making full use of their fishing opportunities during the given period. This time limit should be set.

(9) This Regulation should apply from the date of the provisional application of the Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

Fishing opportunities

1 The fishing opportunities established under the Protocol setting out the fishing opportunities and financial contribution provided for in the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the European Community and the Islamic Republic of Mauritania for the period of application of the extension of the Protocol shall be allocated among the Member States as follows:

a category 1 – Vessels fishing for crustaceans other than spiny lobster and crab:

Spain	4 150 tonnes
Italy	600 tonnes
Portugal	250 tonnes

Within this category, a maximum of 25 vessels may be deployed in Mauritanian waters at any one time;

b category 2 – Black hake (non-freezer) trawlers and bottom longliners:

Spain	6 000 tonnes

Within this category, a maximum of six vessels may be deployed in Mauritanian waters at any one time;

c category 3 – Vessels fishing for demersal species other than black hake with gear other than trawls:

Spain	3 000 tonnes

Within this category, a maximum of six vessels may be deployed in Mauritanian waters at any one time;

d category 4 – Tuna seiners (12 500 tonnes – reference tonnage):

Spain	17 annual licences
France	8 annual licences

e category 5 – Pole-and-line tuna vessels and surface longliners (7 500 tonnes – reference tonnage):

Spain	14 annual licences
France	1 annual licence

f category 6 – Pelagic freezer trawlers:

Germany	12 560 tonnes
France	2 615 tonnes
Latvia	53 913 tonnes
Lithuania	57 642 tonnes
Netherlands	62 592 tonnes
Poland	26 112 tonnes
United Kingdom	8 531 tonnes
Ireland	8 535 tonnes

During the period of application of the extension of the Protocol, the following number of quarterly licences shall be held by Member States:

Germany	4
France	2
Latvia	20
Lithuania	22
Netherlands	16
Poland	8
United Kingdom	2
Ireland	2

Member States shall inform the Commission if certain licences may be placed at the disposal of other Member States.

Within this category, a maximum of 19 vessels may be deployed in Mauritanian waters at any one time;

g category 7 – Non-freezer pelagic vessels:

Ireland	15 000 tonnes

If not used, these fishing opportunities shall be transferred to category 6 according to the method of allocation of that category;

h category 2a – Black hake (freezer) trawlers:

Spain: