EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR MARITIME AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES

ATLANTIC, OUTERMOST REGIONS AND ARCTIC

Brussels,
MARE.C/BF

FAX

To: National Correspondents of EU Member States	**Telephone:**
	Fax:

CC: Permanent Representations for Fisheries of:

**Belgium,
Denmark,
France,
Germany,
Ireland,
Netherlands,
Portugal,
Spain and
United Kingdom.**

From:	Bernhard FRIESS MARE.C J-79	**Telephone:**	+32 229-22956038
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Number of pages:

Subject: Landings of Seabass from the Celtic Sea, Irish Sea, Channel and North Sea.

Dear Sir/ Madam

Following discussions on the long term management of seabass (Dicentrarchus labrax) the Commission and Member States agreed that a reduction in fishing mortality was required for the stock in the Celtic Sea, Irish Sea, Channel and North Sea. The specific mechanism to achieve this has not yet been agreed.

Three key sources of fishing mortality have been identified by STECF; targeted fishing, by-catches and recreational fishing. To provide appropriate protection a coherent management response should consider the options to provide protection for spawning and/or migratory aggregations, the protection of nursery areas and local adult populations.

While no conservation targets are yet agreed it is apparent that both short and long term actions are needed. Longer term actions should be developed within the framework of a

multiannual plan and take into account full social and economic impacts; short term actions must be urgently developed and from the Commissions perspective should initially seek to protect the spawning aggregations in 2015.

While no final decision has yet been made on how to provide short term protection for seabass additional information on catches and fishing area by sub-rectangle is urgently needed to assist the development of options and conservation responses.

To help develop conservation options Member States are therefore requested to provide, no later than one month after receipt of this request, data on the catches and fishing activity relating to fleets catching seabass in ICES areas VIIa, VIId-h and VIa. Detail of the data requested and format can be found in the attached annex.

A secure data server will shortly be made available for uploading of data. Full details of the access for each Member State will be provided to the National Correspondents. Data should be provided in Excel format, preferably zipped and encrypted passwords are to be provided to Robert Griffin on +32 22956070, email Robert.griffin@ec.europa.eu.

Bernhard FRIESS
Director

Annex 1

Format adapted from the latest fleet specific fishing effort and catch data call issued by the European Commission, DG Mare.

B. Effort and Catch data by gear and by ICES sub-rectangle for seabass from 2009-2012, aggregated by vessel and trip

All missing values (empty data cells) must be indicated by a -1.

1. ID (this is a unique identifier; e.g. the combination of vessel, country, year, quarter, gear, mesh size range, fishery or metier, and area; this is free text with a maximum of 40 characters without space)
2. COUNTRY (this should be given according to the code list provided in Appendix 1)
3. YEAR (this should be given in four digits)
4. QUARTER (this should be given as one digit)
5. VESSEL_LENGTH (vessel length should be given according to the code list provided in Appendix 2)
6. GEAR (this identifies gear, and should be given according to the code list provided in Appendix 3, which follows largely the EU data regulation 1639/2001)
7. MESH_SIZE_RANGE (the mesh size range should be given according to the code list provided in Appendix 4, which follows largely the Council regulation 850/98)
8. FISHERY (species complex and gear) or métier (species complex, gear and vessel characteristics) (this is free text with a maximum of 40 characters without space; this specification may include e.g. target species, roundfish area or quarter)
9. SPECIES (the species should be given according to the code list provided in Appendix 6, which follows the Council Regulation EC 2287/2003)
10. LANDINGS (estimated landings of each species in kilogrammes should be given; if age based information is present, this quantity should correspond to the sum of products)
11. AREA (the ICES division as sub-area should be given according to the code list provided in Appendix 5)
12. RECTANGLE (text, 4 letters like 44F6)
13. FISHING_ACTIVITY (the nominal fishing activity should be given in days at sea – or days absent from port; if nominal fishing activity is not available, "-1" should be given).
14. VALUE_TOTAL (Value of catch per trip, euros.)
15. VALUE_BSS (Value of seabass catch per trip, euros)

