EC/Georgia fisheries agreement

1996/0180(CNS) - 05/02/1997

In endorsing the interim agreements on trade and trade-related matters with Georgia, the members of the Committee accepted the the argument put forward by the rapporteur: the steps taken by both countries in the direction of a market economy and the strategic importance for Europe of establishing solid political and economic relations with counties in this region. The aim of the interim agreements is to enable the trade provisions of the Partnership and Cooperation Agreements signed with both countries to be implemented prior to the entry into force of the full Agreements, which are subject to lengthy national ratification procedures in the Member States. As pointed out by the rapporteur Mr KITTELMANN (EPP, D), following a dramatic drop in industrial production in Georgia between 1991 and 1995, there has been a positive development in agriculture, as well as in trade and construction. The political situation is stable, while Georgia also has rich natural resources. The interim agreement practically replicates the trade provisions of the Partnership Agreement, which provides, among other things, for reciprocal recognition of most-favoured-nation treatment.