STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1970 No. 670

SEA FISHERIES

WHITE FISH INDUSTRY

The White Fish Authority (Quality and Handling) (Northern Ireland) Regulations Confirmatory Order 1970

Made - - -	30*th April* 1970
Laid before Parliament	11*th May* 1970
Coming into Operation	1*st June* 1970

Whereas the White Fish Authority (hereinafter referred to as "the Authority' have made the White Fish Authority (Quality and Handling) (Northern Irelanc Regulations 1969 :

And Whereas the Authority have transmitted to the Minister of Agricultur Fisheries and Food, the Secretary of State for Scotland, being the Secretary c State concerned with the sea fishing industry in Scotland, and the Secretary c State for the Home Department, being the Secretary of State concerned wit the sea fishing industry in Northern Ireland, (hereinafter referred to as "th Ministers") an objection to the Regulations which has been duly made to th Authority and has not been withdrawn and the Ministers have considered th objection :

And Whereas the Ministers, after consultation with the Authority, have cor sidered it desirable to make such modifications in the Regulations as herein after appear and have caused notice thereof to be published in such manne as they thought best adapted for informing persons affected :

Now, therefore, the Ministers, in exercise of the powers conferred on them b section 5(6) of the Sea Fish Industry Act 1951(a), as having effect in Norther Ireland by virtue of the Northern Ireland (Sea Fish Industry) Order 1951(b and of section 20(2) of that Act, hereby make the following Order :—

1. This Order may be cited as the White Fish Authority (Quality and Hanc ling) (Northern Ireland) Regulations Confirmatory Order 1970 and shall com into operation on 1st June 1970.

2. The White Fish Authority (Quality and Handling) (Northern Irelanc Regulations 1969, having been modified by the Ministers in the three respect specified in Article 3 of this Order so as to read as set out in the Schedule t this Order, are hereby confirmed.

3. The said modifications were—

(*a*) the substitution in Regulation 2 of the words "the Interpretation Ac (Northern Ireland) 1954(c)" for the words "the Interpretation Act 188 as applied by the Interpretation Act 1921" ;

(*b*) the substitution in Regulation 8(*b*) of the words "place of purchase for the words "place of sale" ;

(a) 1951 c. 30.
(b) S.I. 1951/1797 (1951 I, p. 738).
(c) 1954 c. 33 (N.I.).

(*c*) the deletion of the following Regulation entitled "Administration"—

"10. These Regulations shall be administered by the Committee constituted for Scotland and Northern Ireland under Section 2(1) of the Sea Fish Industry Act 1951, extended as aforesaid, in accordance with the functions delegated to them by the Authority.".

In witness whereof the Official Seal of the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food is hereunto affixed on 28th April 1970.

(L.S.) *Cledwyn Hughes,*
Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

Given under the Seal of the Secretary of State for Scotland on 30th April 1970.

(L.S.) *William Ross,*
Secretary of State for Scotland.

Given under the hand of the Secretary of State for the Home Department on 27th April 1970.

James Callaghan,
Secretary of State for the Home Department.

SCHEDULE Article 2

THE WHITE FISH AUTHORITY (QUALITY AND HANDLING) (NORTHERN IRELAND) REGULATIONS 1969

Whereas it appears to the Authority that it is desirable to bring into force regulations for the purpose of improving the condition in which white fish are offered for sale in Northern Ireland:

And Whereas the Authority have consulted with such bodies as appear to them to be representative of the interests concerned:

Now, therefore, the Authority, in exercise of the powers conferred upon them by Section 5 of the Sea Fish Industry Act 1951, as extended to Northern Ireland by the Northern Ireland (Sea Fish Industry) Order 1951, hereby make the following Regulations:—

Citation and Interpretation

1. These Regulations may be cited as the White Fish Authority (Quality and Handling) (Northern Ireland) Regulations 1969 and shall apply only to Northern Ireland.

