Conservation of fishery resources: the Baltic Sea, the Belts and the Sound (amend. Regulation (EEC) No 1866/86)

1995/0068(CNS) - 17/03/1995 - Legislative proposal

The proposal for a regulation seeks to amend for the fifth time Regulation (EEC) No 1866/86 laying down certain technical measures for the conservation of fishery resources in the waters of the Baltic Sea, the Belts and the Sound. This amendment is based on the recommendations of the 20th Sitting of the Baltic Commission (12 - 16.09.1994). Under the provisions of the Convention on fishing and the conservation of living resources in the Baltic Sea, to which the Community is party, the European Community is required to incorporate into its own legislation the measures proposed by the Baltic Commission. Under the provisions of Article XI of this Convention, the recommendations which were agreed at the above Sitting would actually become compulsory from 01.01.1995; however, a period of adjustment was to be provided up to 01.06.1995 for certain recommendations relating to mesh sizes. The proposed measures relate primarily to: - the ban on fishing for cod in the Baltic Sea, the Belts and the Sound from 01.06.1995 to 31.08.1995, - the strict application of the ban which forbids vessels from carrying on board fishing tackle other than that of an authorized mesh size when fishing for cod, - adjustments for fixed mesh sizes when fishing for cod and flat-fish, - technical arrangements relating to the selectivity of fishing tackle, - the introduction of certain restrictions to the percentage of incidental catches of this type, in order to ensure that current opportunities for cod fishing are put to better use.