COMMISSION REGULATION (EU) 2020/476

of 27 March 2020

establishing a fisheries closure for white marlin in the Atlantic Ocean for vessels flying the flag of Spain

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009 of 20 November 2009 establishing a Union control system for ensuring compliance with the rules of the common fisheries policy ([1]), and in particular Article 36(2) thereof,

Whereas:

(1) Council Regulation (EU) 2020/123 ([2]) lays down quotas for 2020.

(2) According to the information received by the Commission, catches of the stock of white Marlin in the Atlantic Ocean by vessels flying the flag of or registered in Spain have exhausted the quota allocated for 2020.

(3) It is therefore necessary to prohibit certain fishing activities for that stock,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

Quota exhaustion

The fishing quota allocated to Spain for the stock of white marlin in the Atlantic Ocean for 2020 referred to in the Annex shall be deemed to be exhausted from the date set out in that Annex.

Article 2

Prohibitions

Fishing activities for the stock referred to in Article 1 by vessels flying the flag of or registered in Spain referred to in the Annex shall be prohibited from the date set out in that Annex. In particular it shall be prohibited to retain on board, relocate, tranship or land fish from that stock caught by those vessels after that date.

Article 3

Entry into force

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

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

Done at Brussels, 27 March 2020.

For the Commission
Virginijus SINKEVIČIUS
On behalf of the President
Member of the Commission

([1]) OJ L 343, 22.12.2009, p. 1.
([2]) Council Regulation (EU) 2020/123 of 27 January 2020 fixing for 2020 the fishing opportunities for certain fish stocks and groups of fish stocks, applicable in Union waters and, for Union fishing vessels, in certain non-Union waters (OJ L 25, 30.1.2020, p. 1).

ANNEX

No	02/TQ/123
Member State	Spain
Stock	WHM/ATLANT
Species	White marlin (*Tetrapturus albidus*)
Zone	Atlantic Ocean
Closing date	1.1.2020