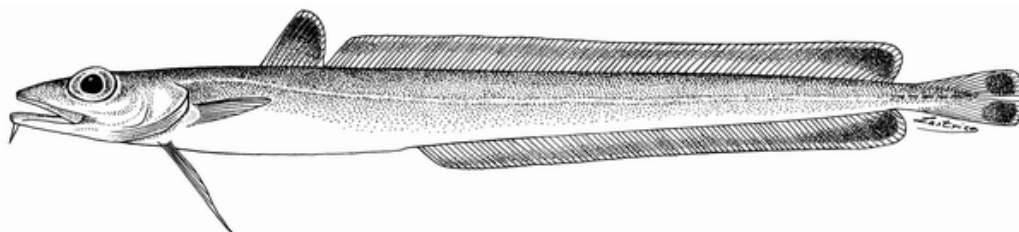


# FISHERY BY-PRODUCT REPORT

## IFFO GLOBAL STANDARD FOR RESPONSIBLE SUPPLY OF FISHMEAL AND FISH OIL



R0

<b>FISHERY By-Product:</b>	<b>Blue Ling (<i>Molva dypterygia dypterygia</i>)</b>
<b>LOCATION:</b>	<b>Northeast Atlantic (France)</b>
<b>DATE OF REPORT:</b>	<b>November 2016</b>
<b>ASSESSOR:</b>	<b>Virginia Polonio</b>

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1. APPLICATION DETAILS AND SUMMARY OF THE ASSESSMENT OUTCOME		
Name:		
Address:		
Country: France	Zip:	
Tel. No.	Fax. No.	
Email address:	Applicant Code	
Key Contact: :	Title:	
Certification Body Details		
Name of Certification Body:	SAI Global (Ireland)	
Assessor Name	Peer Reviewer	Initial/Surveillance/ Re-certification
Virginia Polonio	Deirdre Hoare	Surveillance
1. Scope of Assessment		
		IFFO RS By-Product surveillance Year 2
2. Fishery By-Product		
		Blue Ling ( <i>Molva dypterygia dypterygia</i> )
3. Fishery By-Product Location		
		Northeast Atlantic (France)
4. Fishery Method		
		Directed trawl and longline; trawl bycatch
5. Outcome of Assessment		
		Maintain approval

**2. GUIDANCE FOR ONSITE ASSESSMENT**

**3. ASSESSMENT DETERMINATION**

There is a robust fishery management framework at the EU and France levels which is applied specifically to the blue ling stock in the assessment area. Management is supported by some species-specific data collection and stock assessment. The landings data are considered to reflect the abundance of the species in Subareas I–IV. From this it is inferred that the stock in Subareas I and II is depleted. In Subarea XII, the landings trend may also be influenced by decline in effort. However, the assessment team recommends approving this byproduct material against the IFFO RS standard.

4. RATIONALE OF THE ASSESSMENT OUTCOME		
A. THE MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK AND PROCEDURE		
LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE		
<i>The management of the fishery used to produce the By- Product must include a legal and administrative basis for the implementation of measures and controls to support the management of the fishery.</i>		
<b>LOW</b>	An administrative framework that ensures an efficient management of the fishery is not established.	
<b>MEDIUM</b>	An administrative framework that ensures an efficient management of the fishery is somehow established, but there is evidence of not being efficient to ensure the management of the stock.	
<b>HIGH</b>	A legal and administrative framework that ensures an efficient management of the fishery is established and works efficiently.	
<p><b><i>Determination: There are effective fishery management frameworks in place at the EU and national levels, and these frameworks are applied specifically to the byproduct species under assessment.</i></b></p> <p><b>Fishery management framework:</b></p> <p>France is a member of the European Union and therefore in Community waters implements the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP). In force since 1983, the CFP aims to reconcile resource conservation with the preservation of income and jobs in coastal zones that offer few alternatives in terms of production or employment. It therefore covers not just resources but also markets and structures.</p> <p>The CFP has undergone a series of updates, including the most recent reform which was implemented from 1st January 2014. The principal aim of the new CFP is to achieve maximum sustainable yield (MSY) for all stocks by 2015 where possible, and at the latest by 2020. The 2014 reform also details the gradual roll-out of a landing obligation (prohibiting discards), which began in selected fisheries in 2015 and will eventually encompass all commercial fisheries from 2019. Finally, the 2014 reform increases the role and importance of management at the regional level, and encourages more intensive stakeholder engagement.</p> <p>The primary authority with responsibility for implementing the CFP in France is the Directorate of Marine Fisheries and Aquaculture (<i>Direction des Pêches Maritimes et de l’Aquaculture</i>, DPMA), within the government Ministry of Ecology, Sustainable Development and Energy (<i>Ministère de l’Écologie, du Développement Durable et de l’Énergie</i>).</p> <p><b>Species-specific management:</b></p> <p>Blue Ling in the Northeast Atlantic is subject to annual quota in four management units. Since 2013, for this stock, current catches are zero and new data available do not change the perception of this stock. Therefore, ICES advises that when the precautionary approach is applied, there should be no directed fisheries for blue ling, and a reduction in bycatches should be considered until the scientific information is sufficient to prove the fishery sustainable. Measures should be implemented to minimize the bycatch. Closed areas to protect spawning aggregations should be maintained and expanded where appropriate.</p> <p>The TAC established during the last years are shown in the table below (catches are represented in thousands of tones):</p>		H

