1980 No. 455

FISHERIES

Sea Fish (Minimum Size) Order (Northern Ireland) 1980

Made . . . . . *19th December 1980*

Coming into operation . . . *2nd January 1981*

The Department(**a**) of Agriculture in exercise of the powers conferred on it by section 127 of the Fisheries Act (Northern Ireland) 1966(**b**) and of every other power enabling it in that behalf, hereby makes the following Order:

Citation and commencement

1. This Order may be cited as the Sea Fish (Minimum Size) Order (Northern Ireland) 1980 and shall come into operation on 2nd January 1981.

Interpretation

2. In this Order—

"the Council Regulation" means Council Regulation (EEC) No. 2527/80 laying down technical measures for the conservation of fishery resources(**c**), as extended(**d**);

"sea fish" does not include salmon;

"size" means—

(*a*) in relation to any sea fish, other than escallops and lobsters, the size measured in accordance with the procedure prescribed by Article 11(4) of the Council Regulation.

(*b*) in relation to any escallop the size calculated by measuring in a straight line across its greatest length, and

(*c*) in relation to any lobster the size calculated by measuring from the rear of either eye socket to the rear end of the carapace along a line parallel to the centre line thereof.

Prescribed minimum sizes

3. For the purposes of sections 127(1) and 127(4) of the Fisheries Act (Northern Ireland) 1966 (which prohibit in Northern Ireland the landing, sale, offering or exposure for sale, or the possession for the purpose of sale, and in certain cases the retention on board any fishing boat in waters adjacent to Northern Ireland, of any sea fish of any description being a fish of a smaller size than such size as may be prescribed in relation to sea fish of that description) there are hereby prescribed—

(*a*) for any description of sea fish referred to in Annex V of the Council Regulation and taken in the regions identified as region 1, 2 or 3 in Article 1 of that Regulation, the size specified in that Annex in relation to sea fish of that description for that region;

(*b*) for any description of sea fish other than mackerel referred to in Annex VI of the Council Regulation and taken in the regions identified as region 1, 2 or 3 in Article 1 of that Regulation, the size specified in that Annex in relation to sea fish of that description for that region in relation to the appropriate period therein specified;

(**a**) Formerly Ministry: *see* 1973 c. 36 s. 40 and Sch. 5 para. 8(1)
(**b**) 1966 c. 17 (N.I.)
(**c**) O.J. No. L258, 1.10.80, p. 1
(**d**) By a Decision of the Council made at its meeting on 17.12.80