Appendix 1

Country coding

COUNTRY	CODE
Belgium	BEL
Denmark	DEN
Estonia	EST
Finland	FIN
France	FRA
Germany	GER
Ireland	IRL
Latvia	LAT
Lithuania	LIT
Netherlands	NED
Poland	POL
Portugal (mainland)	POR
Portugal (Azores)	PTA
Portugal (Madeira)	PTM
Spain (mainland)	SPN
Spain (Canaries islands)	SPC
Sweden	SWE
United Kingdom (Jersey)	GBJ
United Kingdom (Guernsey)	GBG
United Kingdom (Alderny/Sark/Herm)	GBC
United Kingdom (England and Wales)	ENG
United Kingdom (Isle of Man)	IOM
United Kingdom (Northern Ireland)	NIR
United Kingdom (Scotland)	SCO

Appendix 2

Vessel length coding

According to the Data Collection Framework, Member States should be able to provide data characterising fisheries located in the Baltic Sea, the North Sea and the Western Waters and covering the year 2012 on the basis of the following segmentation of the fleet:

- Length over all shorter than 10 m.

- Length over all of 10 m. to shorter than 12 m.

- Length over all of 12 m. to shorter than 18 m.

- Length over all of 18 m. to shorter than 24 m.

- Length over all of 24 m. to shorter than 40 m

- Length over all of 40 m. or longer

However, to ensure consistency with the 2000-2011 or 2003-2011 time series already submitted in previous years and to ensure compliance with provisions adopted in legal texts supporting fishing effort regimes in the Baltic Sea, North Sea and Western Waters, Member States are requested to submit data according to the following segmentation:

Fishing efforts regimes of the Kattegat, Skagerrak, North Sea and the Western Waters

Vessel length over all classes	Code
Length over all shorter than 10 m.	u10m
Length over all of 10 m. to shorter than 15 m.	o10t15m
Length over all of 15 m. and over	o15m

Fishing efforts regimes of the Baltic Sea

Vessel length over all classes	Code
Length over all shorter than 8 m.	u8m
Length over all of 8 m. to shorter than 10 m.	o8t10m
Length over all of 10 m. to shorter than 12 m.	o10t12m
Length over all of 12 m. to shorter than 18 m.	o12t18m
Length over all of 18 m. to shorter than 24 m.	o18t24m
Length over all of 24 m. to shorter than 40 m	o24t40m
Length over all of 40 m. or longer	o40m

Appendix 3

Gear coding

TYPES OF FISHING TECHNIQUES			Gear code to be used when answering the data call	Gear code specified for métiers in App. IV of 2010//93/EU
Mobile gears	Beam trawls		BEAM	TBB
	Bottom trawls & demersal seines	Bottom otter trawls, Multi-rig otter trawls or Bottom pair trawls	OTTER	OTB, OTT, PTB
		Fly shooting seines, Anchored seines or Pair seines	DEM_SEINE	SSC, SDN, SPR
	Pelagic trawls & pelagic Seines	Midwater otter trawls or Midwater pair trawls	PEL_TRAWL	OTM, PTM
		Purse seines, Fly shooting seines or Anchored seines	PEL_SEINE	PS
	Dredges		DREDGE	DRB, HMD
Passive gears	Drifting longlines or Set longlines		LONGLINE	LHP, LHM, LTL, LLD, LLS
	Driftnets or Set gillnets (*except Trammel Nets*)		GILL	GNS, GND
	Trammel Nets		TRAMMEL	GTR
	Pots & traps		POTS	FPO

Appendix 4

Mesh size coding

Mesh sizes (and selective devices) to be taken into account when evaluating catches and effort made in relation to metiers described in Appendix IV of the Commission Decision update decision no should be as follows:

- in relation to R(EC) No 88/98 and R(EC) No 2187/2005 for metiers observed in the Baltic Sea;
- in relation to R(EEC) No 1888/85, R(EEC) No 1638/87, R(EC) No 850/98, R(EC) No 2056/2001, R(EC) No 494/2002 for metiers observed in the North Sea and Western Atlantic;
- in relation to R(EC) No 850/98, R(EC) No 2549/2000, R(EC) No 2056/2001, R(EC) No 494/2002, R(EC) No 1386/2007 for metiers observed in the Northern Atlantic.

Nevertheless, to ease the process of submission of data linked to the current call, the Commission would suggest following the mesh size ranges specified in the table below:

Gear type	Mesh size range
Mobile gears	<16
	16-31
	32-54
	55-69
	70-79
	80-89
	90-99
	100-119
	>=105[1]
	>=120
Passive gears	10-30
	31-49
	50-59
	60-69
	70-79
	80-89
	90-99
	100-109
	110-149
	110-156[2]
	150-219
	157-219[2]
	>=220
	-1[3]

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[1] To be used for mobile gears in the context the fishing effort management scheme applied in the Baltic Sea

[2] To be used for passive gears in the context the fishing effort management scheme applied in the Baltic Sea

[3] To be used only with longlines.

Appendix 5

Area coding by WG, ICES statistical areas.

North Sea, Skagerrak, Kattegat and Eastern Channel

ICES statistical areas	*Codes in bold to be used in relation to the compulsory provisions of the Commission Decision 2010/93/EU*	*Codes to be used in relation to the gentlemen agreement reached between the DG Mare and the Member States about the evaluation of the fishing effort regimes*
II EU waters	(2)	**2 EU**
III.a.N	(3a)	**3an**
III.a.S		**3as**
IV	**4**	
VII.d	**7d**	

Northern Shelf

ICES statistical areas	Codes in bold to be used in relation to the compulsory provisions of the Commission Decision 2010/93/EU	Codes to be used in relation to the gentlemen agreement reached between the DG Mare and the Member States about the evaluation of the fishing effort regimes
I	(1)	1 COAST[6] 1 RFMO[7]
II non EU waters	(2)	2 COAST 2 RFMO
V.a	5a	
V.b EU waters	(5b)	5b EU[8]
V.b non EU waters		5b COAST 5b RFMO
VI.a	6a	
VI.b EU waters	(6b)	6b EU
VI.b non EU waters		6b RFMO
VII.a	7a	
VII Biological Sensitive Area		BSA[9]
VII.b	7b[3]	
VII.c EC Waters	(7c)	7c EU 7c RFMO
VII.e	7e	
VII.f	7f	
VII.g	7g[4]	
VII.h	7h[5]	
VII.j EU waters	(7j)	7j EU[10]

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[3] ICES statistical rectangles of ICES division VIIb and corresponding to the BSA shall be included.

[4] ICES statistical rectangles of ICES division VIIg and corresponding to the BSA shall be included.

[5] ICES statistical rectangles of ICES division VIIh and corresponding to the BSA shall be included.

[6] COAST will refer to waters under jurisdiction of a non-EU coastal state.

[7] RFMO will refer to waters where fisheries are managed through RFMOs.

[8] 5b EU will have to be considered as covering the following ICES statistical rectangles: 49D6, 49D7, 49D8, 49D9, 49E0, 49E1, 49E2, 49E3, 49E4, 50E5.

[9] BSA (Biological Sensitive Area) will have to be considered as covering the following ICES statistical rectangles: 35D8, 35D9, 35E0, 35E1, 34D8, 34D9, 34E0, 34E1, 33D8, 33D9, 33E0, 33E2, 32D8, 32D9, 32E0, 32E1, 32E2, 31D8, 31D9, 31E0, 31E1, 31E2, 30D9, 30E0, 30E1, 30E2, 29D9, 29E0, 29E1, 29E2, 28D9, 28E0, 28E1, 28E2.

[10] ICES statistical rectangles of ICES division VIIj and corresponding to the BSA shall be included.

VII.j non EU waters		**7j RFMO**
VII.k EU waters	(7k)	**7k EU**
VII.k non EU waters		**7k RFMO**
XII	**12**	
XIV.a	**14a**	**14a**
XIV.b	(14b)	**14b COAST**
		14b RFMO

Appendix 6

Species coding according to Council Regulation (EC) No. 2298/2003

Common name	Alpha-3 code	Scientific name
1. Albacore	ALB	*Thunnus alalunga*
2. Alfonsinos	ALF	*Beryx spp.*
3. American plaice	PLA	*Hippoglossoides platessoides*
4. Anchovy	ANE	*Engraulis encrasicolus*
5. Anglerfish	ANF	*Lophiidae*
6. Antarctic icefish	ANI	*Champsocephalus gunnari*
7. Arctic skate	RJG	*Raja hyperborea*
8. Atlantic catfish	CAT	*Anarhichas lupus*
9. Atlantic halibut	HAL	*Hippoglossus hippoglossus*
10. Atlantic salmon	SAL	*Salmo salar*
11. Atlantic thornyhead	TJX	*Trachyscorpia cristulata*
12. Baird's slickhead	ALC	*Alepocephalus bairdii*
13. Basking shark	BSK	*Cetorhinus maximus*
14. Bigeye tuna	BET	*Thunnus obesus*
15. Birdbeak dogfish	DCA	*Deania calcea*
16. Blackbelly rosefish	BRF	*Helicolenus dactylopterus*
17. Black cardinal fish	EPI	*Epigonus telescopus*
18. Black dogfish	CFB	*Centroscyllium fabricii*
19. Black scabbardfish	BSF	*Aphanopus carbo*
20. Blackfin icefish	SSI	*Chaenocephalus aceratus*
21. Blackmouth catshark	SHO	*Galeus melastomus*
22. Blue antimora	ANT	*Antimora rostrata*
23. Blue ling	BLI	*Molva dypterigia*
24. Blue marlin	BUM	*Makaira nigricans*
25. Blue whiting	WHB	*Micromesistius poutassou*
26. Bluefin tuna	BFT	*Thunnus thynnus*
27. Blutnose sixgill shark	SBL	*Hexanchus griseus*
28. Capelin	CAP	*Mallotus villosus*
29. Cod	COD	*Gadus morhua*
30. Common mora	RIB	*Mora moro*
31. Common sole	SOL	*Solea solea*
32. Common shrimp	CSH	*Crangon crangon*

33.	Crab	PAI	*Paralomis spp.*
34.	Dab	DAB	*Limanda limanda*
35.	Deep-sea red crab	KEF	*Chaceon affinis*
36.	Edible Crab	CRE	*Cancer pagurus*
37.	Eelpouts	ELZ	*Lycodes spp.*
38.	European conger	COE	*Conger conger*
39.	European pearch	FPE	*Perca fluviatilis*
40.	Flatfish, flounder	FLX	*Pleuronectiformes, Platichthys flesus*
41.	Forkbeards	FOX	*Phycis spp.*
42.	Frilled shark	HXC	*Chlamydoselachus anguineus*
43.	Greater silver smelt	ARU	*Argentina silus*
44.	Greenland halibut	GHL	*Reinhardtius hippoglossoides*
45.	Grenadier	GRV	*Macrourus spp.*
46.	Great Atlantic Scallop	SCE	*Pecten maximus*
47.	Great lantern shark	ETR	*Etmopterus princeps*
48.	Greenland shark	GSK	*Somniosus microcephalus*
49.	Grey rockcod	NOS	*Lepidonotothen squamifrons*
50.	Gulper shark	GUP	*Centrophorus granulosus*
51.	Haddock	HAD	*Melanogrammus aeglefinus*
52.	Hake	HKE	*Merluccius merluccius*
53.	Herring	HER	*Clupea harengus*
54.	Horse mackerel	JAX	*Trachurus spp.*
55.	Humped rockcod	NOG	*Gobionotothen gibberifrons*
56.	Iceland catshark	APQ	*Apristurus laurussonii*
57.	Kitefin shark	SCK	*Dalatias licha*
58.	Knifetooth dogfish	SYR	*Scymnodon rigens*
59.	Krill	KRI	*Euphausia superba*
60.	Lantern fish	LAC	*Lampanyctus achirus*
61.	Large-eyed rabbitfish	CYH	*Hydrolagus mirabilis*
62.	Leafscale gulper shark	GUQ	*Centrophorus squamosus*
63.	Lemon sole	LEM	*Microstomus kitt*
64.	Ling	LIN	*Molva molva*
65.	Lumpsucker	LUM	*Cyclopterus lumpus*
66.	Longnose velvet dogfish	CYP	*Centroscymnus crepidater*
67.	Mackerel	MAC	*Scomber scombrus*
68.	Marbled rockcod	NOR	*Notothenia rossii*
69.	Mediterranean slimehead	HPR	*Hoplostethus mediterraneus*

70. Megrims	LEZ	*Lepidorhombus spp.*
71. Mouse catshark	GAM	*Galeus murinus*
72. Northern prawn	PRA	*Pandalus borealis*
73. Norway lobster	NEP	*Nephrops norvegicus*
74. Norway pout	NOP	*Trisopterus esmarki*
75. Norway redfish	SFV	*Sebastes viviparus*
76. Norwegian skate	JAD	*Raja nidarosiensis*
77. Orange roughy	ORY	*Hoplostethus atlanticus*
78. 'Penaeus' shrimps	PEN	*Penaeus spp*
79. Pike	FPI	*Esox lucius*
80. Pike pearch	FPP	*Sander lucioperca*
81. Plaice	PLE	*Pleuronectes platessa*
82. Polar cod	POC	*Boreogadus saida*
83. Pollack	POL	*Pollachius pollachius*
84. Porbeagle	POR	*Lamna nasus*
85. Portuguese dogfish	CYO	*Centroscymnus coelolepis*
86. Rabit fish	CMO	*Chimaera monstrosa*
87. Rays	RAJ	*Rajidae*
88. Redfish	RED	*Sebastes spp.*
89. Red Seabream	SBR	*Pagellus bogaraveo*
90. Risso's smooth-head	PHO	*Alepocephalus rostratus*
91. Roughead grenadier	RHG	*Macrourus berglax*
92. Roundnose grenadier	RNG	*Coryphaenoides rupestris*
93. Round ray	RJY	*Raja fyllae*
94. Sailfin roughshark	OXN	*Oxynotus paradoxus*
95. Saithe	POK	*Pollachius virens*
96. Sandeel	SAN	*Ammodytidae*
97. Scallop	KMV	*Chlamys livida*
98. Seabass	BSS	*Dicentrarchus labrax*
99. Short fin squid	SQI	*Illex illecebrosus*
100. Silver scabbardfish	SFS	*Lepidopus caudatus*
101. Skates	SRX	*Rajidae*
102. Smooth lantern shark	ETP	*Etmopterus pusillus*
103. Snow crab	PCR	*Chionoecetes spp.*
104. South Georgian icefish	SGI	*Pseudochaenichthys georgianus*
105. Spanish ling	SLI	*Molva macrophthalmus*
106. Spinous spider crab	SCR	*Maja squinado*

107. Sprat	SPR	*Sprattus sprattus*
108. Spurdog	DGS	*Squalus acanthias*
109. Straightnose rabbitfish	RCT	*Rhinochimaera atlantica*
110. Swordfish	SWO	*Xiphias gladius*
111. Toothfish	TOP	*Dissostichus eleginoides*
112. Tope shark	GAG	*Galeorhinus galeus*
113. Turbot	TUR	*Psetta maxima*
114. Tusk	USK	*Brosme brosme*
115. Unicorn icefish	LIC	*Channichthys rhinoceratus*
116. Velvet belly	ETX	*Etmopterus spinax*
117. White marlin	WHM	*Tetrapturus alba*
118. Whiting	WHG	*Merlangius merlangus*
119. Witch flounder	WIT	*Glyptocephalus cynoglossus*
120. Wreckfish	WRF	*Polyprion americanus*
121. Yellowfin tuna	YFT	*Thunnus albacares*
122. Yellowtail flounder	YEL	*Limanda ferruginea*
123. *Boarfish*	*BOR*	*Caproidae*