RECOMMENDATION ON CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT MEASURES FOR NORWEGIAN SPRING-SPAWNING (ATLANTO-SCANDIAN) HERRING IN THE NEAFC CONVENTION AREA IN 2015

The Commission hereby adopts the following recommendation pursuant to Article 5 of the Convention:

1. NEAFC notes that the European Union, the Faroe Islands, Iceland, Norway and the Russian Federation, as Coastal States to the management of the Norwegian Spring-Spawning (Atlanto-Scandian) Herring stock, have agreed to a total catch limitation of 283,013 tonnes for 2015.

2. The Coastal States will establish their national quotas within the framework of the total catch limitation referred to in paragraph 1.

3. The national quotas may be fished within national waters and in the Regulatory Area.

4. Catches taken by the Coastal States in the Regulatory Area shall be deducted from the respective national quotas of the Coastal States.

5. Each Contracting Party shall notify the measures it has taken to the Secretary by 1 May 2015. The Secretary shall notify these measures to the other Contracting Parties.

6. Each Party may transfer unutilised quantities of up to 10% of its quota for 2014 to 2015. Such transfer shall be in addition to the Party’s quota for 2015.

   In the event of over-fishing of the quotas by any Party in 2014, the quantity shall be deducted from the quotas for 2015 for the Party or Parties concerned.

7. Each Party may transfer unutilised quantities of up to 10% of its quota for 2015 to 2016. Such transfer shall be in addition to the Party’s quota for 2016.

   In the event of over-fishing of the quota by any Party in 2015, the quantity shall be deducted from the quota for 2016 for the Party or Parties concerned.

8. Only vessels entitled to fly the flag of a NEAFC Contracting Party, having been authorised by its flag State to fish for Norwegian Spring-Spawning (Atlanto-Scandian) Herring in the NEAFC Conventional Area may take part in the fishery.

9. These conservation and management measures shall be without prejudice to any future conservation and management measures to be taken for the Norwegian Spring-Spawning (Atlanto-Scandian) Herring in the North-East Atlantic.