2. The Interpretation Act (Northern Ireland) 1954 shall apply to the interpretation of these Regulations as it applies to the interpretation of an Act of Parliament

3. In these Regulations, unless the context otherwise requires—

"the Authority" means—

the White Fish Authority ;

"box" means—

a container of any kind ;

"firsthand" means—

in relation to a sale or purchase of white fish the first sale or purchase there of after it has been landed from a fishing vessel in Northern Ireland ;

"registered length" in relation to a fishing vessel means—

its length as measured for the purposes of the Merchant Shipping Act 1894(a) or any amendment thereof ;

"fishing vessel" means—

(*a*) any vessel, registered as a fishing vessel under the Merchant Shipping Act 1894 or any amendment thereof and owned or chartered by a person residing or having a place of business in Northern Ireland, from which white fish is landed for sale at the ports of Portavogie, Kilkeel and Ardglass in the County of Down, Northern Ireland, and

(*b*) any such vessel of a registered length of or exceeding forty feet from which white fish is landed for sale in Northern Ireland, elsewhere than at those ports previously specified ;

"processing" means—

preserving or preparing white fish or manufacturing products from white fish, by any method for human consumption ;

"white fish" has the same meaning as in the Sea Fish Industry Act 1951, except that it does not include sprats, sand-eels, Norway Pout, blue whiting, mackerel or shellfish (other than Nephrops Norvegicus).

Cleanliness, etc. of boxes, fish rooms and fish pounds

4. Any person engaged in the catching and landing for firsthand sale of white fish shall ensure that boxes, fish rooms and fish pounds for stowing or handling white fish on board a fishing vessel shall

(*a*) be kept clean, and

(*b*) be so constructed, be of such materials and be kept in such good order repair and condition as to

(i) enable them to be effectively cleaned, and

(ii) prevent, so far as is reasonably practicable, any risk of contamination of the fish.

Handling of white fish

5. No person shall land white fish from a fishing vessel unless it has, whilst at sea, been—

(*a*) (except in the case of Nephrops Norvegicus) both gutted and washed free from guts, blood and dirt ;

(*b*) sorted so as to separate skate, ray, dogfish and saithe from other species of fish ;

(*c*) both packed in boxes and chilled by the use of ice in such a manner that its temperature at the time of landing does not exceed 2°C. (36°F.) ; and

(*d*) protected from direct exposure to sun or wind.

(a) 1894 c. 60.

6. Any person offering white fish for firsthand sale for human consumption shall ensure that while so offered it is—

(*a*) kept sorted and chilled as laid down in Regulation 5(*b*) and (*c*) respectively;

(*b*) kept in boxes ; and

(*c*) so placed as to avoid, so far as reasonably practicable, any risk of contamination.

7. Any person required under these Regulations to pack or keep white fish in ice in a box shall ensure that it is packed or kept in such a manner that the depth of ice and fish in the box does not exceed the depth of the box.

8. Any person who has purchased white fish at firsthand for the purpose of carrying on a business of selling white fish for human consumption shall ensure that it is

(*a*) packed in boxes and maintained by the use of ice or by mechanical refrigeration at a temperature not exceeding 2°C. (36°F.) until it has been removed from the place of purchase ; and

(*b*) removed without delay from the place of purchase to the premises where he carries on that business.

9. Any person who has purchased white fish at firsthand sale for the purpose of carrying on a business of selling white fish for human consumption by wholesale shall ensure that—

(*a*) so long as it remains in his premises, the white fish (with the exception of dry salted fish) is not directly exposed to sun or wind and (with the exception of smoked or wet salted or dry salted fish) is maintained by the use of ice or mechanical refrigeration at a temperature not exceeding 2°C. (36°F.), and

(*b*) all offal is removed from processing benches and stored clear of all other white fish intended for human consumption.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This Note is not part of the Order.)

This Order confirms, with minor modifications, Regulations made by the White Fish Authority to regulate the handling of white fish for the purpose of improving the condition in which they are offered for sale in Northern Ireland.

SI 1970/ 670
ISBN 0-11-000670-4