Year	ICES advice	Predicted catch corresp. to advice	TAC EU			ICES catches
			Subareas II and IV*	Subarea III	Subarea XII	Divisions IIIa and IVa, and Subareas I, II, VIII, IX, and XII
2003	No direct fisheries**	-	0.138	0.025		1.5
2004	Biennial**	-	0.138	0.025		1.2
2005	No direct fisheries**	-	0.119	0.025		1
2006	Biennial**	-	0.119	0.025		0.8
2007	No direct fisheries	-	0.95	0.02		0.7
2008	Biennial	-	0.078	0.015		1
2009	No direct fisheries	-	0.066	0.013		0.7
2010	Biennial	-	0.056	0.011		0.6
2011	No direct fisheries, and a reduction in catches should be considered ***	-	0.056	0.01	0.815	0.5
2012	No new advice, same as 2011	-	0.056	0.008	0.815	1.1
2013	No direct fisheries, and a reduction in bycatches should be considered	-	0.053		0.774	0.5
2014	No new advice, same as 2013	-	0.053		0.697	0.2
2015	No direct fisheries, and a reduction in bycatches	-	0.053		0.558	
2016	No direct fisheries, and a reduction in bycatches	-				
2017	Biennial	-				

R1 – R5

**B. STOCK ASSESSMENT PROCEDURES AND MANAGEMENT ADVICE**

**LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE**

*B. Research in support of fisheries management should exist.*

<b>LOW</b>	Research to support the management of the stock does not exist
<b>MEDIUM</b>	Research to support the management of the stock exists, however research programmes could be significantly improved to decrease scientific advice uncertainty.
<b>HIGH</b>	Research to support the management of the stock exists, and research programmes for provision of scientific advice are considered adequate.

***Determination: Some species-specific data collection and research is carried out, but the effort is not enough to manage the three units of this stock and scientific information is not sufficient to prove the fishery sustainable. Research programmes could be significantly improved to decrease scientific advice uncertainty.***

