INFORMATION PAPER FROM NORWAY

AMENDMENT TO THE NORWEGIAN REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO PORT STATE CONTROL

At previous meetings, PECMAC has discussed a proposal from Iceland and Norway to include a prohibition in Article 23 of the NEAFC Scheme of Control and Enforcement against the commencement of landing prior to the Estimated Time of Arrival (ETA), as reported in the PSC 1 or 2. However, PECMAC has not been able to agree on such a provision.

As Norwegian inspectors have experienced on several occasions that vessels have entered port and started landing once part C of the PSC has been completed, Norway has decided to implement a prohibition against landing prior to ETA in our domestic legislation. To this effect, the Regulation of 13 May 1977 No. 2 relating to fishing and hunting operations by foreign nationals in the exclusive economic zone of Norway and landings in or other use of Norwegian port section 13 paragraph 10 has been amended. The amendment entails that in addition to the requirement for flag State confirmation and authorisation from the Norwegian Directorate of Fisheries in parts B and C of the PSC 1 or 2, landings or other use of Norwegian ports may only commence after the ETA has expired. However, landings or other use of Norwegian ports may commence prior to ETA with permission from the Norwegian Directorate of Fisheries.

Information regarding this amendment has also been forwarded to the NEAFC Contracting Parties by our Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The amended regulation has already entered into force. However, it will not be enforced before 14 May 2018.