2014 -03- 3 1

# **BILATERAL AGREEMENT**

Bilateral Agreement between

Dnr 340-14

Marine Scotland Science (MSS), Marine Laboratory, Scotland, United Kingdom and the Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management (SwAM), Sweden for the collection of length and age samples in accordance with EC Regulation 665/2008, laying down detailed rules for the application of Council Regulation (EC) 199/2008, and its Commission Decision 2010/93/EU.

Mackerel is one stock were the sum of Member States (MS) having a share of quotas/landings less than 10%, altogether exceeds 25%. In Area IV, Sweden has average landings of mackerel of 4475 tonnes (<1% of the EU TAC) and approximately 77% of these landings take place into the UK. In Area IIIa average landings are 160 tonnes, which is below the threshold for sampling. It has been agreed that in some cases it would be perfectly acceptable that sampling by MS for these stocks may not be necessary (RCM NS&EA 2010).

## Agreement:

Mackerel is managed as one stock (II, IIIa, IV, V, VI, VII, III, IX) and it has been agreed that the stock is well covered concerning biological sampling by the United Kingdom Marine Scotland National Programme under the requirements of the EC Data Collection Framework (199/2008). This agreement will be on-going during 2014 and 2015 and will be reviewed for the 2016 National Proposals.

# **Description of Sampling:**

The sampling will be carried out in accordance with the UK (Scotland) National Sampling Programme.

#### Data Responsibility:

The United Kingdom will submit all data to the relevant ICES Expert Groups and to the EC under the requirements of its Data Collection Framework. Any Swedish sample data will be sent to Sweden for raising purposes.

### **Contact Persons:**

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