COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 710/1999

of 31 March 1999

prohibiting fishing for saithe by vessels flying the flag of France

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EEC) No 2478/93 of 12 October 1993 establishing a control system applicable to the common fisheries policy [1], as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 2846/98 [2], and in particular Article 21(3) thereof,

Whereas Council Regulation (EC) No 51/1999 of 18 December 1998 allocating, for 1999, certain catch quotas between Member States for vessels fishing in the Norwegian exclusive economic zone and the fishing zone around Jan Mayen [3] lays down the saithe quotas for 1999;

Whereas, in order to ensure compliance with the provisions relating to the quantity limits on catches of stocks subject to quotas, it is necessary for the Commission to fix the date by which catches made by vessels flying the flag of a Member State are deemed to have exhausted the quota allocated;

Whereas, according to the information communicated to the Commission, catches of saithe in the waters of ICES divisions I, IIa and IIb (Norwegian waters north of 62° N) by vessels flying the flag of France or registered in France have reached the quota allocated for 1999; whereas France has prohibited fishing for this stock as from 8 March 1999; whereas it is therefore necessary to abide by that date,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

Catches of saithe in the waters of ICES divisions I, IIa and IIb (Norwegian waters north of 62° N) by vessels flying the flag of France or registered in France are hereby deemed to have exhausted the quota allocated to France for 1999.

Fishing for saithe in the waters of ICES divisions I, IIa and IIb (Norwegian waters north of 62° N) by vessels flying the flag of France or registered in France is hereby prohibited, as are the retention on board, transhipment and landing of fish from this stock caught by the above vessels after the date of entry into force of this Regulation.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on the day following its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*.

It shall apply with effect from 8 March 1999.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Brussels, 31 March 1999.

For the Commission

Emma BONINO

Member of the Commission

[1] OJ L 261, 20.10.1993, p. 1.
[2] OJ L 358, 31.12.1998, p. 5.
[3] OJ L 13, 18.1.1999, p. 67.