RECOMMENDATION ON CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT MEASURES FOR BLUE WHITING IN THE NEAFC CONVENTION AREA IN 2015

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

1. NEAFC takes note that the European Union, the Faroe Islands, Iceland and Norway, as Coastal States to the management of blue whiting in the North-East Atlantic have agreed to a total catch limitation of 1,159,719 tonnes in 2015.

2. In order to ensure compatibility with the total catch limitation referred to in paragraph 1, the Contracting Parties hereby establish an allowable catch limitation of 100,281 tonnes of Blue Whiting for 2015 in the Regulatory Area, which is allocated as follows:

- Denmark in respect of Greenland 6,822 tonnes
- Russian Federation 93,459 tonnes

3. The Coastal State quotas within the framework of the total catch limitation referred to in paragraph 1, may also be fished in the Regulatory Area.

4. Quotas that are transferred to a Contracting Party to be fished within national waters of another Contracting Party may also be fished in the Regulatory Area, subject to agreement between the Contracting Parties concerned.

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 quota in 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 quotas by any Party in 2015, the quantity shall be deducted from the quota in 2016 for the Party or Parties concerned.

8. These conservation and management measures shall be without prejudice to any future conservation and management measures to be taken for the blue whiting in the North-East Atlantic.