COUNCIL REGULATION (EC) No 671/2003

of 10 April 2003

amending Regulation (EC) No 2341/2002 fixing for 2003 the fishing opportunities and associated conditions for certain fish stocks and groups of fish stocks, applicable in Community waters and, for Community vessels, in waters where catch limitations are required

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 2371/2002 of 20 December 2002 on the conservation and sustainable exploitation of fisheries resources under the Common Fisheries Policy [1], and in particular Article 20(1) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission,

Whereas:

(1) Annex XVII of Regulation (EC) No 2341/2002 [2] lays down a temporary scheme of effort management applicable to all fisheries likely to catch cod in the North Sea and the West of Scotland.

(2) The implementation of that Annex XVII has shown that certain of its provisions need to be either clarified or made more flexible, in order to improve its applicability and effectiveness.

(3) It is necessary to ensure that any change to the scheme does not result in a lesser conservation value for the measures in question.

(4) These measures should be adopted urgently in order to ensure the effectiveness of the system. For this reason it is imperative to grant an exception to the six-week period mentioned in paragraph I(3) of the Protocol on the role of national parliaments in the European Union, annexed to the Treaty on European Union and to the Treaties establishing the European Communities.

(5) Regulation (EC) No 2341/2002 should therefore be amended accordingly,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

Annex XVII to Regulation (EC) No 2341/2002 shall be replaced by the text in the Annex to this Regulation.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on the first 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, 10 April 2003.

For the Council

The President

G. PAPANDREOU

[1] OJ L 358, 31.12.2002, p. 59.
[2] OJ L 356, 31.12.2002, p. 12.

ANNEX

'ANNEX XVII

FISHING EFFORT AND ADDITIONAL CONDITIONS FOR MONITORING, INSPECTION AND SURVEILLANCE IN THE CONTEXT OF RECOVERY OF CERTAIN COD STOCKS

FISHING EFFORT

1. From 1 February 2003 to 31 December 2003, the conditions laid down in this Annex shall apply to Community fishing vessels of length overall equal to or greater than 10 metres.

2. For the purposes of this Annex, the following definitions of geographical areas shall apply:

   (a) that part of ICES Division IIIa bounded on the north by a line drawn from the Skagen lighthouse to the Tistlarna lighthouse and from this point to the nearest point on the Swedish coast and on the south by a line drawn from Hasenøre to Gnibens Spids, from Korshage to Spodsbjerg and from Gilbjerg Hoved to Kullen;

   (b) that part of Division IIIa not covered by the area specified in subparagraph (a) and ICES Sub-area IV excluding the following ICES statistical rectangles:

   52E6, 52E7, 52E8, 52E9, 52F0, 52F1, 52F2, 52F3, 52F4

   51E6, 51E7, 51E8, 51E9, 51F0, 51F1, 51F2, 51F3, 51F4

   50E6, 50E7 ([1]), 50E8 ([1]), 50F2 ([2]), 50F3, 50F4

   49E6 ([1]), 49E7 ([1]), 49F3, 49F4

   48F3, 48F4

   47F3 ([2]), 47F4, 47F5

   46F3 ([3]), 46F4, 46F5

   45F3 ([4]), 45F4 ([5]), 45F5, 45F6

   44F4 ([5]), 44F5 ([5]), 44F6;

   (c) ICES Division VIa excluding that part which lies to the west of a line drawn by sequentially joining with straight lines the following geographical coordinates:

   60°00'N, 04°00'W

   59°45'N, 05°00'W

   59°30'N, 06°00'W

   59°00'N, 07°00'W

   58°30'N, 08°00'W

   58°00'N, 08°00'W

   58°00'N, 08°30'W

   56°00'N, 08°30'W

   56°00'N, 09°00'W

   55°00'N, 09°00'W

   55°00'N, 10°00'W

   54°30'N, 10°00'W.

3. For the purposes of this Annex a day absent from port shall be:

   (a) the 24-hour period between 00.00 hours of a calendar day and 24.00 hours of the same calendar day or any part of such a time period; or

   (b) any continuous period of 24 hours from the time of departure from port or any part of any such time period.

   A Member State which wishes to employ the definition of a day absent from port laid down under (b) shall notify the Commission of the means of ensuring compliance with these conditions.

([1]) North of a straight line drawn between 60°00'N, 04°03'W and 61°00'N, 01°43'W.
([2]) North of a straight line drawn between 61°00'N, 02°00'E and 60°30'N, 03°00'E.
([3]) East of a straight line drawn between 59°30'N, 03°00'E and 59°00'N, 03°30'E.
([4]) East of 03°30'E.
([5]) North of a straight line drawn between 58°30'N, 03°30'E and 57°30'N, 05°30'E.