Conservation and management of fishery resources: eligibility of expenditure by the Member States (amend. Regululation (EEC) No 2847/93)

1995/0142(CNS) - 25/10/1995 - Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report

The ESC emphasised that control of fishing activities was a vital aspect of the common fisheries policy. Effective, fair and transparent controls could improve compliance with the present rules, reduce the wastage caused by overfishing and help ensure the survival of this sector of the Community economy. The ESC took the view that control policy could only be successful if the Member States implemented it fairly and effectively. However, given the disparities that still existed, the desired level of efficacy would only be achieved by increasing the powers and means of control of the relevant Community authorities. These objectives could only be achieved if adequate financial resources were allocated to them. According to the ESC, the Community budget allocation for control activities remained inadequate. In order to allow Member States to assume their Community obligations regarding controls and organise the related investments with certainty, the ESC called for greater flexibility in the administration of the available funds. It would like the percentage of the Community contribution to remain the same as in the earlier Council Decision 89/631/EEC.