The pelagic landing obligation: Experiences and the way forward

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General experiences

- *No massive problems encountered to date*

However…

….unclear regulations & uncertainties are not a fisherman's friend

Unclear regulations

- *Point 11 of the Omnibus?*
- *How to deal with bycatch of 0 TAC species?*
- *How to discard e.g. forbidden species with closed discard chutes?*
  => Violation of labour conditions
- *What to do with meshed fish?*

Uncertainties

- *Sudden hake bycatch in western waters*
- *ABP provisions and undersized fish*
- *Minimum size mackerel 30 cm in the North Sea and 20 cm in Western Waters*
- *Bycatch of RSW vessels can only be detected in processing factories*

Solutions? Under construction!

- *Innovation and technical measures:*
  - *New pelagic grid in Sweden*
  - *Pelacoustics project in the Netherlands*
  - *SMAC project in Scotland*
  - *Closed areas and season in boarfish mp*
  - *etc…*

The way forward

- *Legal clarity & level playing field:*
  - *Resolve ambiguity*
  - *Provide easy to understand guides in all relevant languages, including Norwegian and Faroese*
  - *Equal treatment*

The way forward

- *Stakeholders consultation:*
  - *Slow progress in MS regional groups*
  - *But some very valuable ideas, e.g. gramme sizes*
  - *Closer cooperation in the future*
  - *Better compliance*
  - *Invite ACs to inter-regional workshops between EFCA and MS*

Take home message

The ACs are a cornucopia of knowledge and experience. Member States could and should make much better use of this resource.

Thank you!

Questions?