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Reduction of Mandatory Waiting Periods in NAFO (Article 25.5.a)

Background

Canada has noted that the requirement to submit vessel authorizations no later than 30 days in advance of a vessel's entry to the NRA is creating a 30-day waiting period for new vessels. In the digital age, this creates an undue burden on industry, despite their authorization being available in near-real-time on the NAFO Monitoring Control and Surveillance (MCS) website.

To provide a more efficient process, Canada proposes that Contracting Parties consider adjusting the 30-day notice required in Article 25.5.a.

Proposed Amendments:

Article 25 – Vessel Requirements

Authorization to Conduct Fishing Activities

5. Each Contracting Party shall transmit to the Executive Secretary by electronic means:

(a) the individual authorization (~~AUT message~~) for each vessel from the list of notified vessels it has authorized to conduct fishing activities in the Regulatory Area, hereinafter referred to as an "authorized vessel", in the format prescribed in Annex II.C3 and no later than ~~530~~ days before the start of the fishing activities for the calendar year ~~(AUT message)~~.

Each authorization shall in particular identify the start and end dates of validity and the species for which directed fishery is allowed, unless exempted in Annex II.C.3. If the vessel intends to fish for regulated species referred to in Annexes I.A or I.B, the identification shall refer to the stock, where the regulated species is associated to the area concerned;

