AGREED RECORD OF FISHERIES CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN THE FAROE ISLANDS AND THE UNITED KINGDOM FOR 2026

22 DECEMBER 2025

1. A Delegation from the Faroe Islands, headed by Ingibjørg Tummassardóttir Petersen, and a Delegation from the United Kingdom, headed by Catherine Perez, met in Tórshavn on 5 November 2025 and 12 and 17 December via videoconference to consult on mutual fisheries relations for 2026. A list of participants is attached in Annex 4.

2. The Delegations recalled the Framework Agreement on Fisheries between the Government of the Faroe Islands and the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland signed in Copenhagen on 29 October 2020 ("the Framework Agreement"). They recalled the principles which underpin their close cooperation as set out in Article 1 of that agreement. They further recalled their close cooperation in 2025 in international fisheries forums, including Regional Fisheries Management Organisations, and looked forward to continuing their dialogue on the management of shared stocks in 2026.

3. The Delegations recalled the Agreed Record of Fisheries Consultations between the Faroe Islands and the United Kingdom on the management of mackerel in the North-East Atlantic which they had signed on 15 December 2025 alongside the Agreed Record of Fisheries Consultations between the Faroe Islands, Iceland, Norway and the United Kingdom on the management of mackerel in the North-East Atlantic. They welcomed the consequential and much-needed reduction in fishing pressure as a result of this agreement, which builds on the reduction that was implemented through the 2024 agreement between the Faroe Islands, Norway and the United Kingdom. The Delegations also committed themselves to playing their part in 2026 in reaching a comprehensive quota-sharing arrangement for the stock.

4. The Delegations decided to recommend to their respective authorities the fishery arrangements for 2026 as outlined in this Agreed Record, including Annex 1.

5. In this Agreed Record, references to a "Party" are references to the United Kingdom and the Faroe Islands as Contracting Parties to the Framework Agreement, and references to the waters of a Party are references to the Parties' respective areas of fisheries jurisdiction as defined in Article 2(3) of the Framework Agreement.

6. The Delegations reiterated their determination to cooperate, in their mutual interest, in securing continued responsible fisheries and ensuring the long-term conservation and sustainable use of marine living resources.

7. The Delegations restated the importance of cooperating on scientific research with regards to marine biology and the marine environment.

8. The Delegations decided to meet during 2026 and as part of an annual intersessional process, to ensure the successful implementation of this Agreed Record and to deepen the strategic relationship between the Parties. The UK offered to host the intersessional in 2026.

9. EXCHANGE OF OPPORTUNITIES

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9.1 The Delegations decided to exchange quotas for a number of stocks, as set out in Annex 1. They also agreed to review potential quota exchanges in the course of 2026, should further opportunities arise.

9.2 The Delegations noted that the transfer of haddock, ling and tusk from the UK was to be fished by longline or jigreel vessels only. The Delegations further noted that this transfer was made with the intention that no more than four Faroese vessels will target these stocks in UK waters of ICES area 4 at any one time. This does not limit the total number of vessels that may target the quota over the course of the year. The Delegations decided to review and discuss this further as part of the annual intersessional process.

10. MONITORING, CONTROL AND SURVEILLANCE

10.1 The Delegations recognised the importance of cooperation in regard to the monitoring, control and surveillance measures that are stipulated in the Technical Annexes. They acknowledged that there are significant benefits for both sides in sharing relevant information and intelligence and in enhancing co-operation in areas of mutual interest.

10.2 The Delegations decided to strive to meet as required during 2026 to discuss relevant topics and evaluate the cooperation regarding the Special Area.

10.3 The Delegations noted the good cooperation this year in implementing the relevant technical arrangements that apply to vessels fishing in the waters of the other Party, as set out in the Technical Annexes. They further decided that, as those measures have shown themselves to be effective during 2025, only minimal revision was required for the 2026 Technical Annexes. The Delegations agreed to publish the 2026 Technical Annexes in a separate document alongside this Agreed Record.

10.4 The Delegations agreed to establish a joint Compliance Forum within the framework of their bilateral arrangements on Monitoring, Control and Surveillance. The Compliance Forum would be tasked with strengthening those bilateral arrangements and with facilitating joint efforts on relevant issues, such as strategic and operational risk-management (risk-assessment, risk handling and evaluation) and information-sharing. The Delegations agreed that members of the forum should work together closely to ensure that the incidental by-catch of non-target species in UK waters was minimised to the greatest extent possible. The forum should intend to meet in person or virtually once in 2026 and consider if this meeting can be scheduled alongside other meetings to best utilise resources. The forum should provide to the Delegations an update on its work including any potential policy proposals on Monitoring, Control and Surveillance measures well in advance of their bilateral consultations for 2027.

