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Framework Agreement

on Fisheries between the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and
the Kingdom of Norway

London, 30 September 2020

[The Agreement entered into force 1 January 2021]

*Presented to Parliament
by the Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs
by Command of His Majesty
May 2024*

CP 1100



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**FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT ON FISHERIES BETWEEN THE UNITED
KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND
AND THE KINGDOM OF NORWAY**

THE United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the Kingdom of Norway (hereinafter “the Parties”),

RECALLING the close relations between the Parties,

HAVING REGARD TO the relevant provisions of the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (“UNCLOS”) and the related 1995 Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks,

AWARE of the importance of the principles established by the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries adopted at the FAO Conference in 1995,

DETERMINED to cooperate, in their mutual interest, in securing continued responsible fisheries to ensure the long-term conservation and sustainable use of marine living resources,

RECOGNISING the need for close cooperation and coordination with other States and regional economic integration organisations, including within regional fisheries management organisations, in relation to stocks or stocks of associated species occurring within the waters of both Parties,

DETERMINED to cooperate effectively to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing,

RECOGNISING the importance of zonal attachment as a principle of international fisheries management applied by coastal States when discharging their obligations under UNCLOS and related instruments in relation to the joint management of shared stocks,

RECOGNISING the advantage of consistency in relation to technical measures on the conduct of fisheries in adjacent waters of the Parties,

HAVE AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

ARTICLE 1

Cooperation

The Parties shall cooperate with a view to achieving the objective of ensuring the long-term conservation and sustainable use of marine living resources and, in doing so, safeguarding the ecosystems in which these resources occur, through the application of the following principles:

- (a) the promotion of the long-term sustainability and optimum utilisation of marine living resources;
- (b) that conservation and management measures for fisheries are based on the best scientific evidence available;
- (c) the application of the precautionary approach to fisheries management;
- (d) that due account is taken of the impact of fishing on species belonging to the same ecosystem or dependent upon or associated with the target stocks, and in doing so, measures are adopted to minimise harmful impacts;
- (e) that due account is taken of the need to preserve marine biological diversity;
- (f) that complete and accurate data relevant to the management of fishing and fishing related activities are collected and shared in a timely manner;
- (g) the need to ensure compliance with fisheries conservation and management measures;
- (h) the facilitation of scientific research, in particular with regard to stocks of common interest.

ARTICLE 2

Area of Application

This Agreement applies to the waters beyond and adjacent to the territorial sea of the Parties and in respect of which they are entitled to exercise sovereign rights or jurisdiction under Part V of UNCLOS, and references in this Agreement to a Party's area of jurisdiction shall be read accordingly.

ARTICLE 3

Access

Each Party may grant access to its area of jurisdiction to vessels flying the flag of the other Party, for the purposes of fishing. The extent and conditions of any such access shall be the subject of annual consultations between the Parties.

ARTICLE 4

Annual Consultations

1. The Parties shall consult annually to seek to determine, inter alia, the following matters:
 - (a) any access by fishing vessels flying the flag of one Party to the other's area of jurisdiction under Article 3, and
 - (b) any transfer of quota from one Party to the other for fishing by vessels flying the flag of the other Party, subject to adjustment where necessary.
2. The Parties shall produce a written record documenting the results of their consultations.

ARTICLE 5

Vessel Licensing

Where access by fishing vessels flying the flag of one Party (the fishing Party) to the area of jurisdiction of the other Party (the licensing Party) has been granted under Article 3, the competent authorities of the fishing Party shall communicate in due time to the licensing Party the name, registration number, and other relevant particulars of the fishing vessels which shall be eligible to fish within the area of jurisdiction of the licensing Party. The licensing Party shall thereupon issue licenses in a manner commensurate with the possibilities for fishing granted to the fishing Party and consistently with the terms under which access has been granted.

ARTICLE 6

Compliance, Control and Enforcement

1. Each Party shall take all necessary measures to ensure that, when fishing in the area of jurisdiction of the other Party, vessels flying its flag comply with all conservation and management measures, other terms and conditions, and all rules and regulations governing fishing activities in that area.
2. The Parties may agree on arrangements for operational cooperation necessary for the proper functioning or implementation of this Agreement, dealing in particular with:
 - (a) the licensing of vessels flying the flag of one Party when fishing in the other Party's area of jurisdiction, including the exchange of data relating to such vessels;
 - (b) monitoring, control and surveillance of fisheries to ensure compliance with conservation and management measures.
3. Arrangements agreed pursuant to this Article may take the form of protocols and guidance documents.

ARTICLE 7

Consultation Relating to the Agreement

The Parties agree to consult on questions relating to the implementation and proper functioning of this Agreement, or in the event of a dispute concerning its interpretation or application.

ARTICLE 8

Amendments

1. This Agreement may be amended by agreement between the Parties.
2. An amendment made by exchange of diplomatic notes shall enter into force on the date agreed between the Parties and specified in their notes.

ARTICLE 9

Relationship to Other Agreements

This Agreement shall be without prejudice to other existing agreements concerning fishing by vessels flying the flag of one Party within the area of jurisdiction of the other Party.

ARTICLE 10

Law of the Sea

Nothing contained in this Agreement shall affect or prejudice in any manner the views of either Party with respect to any questions relating to the law of the sea.

ARTICLE 11

Entry into Force, Duration and Termination

1. This Agreement shall enter into force on:
 - (a) 1 January 2021, provided that, prior to that date, the Parties have notified each other in writing through the diplomatic channel of the completion of their respective domestic requirements necessary for the entry into force of this Agreement; or
 - (b) the date of receipt of the latter of the written notifications referred to in the previous sub-paragraph in the event that this is later than 1 January 2021.
2. This Agreement shall remain in force for an initial period ending on 31 December 2026 and thereafter for subsequent, consecutive periods of 4 years unless terminated in accordance with paragraph 3 of this Article.
3. Either Party may terminate this Agreement by giving notice to the other Party at least one year before the expiry of the initial period referred to in paragraph 2 of this Article, or at least one year before the expiry of each subsequent 4 year period. Where notice is given under this paragraph the Agreement shall cease to have effect at the end of the period in question.
4. Pending its entry into force in accordance with paragraph 1(b), this Agreement shall be provisionally applied from 1 January 2021, unless the Parties otherwise agree by exchange of diplomatic notes.

5. Provisional application of this Agreement shall be terminated upon entry into force of the Agreement, or upon receipt of notice given by one Party to the other.

6. Notice under paragraphs 3 and 5 shall be given in writing through the diplomatic channel.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, being duly authorised by their respective Governments, have signed this Agreement.

DONE at London, on 30 September 2020, in duplicate, in the English and Norwegian languages, both texts being equally authentic.

**For the Government of the United
Kingdom of Great Britain and
Northern Ireland:**

GEORGE EUSTICE

**For the Government of the
Kingdom of Norway:**

WEGGER STRØMMEN

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