Council Regulation (EU) 2017/719 of 7 April 2017 amending Regulation (EU) 2015/2192 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 for a period of four years

COUNCIL REGULATION (EU) 2017/719

of 7 April 2017

amending Regulation (EU) 2015/2192 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 for a period of four years

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) On 30 November 2006, the Council adopted Regulation (EC) No 1801/2006 on the conclusion of the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the European Community and the Islamic Republic of Mauritania[(1)] ('the Partnership Agreement').

(2) On 24 May 2016, the Council adopted Decision (EU) 2016/870[(2)] on the conclusion of the Protocol setting out the fishing opportunities and financial contribution provided for in the Partnership Agreement for a period of four years from 16 November 2015 ('the Protocol').

(3) Council Regulation (EU) 2015/2192[(3)] allocates among the Member States the fishing opportunities fixed under the Protocol.

(4) Scientific advice by the Independent Joint Scientific Committee established under Article 4 of the Protocol identified a surplus of black hake and took note of the 2014 scientific advice of the IMROP (Institut Mauritanien de Recherches Océanographiques et des Pêches) confirming a surplus of squid and cuttlefish.

(5) In accordance with Article 6(1)(a) of the Protocol, the Joint Committee established under Article 10 of the Partnership Agreement decided, at its meeting in Nouakchott on 15 and 16 November 2016, to modify the Protocol by introducing new fishing opportunities, within the available surplus, for freezer trawlers targeting black hake as a primary species and squid and cuttlefish as secondary species.

(6) It is appropriate to allocate these new fishing opportunities among the Member States for the remainder of the period of application of the Protocol.

Changes to legislation: *There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Council Regulation (EU) 2017/719. (See end of Document for details)*

(7) Since the introduction of new fishing opportunities has an impact on Union vessels' economic activities and planning of their fishing seasons, this Regulation should enter into force immediately after its publication.

(8) Regulation (EU) 2015/2192 should be modified accordingly,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

In Article 1(1) of Regulation (EU) 2015/2192, the following point is added:

(h) Category 2a — Black hake (freezer) trawlers:

Spain:	Black hake	3 500 tonnes
	Squid	1 450 tonnes
	Cuttlefish	600 tonnes

Within this category, a maximum of 6 vessels may be deployed in Mauritanian waters at any one time..

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on the day following that of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Brussels, 7 April 2017.

For the Council

The President

L. GRECH