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Under the new TECA Article 15 deals very briefly with reciprocal catch reports.

Jersey's catch data is open access, and published annually for all to see. This is not the case with French catch data in our waters. When catch data is requested of the French it is viewed with some suspicion such as the recent Ifremer data submission covering 2015 - 2018.

In order to achieve a primary objective of sustainability, could we not make it a condition of the permit scheme for foreign boats to submit their catch data, from our waters, on the same basis as Jersey, that is to say, open access, and submitted annually, at least?

Article 6 deals primarily with annual consultations on TAC's, especially with reference to the stock quotas in annexes 1, and 2. However Article 6 also permits Parties to negotiate fish stocks that are not in these annexes, and to set TAC's for any stock.

For our fishery to be able to set annual TAC's would give us greater control over stocks, and enable us to better manage our resource, as, and when, needed, and without needing prior approval from France as is our right under UNCLOS. To be able to set TAC's also allows room for manoeuvre whenever there is a new entrant to the Jersey fishing fleet. Can you assure me that our Marine Resources will utilise Article 6 to its maximum reach in order to preserve our stocks, and benefit our fishermen?

Reply required: Yes