

**Joint Recommendation
of the South Western Waters High-Level Group
on technical measures for the conservation of fishery resources
and definitions of directed fisheries**

In application of REGULATION (EU) 2019/1241 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 20th June 2019 on the conservation of fisheries resources and the protection of marine ecosystems through technical measures.

The draft has been sent to the SWW and PELAC ACs on August 2020, the 5th. Members of the Comex were invited to send comments directly to Member States if needed.

Article 1
Scope

Article 6.3 of the Regulation (EU) 2019/1241 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20th June 2019 on the conservation of fisheries resources and the protection of marine ecosystems through technical measures defines “directed fishing” as “*fishing effort targeted at a specific species or group of species and may be further specified at regional level in delegated acts adopted pursuant to Article 27 (7) of this Regulation*”.

Article 15 of the Regulation (EU) 2019/1241 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 June 2019 on the conservation of fisheries resources and the protection of marine ecosystems through technical measures.

Article 27 of the Regulation (EU) 2019/1241 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 June 2019 on the conservation of fisheries resources and the protection of marine ecosystems through technical measures established the conditions in relation to mesh size specifications.

This Regulation further defines ‘directed fishing’ for relevant species in Part B of Annex VII to Regulation (EU) 2019/1241 in accordance with Article 27(7) of that Regulation.

Article 2
Minimum mesh sizes

1. The table in Part B, point 1.2., of Annex VII to Regulation (EU) N° 2019/1241 is replaced by the table in Annex I.
2. The table in Part B, point 2.2., of Annex VII to Regulation (EU) N° 2019/1241 is replaced by the table in Annex II.

Annex I
Table referred to in point 1 of article 2

Mesh Size	Geographical Areas	Conditions	Definitions of “directed fishing”
At least 55 mm (?)	Whole area excluding ICES division 9a east of longitude 7°23' 48" W	Directed fishing for species not subject to catch limits and which are not covered elsewhere in the table Directed fisheries for red sea bream Directed fishing for mackerel, horse mackerel and blue whiting with bottom trawls	Minimum 60% Minimum 30% Minimum 30%
At least 35 mm (?)	Whole area	Directed fishing for wedge sole	Minimum 30%
At least 55 mm	ICES division 9a west of longitude 7°23' 48" W	Directed fishing for crustaceans, included rose shrimp (<i>Parapenaeus longirostris</i>)	Minimum 30 %
At least 16 mm	Whole area	Directed fishing for small pelagic species which are not covered elsewhere in the table Directed fishing for shrimps (<i>Palaemon serratus</i> , <i>Crangon crangon</i>), and crab (<i>Polybius henslowi</i>)	Minimum 80% Minimum 30%
Less than 16 mm	Whole area	Directed fishing for sandeel	Minimum [90%]

Annex II
Table referred to in point 2 of article 2

Mesh Size	Geographical Areas	Conditions	Definitions of “directed fishing”
At least 80 mm	Whole area except ICES division 8c and ICES sub-area 9	Directed fishing for sea bass, whiting, turbot, flounder and pollack	Minimum 50 %
At least 60 mm	Whole area	Directed fishing for species not subject to catch limits and which are not covered elsewhere in the table	Minimum 30 %
At least 50 mm	Whole area	Directed fishing for small pelagic species (¹) which are not covered elsewhere in the table	Minimum 70 %
At least 40 mm	Whole area	Directed fishing for red mullet, shrimps (<i>Penaeus</i> spp.), mantis shrimp, wedge sole and wrasse	Minimum 40 %
Less than 40 mm	ICES subarea 9a	Directed fishing for sardine (<i>Sardina pilchardus</i>)	Minimum 50 %