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Data Elements re North Atlantic Format

Some data elements defined in the CEM are not in compliance with the current use of the North Atlantic Format. In order to harmonise the use of codes and reporting procedures on both sides of the Atlantic the following amendments should be made:

- The code DI (NAFO division) should be changed to RA (relevant area)
- The code HO (in Hold) should be changed to OB (catch on board)
- The code DS (directed species) should be retained instead of changed to TS (Target species)

We propose that NAFO in the reporting scheme uses decimal degrees (\pm ddd.ddd) with the data identifiers LG and LT instead of degrees and minutes (BDDDMM).

In order to facilitate system operation, the data elements Record Number (RN), Record Date (RD) and Record Time (RT) should be included also in the Entry, Exit and Transshipment reports.

The fields XR and NA should be made optional in the automatic reports.