Continuous monitoring system using satellite communicationsfor Community fishing vessels (amend. regul. 2847/93/EEC)

1996/0193(CNS) - 14/10/1996

The Council has taken note of the Commission report on the above-mentioned subject and has continued to examine the proposed amendment to Council Regulation (EEC) no 2847/93 establishing a control system applicable to the Common Fisheries Policy, for which the deadline for adoption was extended until the end of 1996 at the last Fisheries Council. The opinion of the European Parliament has not yet been received. The Report, based on the experience gained in pilot projects carried out in Member States from July 1994 to December 1995, considers that satellite-based continuous monitoring of fishing vessels will considerably improve the effectiveness of fisheries control. Consequently, the proposed Regulation envisages the establishment by Member States of Fisheries Monitoring Centres and the application of satellite-based vessel monitoring systems in order to track fishing vessels. For a first transitional period the system should apply to Community vessels operating in certain fisheries. Subsequently, the system would be applied to all Community vessels of a specified length. During the debate, delegations addressed the following main issues: the extent of the Community financial contribution, and the type and length of vessels to which the system should apply. In conclusion, the Council instructed the Permanent Representatives Committee to continue examination of the Proposal with a view to its adoption at the next session of the Fisheries Council in November.