Commission Regulation (EU) 2016/2139 of 2 December 2016 establishing a prohibition of fishing for skates and rays including Cuckoo ray, thornback ray, blonde ray, spotted ray, small-eyed ray and undulate ray in Union waters of VIId and relevant special conditions in Union waters of VIa, VIb, VIIa-c and VIIe-k by vessels flying the flag of Belgium

COMMISSION REGULATION (EU) 2016/2139

of 2 December 2016

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THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009 of 20 November 2009 establishing a Community control system for ensuring compliance with the rules of the common fisheries policy[(1)], and in particular Article 36(2) thereof,

Whereas:

(1) Council Regulation (EU) 2016/72[(2)], lays down quotas for 2016.

(2) According to the information received by the Commission, catches of the stock referred to in the Annex to this Regulation by vessels flying the flag of or registered in the Member State referred to therein have exhausted the quota allocated for 2016.

(3) It is therefore necessary to prohibit fishing activities for that stock,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

Quota exhaustion

The fishing quota allocated to the Member State referred to in the Annex to this Regulation for the stock referred to therein for 2016 shall be deemed to be exhausted from the date set out in that Annex.

Article 2

Prohibitions

Fishing activities for the stock referred to in the Annex to this Regulation by vessels flying the flag of or registered in the Member State referred to therein shall be prohibited from the date set out in that Annex. In particular it shall be prohibited to retain on board, relocate, tranship or land fish from that stock caught by those vessels after that date.

Changes to legislation: *There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Commission Regulation (EU) 2016/2139. (See end of Document for details)*

Article 3

Entry into force

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, 2 December 2016.

For the Commission,

On behalf of the President,

João AGUIAR MACHADO

Director-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries