

To: National Fisheries Statistical officers

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Exploration of the Sea

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Subject: Data call 2017: Preliminary fish catch statistics 2016 for the limited list of species in support of the ICES fisheries advice in 2017

Dear Reader

Please find enclosed a document describing the rationale, scope and technical details of this Data call 2017 and 3 annexes with additional information.

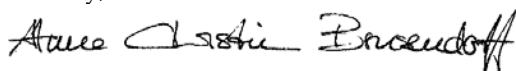
The data will be used by ICES expert groups contributing to the advisory process addressing request for advice on fisheries, and fish and shellfish stocks from ICES advice recipients.

For countries which are also EU members this Data call is under the Council regulation (EC) No 199/2008 and No 665/2008.

Additional data needed to conduct the 2017 update assessments of fish stocks will be requested in a separate data call.

In case of questions please contact the ICES Secretariat (catch.data@ices.dk) for clarification.

Sincerely,



Anne Christine Brusendorff General Secretary

CC: Venetia Kostopoulo (DG-Mare); Bas Drukker (DG-Mare)

Data call: Preliminary catch figures 2016 for the limited list of species for ICES fisheries advisory work

Scope of the Data call

ICES Member Countries are requested to provide preliminary catch data within fishing area 27 from 2016.

Catches should be reported for the species enlisted in Annex 1. All countries having catch data on the requested species should submit data for as detailed area level as possible. List of area references can be reviewed in the Annex 2.

Primary target of this data collection is to provide latest data for fish stock assessments conducted by ICES Expert Groups.

Deadline

ICES requests the data to be delivered by the 6th of February 2017 to provide enough time for additional quality assurance prior to data publishing for use by ICES Expert Groups. If the country has difficulties meeting the deadline, respective information should be sent to catch.data@ices.dk.

Rationale

ICES is requested to provide fisheries advice regarding stocks in the ICES' ecoregions. This advice to fisheries management is developed on the basis of the best available data from national authorities, and the analysis of these data by ICES Expert Groups.

Data submission

ICES Member Countries are requested to deliver preliminary catch statistics 2016 for the limited list of species to ICES via catch.data@ices.dk.

Species Latin names or WoRMS AphiaID should be used in the data submissions. The list of species, for which data should be prepared, is given in Annex 1.

Catch-per-species figures should be delivered for all areas within the Northeast Atlantic, where the national fishing activities took place. Catches within as detailed area unit as possible should be reported. It is important that catches in NEAFC-regulated areas are reported separately from the catches in the non-NEAFC areas by the respective area references. The list of area references with descriptions is given in Annex 2.

Catch data should be reported in tonnes live weight. Use of decimals is allowed to enhance the reporting precision. Data should be compiled into a file with structure as in the Annex 3. Submissions in variety of formats are allowed: Text (csv), Excel (xls,xlsx,xlsm), XML.