

## ICES Request Form

Request from	Norway
Contact within organisation	
Content contact person	
Request announced	07.05.2024
Request received	
Answer deadline client	If possible, we would like to receive the answer at the request together with the advice for the other deep sea stocks (we understand that is planned for 7 June).
Request code (client)	
Request code (ICES)	
Request	In view of the outcome of the recent benchmark for greater silver smelt in subareas 1, 2, and 4, and in Division 3.a (aru.123a4), Norway requests a new advice for 2025 for this stock, as well as advice for 2026, provided that the results of the WKBMSYSPiCT3 meeting for this stock is approved by ACOM. This should replace the advice given in 2023.
<b><u>Request to ICES</u></b> <b>Background information:</b> <p>Current advice for the aru.27.123a4 stock was given for two years (2024 and 2025) based on the ICES rfb-rule as appropriate for ICES category 3 stock. A surplus production model has since been developed and was in January 2024 brought to the WKBMSYSPiCT3 benchmark, where the new assessment was accepted as later by BOG and ACOM. As the new assessment gives a better analysis of stock dynamics than the previous data limited approach it is appropriate to update the advice for 2025 accordingly.</p> <p>As the biomass index used in the assessment is based on a survey that is run every other year it is recommended, and supported by WGDEEP 2024, that the advice hereafter as before is given for a two-year period at the time.</p> <b>Request specifications:</b> <p>ICES is requested to provide advice for aru.27.123a4 based on the new assessment approach for the two years 2025 and 2026.</p>	

Planning ICES	The process will be linked to WGDEEP. Work will be performed during the WGDEEP meeting where the new benchmark, updated assessment and forecast will be presented. The updated advice sheet will be drafted at the WGDEEP and subject to an internal audit. To expedite the special request the advice sheet will be then following the advice process for Deep sea stocks.
ICES contact person	
WG(s) in- volved	WGDEEP
Preparation timing	
Review group	
Advice draft- ing group	ADGDEEP (14-17 May 2024)
ACOM We- bex	WCDEEP (30 May 2024)
Release date	7 June 2024

Grey cells to be filled in by ICES