10.5 The UK Delegation shared information with the Faroe Islands Delegation about the implementation of Remote Electronic Monitoring (REM) on pelagic vessels in the UK. Any relevant pelagic vessels fishing in Scottish waters will be required to have a fully installed and operational REM system onboard that meets the Scottish Government's technical specifications from 7 March 2026. Relevant vessels should contact the Scottish

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Government's Fully Documented Fisheries Unit[1] as soon as possible to get their REM system validated and to arrange a system test trip.

11. ELECTRONIC DATA EXCHANGE

11.1 The Delegations noted the decision by the North-East Atlantic Fisheries Commission (NEAFC) to implement and set into production the new Electronic Reporting System (ERS) based on the United Nations Fisheries Language for Universal Exchange (UN/FLUX standard) on 15 January 2024. This date marked the start of the two-year transition period wherein the remaining Contracting Parties shall test and implement the new ERS data exchange system based on the UN/FLUX standard. The Delegations further noted that the transition period has been extended to 31 December 2026.

11.2 The Delegations noted that the bilateral agreements on the exchange of electronic vessel positions data between the Faroese and the UK have not yet been completed to facilitate the exchange of data based on UN/FLUX Standard.

11.3 The Delegations noted that Vessel Position data is exchanged between Faroese and UK Fisheries Monitoring Centres and that work will continue in 2026 to progress exchanging this via UN/FLUX Standard.

11.4 The Delegations agreed to commit to exploring the options available to them to exchange Fishing Activity data electronically via UN/FLUX Standard, ensuring this occurs as soon as is practicably possible.

11.5 Taking into account domestic challenges related to the UN/FLUX Standard, the Delegations agreed to meet well in advance of the annual consultations for 2027 to discuss a bilateral Electronic Reporting System agreement.

12. CATCH INFORMATION

12.1 The Delegations reviewed the preliminary catch data for 2025 as set out in Annex 2 and final catch data for 2024 as set out in Annex 3. They decided to continue to work together in 2026 to monitor and further develop their relevant catch information data exchange processes.

12.2 For 2026, the Delegations decided that an intersessional meeting would consider data to date on the catch composition of each Party's fleet fishing in the other's waters. The Delegations decided to share per set or haul catch data, at a kg-per-species-caught level of detail, at least five working days before the intersessional meeting, and provide any updates to this data immediately before the meeting.

13. SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION

13.1 The Delegations decided that the UK and the Faroe Islands would continue to co-operate on scientific matters of mutual interest related to commercially exploited fish stocks and

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their associated ecosystems. The species and stocks of interest include pelagic, demersal and deep-sea stocks.

14. NEW LEGISLATION AND TECHNICAL MEASURES

14.1 The Delegations decided to communicate in a timely manner the introduction of new fisheries legislation and technical measures recognising, in particular, the need to provide such information in an expeditious manner to fishers from both Parties.

14.2 The UK Delegation provided updates with respect to the Scottish Government's management measures in offshore Marine Protected Areas (MPAs). The Offshore Fishing (Prohibition of Fishing Methods) (Scotland) Order 2025 came into effect on 16 October 2025. This legislation establishes fisheries management measures for 19 offshore MPAs within Scottish waters. Further details can be found online[2].

22 December 2025

For the Delegation of the Faroe Islands

Ingibjørg Tummassardóttir Petersen

Ingibjørg Tummassardóttir Petersen

For the Delegation of the United Kingdom

Catherine Perez

[2] The Offshore Fishing (Prohibition of Fishing Methods) (Scotland) Order 2025

ANNEX 1

EXCHANGE OF STOCKS FOR 2026

SPECIES	ICES AREA	STOCKS IN UK WATERS FOR TRANSFER TO FAROES (TONNES)	STOCKS IN FAROESE WATERS FOR TRANSFER TO UK (TONNES)
Greenland Halibut	2a, 4, 5b, 6	900	-
Bycatch stock	2a, 4, 5b, 6	90[3]	-
Cod	NAFO 3M	-	-
Cod	NAFO 3L	40	-
Horse Mackerel	6, 7	-	-
Hake	-	-	-
Saithe	-	-	-
Haddock	4	20[4]	-
Ling	4	30[4]	-
Tusk	4	5[4]	-
Bycatch stock	4	5[5]	-
Cod (West of Scotland)	6a	5[6]	-
Pollack	6	2[7]	-
Blue Ling (Western)	6, 7	30	-
North Sea Autumn Spawning Herring	4	-	-
Cod and Haddock	5b[8]	-	850[9]
Saithe	5b	-	600
Redfish	5b	-	10

