Fisheries sector: arrangements regarding Community structural assistance (amend Regul. 3699/93/EEC))

1995/0058(CNS) - 21/09/1995

The rapporteur noted that the Commission proposal envisaged three aid measures: subsidising the early retirement schemes of the Member States; granting compensatory payments to fishermen for permanent cessation of fishing activities; and granting aid to compensate for unemployment due to bad weather or market fluctuations. The report considered that the measures proposed were only a first step. Commissioner BONINO agreed with this comment and stated that they had to go even further. As far as the criticisms of the proposal were concerned, she stated that as the allocation of Structural Funds had been decided in Edinburgh, it was not possible to release additional funds. Mrs BONINO also highlighted the non-compulsory nature of the Structural Funds, which had been a precondition for adoption by the Council. Finally, as regards the amendment calling for compensatory payments to be calculated on an overall basis, the Commission felt that both versions (that of the Commission and that of Parliament) had the same meaning. Amendments Nos 12, 13, 14, 15 and 17 were rejected.