COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 1071/2002

of 20 June 2002

prohibiting fishing for sandeel by vessels flying the flag of a Member State with the exception of Denmark and the United Kingdom

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EEC) No 2847/93 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:

(1) Council Regulation (EC) No 2555/2001 of 18 December 2001 fixing for 2002 the fishing opportunities and associated conditions for certain fish stocks and groups of fish stocks, applicable in Community waters and, for Community vessels, in waters where limitations in catch are required [3], lays down quotas for sandeel for 2002 subject to the condition laid down in note 2 for that stock.

(2) In order to ensure compliance with the provisions relating to the quantity limits on catches of stocks subject to quotas, the Commission must fix the date by which catches made by vessels flying the flag of a Member State are deemed to have exhausted the quota allocated.

(3) According to the information received by the Commission, catches of sandeel in the waters of ICES division 11a, North sea (EC waters) by vessels flying the flag of a Member State or registered in a Member State, with the exception of Denmark and the United Kingdom, have exhausted their quota,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

Catches of sandeel in the waters of ICES division 11a, North Sea (EC waters) by vessels flying the flag of a Member State or registered in a Member State, with the exception of Denmark and the United Kingdom, are hereby deemed to have exhausted the quota allocated to the Member States for 2002.

Fishing for sandeel in the waters of ICES division 11a, North Sea (EC waters) by vessels flying the flag of a Member State or registered in a Member State, with the exception of Denmark and the United Kingdom, is hereby prohibited, as are the retention on board, transhipment and landing of 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*.

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

Done at Brussels, 20 June 2002.

For the Commission

Franz FISCHLER

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 347, 31.12.2001, p. 1.