[3] Miscellaneous species exclusively for bycatch in Greenland halibut fisheries, excluding catches of species of which the UK has transferred quota to the Faroe Islands. Catches of these stocks should be counted against the relevant quota. All species caught must be entered into the elog.
[4] Targeted fishery by longline or jigreel only.
[5] Miscellaneous species exclusively for bycatch in North Sea fisheries, excluding catches of species of which the UK has transferred quota to the Faroe Islands. Catches of these stocks should be counted against the relevant quota. All species caught must be entered into the elog.
[6] Exclusively for bycatch purposes in the western blue ling fishery.
[7] Bycatch only.
[8] Excluding the Faroe Bank area that was previously closed to UK vessels before 2023.
[9] Of which no more than 255 tonnes may consist of cod, and as bycatch only. No directed fisheries for cod are permitted under this quota.

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SPECIES	ICES AREA	STOCKS IN UK WATERS FOR TRANSFER TO FAROES (TONNES)	STOCKS IN FAROESE WATERS FOR TRANSFER TO UK (TONNES)
Blue Ling	5b	-	80
Ling	5b	-	80[10]
Flatfish	5b	-	40
Other Species	5b	-	425
Atlanto-Scandian Herring	Faroese Waters North of 62° N	-	-
Mackerel	Faroese Waters	-	-

[10] Bycatch only.

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ANNEX 2

PRELIMINARY CATCH DATA FOR EXCHANGE OF STOCKS FOR 2025

FAROES LANDINGS OF QUOTA TRANSFERRED FROM UK (TONNES)

SPECIES	ICES AREA	QUOTA	LANDINGS[11]
Greenland Halibut	2a, 4, 5b, 6	700	509
Bycatch stock	2a, 4, 5b, 6	70	29
Cod	NAFO 3M	0	0
Cod	NAFO 3L	19	19
Horse Mackerel	6, 7	0	0
Hake (Western)	6, 7	0	0
Haddock	4	200	0
Ling	4	100	0
Tusk	4	25	2
Bycatch stock	4	50	0
Cod (West of Scotland)	6a	5	0
Pollack (West of Scotland)	6	2	0
Blue Ling (Western)	6, 7	250	13
North Sea Autumn Spawning Herring	4	0	0

UK LANDINGS OF QUOTA TRANSFERRED FROM FAROES (TONNES)

SPECIES	ICES AREA	QUOTA	LANDINGS[11]
Cod and Haddock	5b	880	820
Saithe	5b	575	522
Redfish	5b	10	1
Blue Ling and Ling	5b	160	118
Flatfish	5b	40	23
Other Species	5b	425	185
Atlanto-Scandian Herring	Faroese Waters North of 62o N	0	0
Mackerel	Faroese Waters	0	0

[11] Updated 05/12/25

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ANNEX 3

FINAL CATCH DATA FOR EXCHANGE OF STOCKS FOR 2024

FAROES LANDINGS OF QUOTA TRANSFERRED FROM UK (TONNES)

SPECIES	ICES AREA	QUOTA	LANDINGS
Greenland Halibut	2a, 4, 5b, 6	850	432
Bycatch stock	2a, 4, 5b, 6	50	27
Cod	NAFO 3M	0	0
Horse Mackerel	6, 7	0	0
Hake (Western)	6, 7	0	0
Haddock	4	400	0
Ling	4	100	0
Tusk	4	25	1
Bycatch stock	4	50	0
Cod (West of Scotland)	6a	5	0
Pollack (West of Scotland)	6	5	0
Blue Ling (Western)	6, 7	250	11
North Sea Autumn Spawning Herring	4	0	1,691

UK LANDINGS OF QUOTA TRANSFERRED FROM FAROES (TONNES)

SPECIES	ICES AREA	QUOTA	LANDINGS
Cod and Haddock	5b	920	887
Saithe	5b	600	510
Redfish	5b	10	3
Blue Ling and Ling	5b	180	100
Flatfish	5b	40	36
Other Species	5b	475	198
Atlanto-Scandian Herring	Faroese Waters North of 62o N	0	0
Mackerel	Faroese Waters	0	0

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ANNEX 4

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

UNITED KINGDOM

Catherine Perez (Head of Delegation)
Molly Weiland
Lauren Reid
Catherine Whitby
Kate Smithers
Richard Nash
Maisie Dowding

FAROE ISLANDS

Ingibjørg Tummassardóttir Petersen (Head of Delegation)
Ólavur Dalsgarð
Durita Lamhauge Jóansdóttir
Petur Meinhard Jacobsen
Jan Arge Jacobsen
Jan Klein Olsen
Hanus Hansen
Páll Holm Johannesen
Háldan Gudmundsen
Stefan í Skorini

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