

Fisheries management: areas and resources of Atlantic waters, 1986 enlargement (amend. Regulation (EEC) No 2847/93)

2002/0295(CNS) - 16/12/2002 - Legislative proposal

PURPOSE : to present the proposal for a Council Regulation on the management of the fishing effort relating to certain Community fishing areas and resources and modifying Regulation 2847/93/EEC.

CONTENT : this proposal for a Council Regulation puts in place a new regime for fishing effort in Atlantic Waters, replacing the existing system, which was set out under Regulation 685/95/EC on the management of the fishing effort relating to certain Community fishing areas and resources, and of Regulation 2027/95/EC implementing a system of fishing effort management concerning certain Community fishing areas and resources. This regime should be now revised in the light of changes in the legal framework. The Commission is concerned that this legal uncertainty should not lead to problems between Member States or fishermen at sea. It is therefore necessary that the legislator acts as soon as possible to remove any discrimination on nationality between Member States still contained in the regulations, while maintaining efficient management of resources in the areas concerned. In the meantime Member States should act responsibly and co-operate in order to ensure the maintenance of conservation measures and the avoidance of disputes about fishing rights in the areas concerned. The new fishing effort regime proposed for the Atlantic waters takes account of these evolutions and is aimed at guaranteeing the stability of fishing effort levels in the Atlantic waters, on the basis of deployed fishing effort over a recent period by the vessels of all Member States. To achieve this objective the present proposal foresees the following: - the establishment of lists of fishing vessels authorised to exercise their fishing activities in the fisheries; - the evaluation and the setting of maximum fishing effort ceilings for demersal fisheries; - measures concerning the capture of pelagic species; - the establishment of conditions to exercise certain fishing activities; - the adaptation of the Fishing Effort Control Regime.