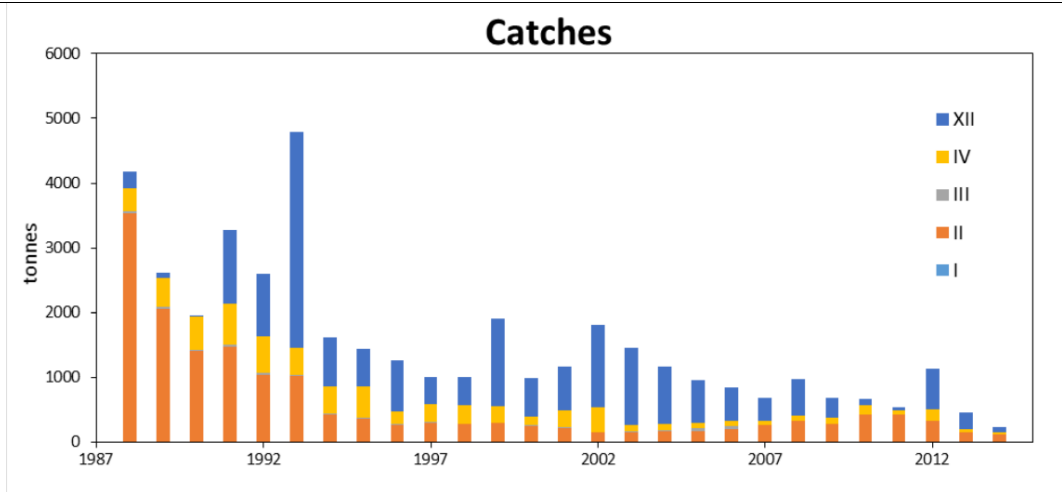
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Fisheries management in EU waters is supported by the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES). ICES utilises the best available scientific information collected by 20 member countries and others, and develops advice for the majority of commercially fished stocks in European waters.

ICES provides stock assessment and management advice reports for blue ling in three units in the Northeast Atlantic but it is considered as a single stock: Subareas I, II, VIII, IX, and XII, and Divisions IIIa and IVa (other areas).

ICES advises that when the precautionary approach is applied there should be no directed fisheries for blue ling in these areas for the years 2016 and 2017, and a reduction in bycatches should be considered until the scientific information is sufficient to prove the fishery sustainable.

Trends in landings suggest depletion in Subarea II. Landings have also declined strongly in Subarea XII from 2002 onwards. Catches in other areas are minor, but there is some evidence of a persistent decline in Subarea IV. These catches are shown in the table below:



R5-R6

**C. STOCK STATUS**

**LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE**

C. The fish used to produce the fish By- Product is not considered to be critically at risk of over exploitation in accordance with the IUCN guidance.

<b>LOW</b>	The fish By-Product must not come from a species that is listed as extinct, or critically endangered.
<b>MEDIUM</b>	The fish By- Product is from a species that is classified as vulnerable, but has a management regime in place that will control the level of fishing permitted. Or if a species is deemed to be endangered but the sub-group from where the fish By- Product is harvested is deemed scientifically to be at no risk of over exploitation.
<b>HIGH</b>	The fish By- Product comes from a fishery that is not deemed to be at risk of over exploitation from fishing activities.

**Determination: Blue ling has not been categorised by the IUCN; however there is no additional evidence to lead the assessment team to believe the species is at serious risk and so a medium compliance rating is appropriate.**

The blue ling (*Molva dypterygia*) is not categorised by IUCN and it is not listed in the CITES. Its synonym, *Molva macrophthalma* is classified by IUCN at least concern and it is considered as bycatch of blue ling fishery. However, they are different species the assessment team has considered that following the ICES recommendation of no directed fishery during 2017 and 2018 the level of compliance is medium.

R7-R8

**5. REFERENCES**

R0- Blue ling drawing: *Molva dypterygia* (Pennant, 1784). <http://www.fao.org/fishery/species/2220/en>

R1 – About the Common Fisheries Policy: [http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/index_en.htm)

R2 – CFP – Managing fish stocks: [http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/fishing\\_rules/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/fishing_rules/index_en.htm)

R3 – CFP – Discarding and the Landing Obligation: [http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/fishing\\_rules/discards/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/fishing_rules/discards/index_en.htm)

R4 – French Directorate of Marine Fisheries and Aquaculture: <http://www.developpement-durable.gouv.fr/-Les-peches-maritimes-et-l-.html>

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R5 – ICES advice for 2017, blue ling report published on 2016:  
<http://www.ices.dk/sites/pub/Publication%20Reports/Advice/2015/2015/bli-oth.pdf>

R6 – EU fishing quotas 2015: [http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=uriserv:OJ.L\\_.2015.022.01.0001.01.ENG](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=uriserv:OJ.L_.2015.022.01.0001.01.ENG)

R7 – IUCN redlist: <http://www.iucnredlist.org/>  
<http://www.iucnredlist.org/details/198592/0>

R8 – CITES appendices: <http://www.cites.org/eng/app/appendices.php>

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