



PRESS RELEASE

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SEAFO Takes Major Initiatives to Manage the Fisheries in South East Atlantic Waters

At its 4th Annual Meeting on 10 October in Windhoek, Namibia, SEAFO adopted measures for the first time to limit catches for deep sea red crab and Patagonian toothfish in South East Atlantic waters, in accordance with the advice and recommendations of the Scientific Committee. These actions were necessitated by the concerns on the sustainability of the current fisheries and of the potential negative impacts on the vulnerable marine habitats.

During the said meeting, SEAFO has established a Compliance Committee to advise the Commission on compliance issues. Further the Commission has adopted a measure to ensure that IUU fishing in the whole of Atlantic Ocean is minimised. In so doing, the Commission has adopted a measure to list IUU vessels that are in the IUU lists of Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organisation (NAFO), Northeast Atlantic Fisheries Commission (NEAFC) and the Commission for the Conservation of the Antarctic Living Marine Resources (CCAMLR).

SEAFO further established more stringent port State measures, based on standards set forth in the FAO Model Scheme.

SEAFO called on other parties, notably Japan and Republic of Korea, currently fishing in the area, to join the Organisation and accept responsibility and costs, thereby balancing the benefits they draw from their fisheries in the area.

SEAFO was established in March 2004 after the entry into force of the Convention in April 2003. Angola, European Union, Namibia and Norway are currently Members.

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